

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, HELD AT THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL
BUILDING, 888 STATE HIGHWAY 23, WANTAGE, N.J. ON FEBRUARY 27, 2014**

Mayor DeBoer called the meeting of the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage to order, and requested the Clerk to call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor DeBoer, Committeemen Bassani, Gaechter. The following member was absent: None. Also present: CFO Michelle La Starza

Mayor DeBoer led those present in the Salute to the Flag.

Mayor DeBoer stated, "This meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, Public Laws 1975, Chapter 231. It has been properly noticed and posted to the public, and certified by the Clerk."

BUDGET

Mr. Harold Pellow, Township Engineer, discussed the option of sealing existing improved roads as a means by which to extend the useful life of the pavement. Review and consideration of this option took place. The governing body agreed by consensus for Mr. Pellow to pursue this option using the already-existing road improvement funds scheduled for inclusion in the 2014 municipal budget. Review of the possibility of purchasing a sealing machine for the future was also given consideration. No action was taken in this regard. The members of the governing body held discussion with Harold Pellow and Corey Stoner of the Wantage Township engineer's office, regarding costs and procedures for digitizing the Township Tax maps. Pros and cons of this project were reviewed, including interactivity with other planned software applications for the Township.

Mr. Stoner agreed to contact the vendor for SDL software and the County GIS system to ascertain the extent of interactivity of these applications with the proposed tax map digitization project.

Mr. Doherty presented a request from the Fire Department for consideration of an adjustment to the LOSAP allowance given to each volunteer, which would reflect a cost of living adjustment for the previous three years. After general consideration, the governing body expressed consensus support for this adjustment to the LOSAP contributions.

Ms. La Starza offered an overview of revenues.

Mr. Doherty asked the governing body for their position on various items which were discussed in previous budget work sessions.

The governing body expressed consensus support for proceeding with the SDL software system contingent upon acceptable reports of interconnectivity with other software programs for the Township; approved by consensus proceeding with the contract for the DRS Group to scan the backlog of municipal records in the Construction Department and Health Departments; agreed with the Administrator's recommendation for responding to the DPW supervisor's request for a pay raise by making that raise contingent upon the Supervisor changing health coverage to the new, less expensive plan of the Township.

The governing body agreed to hold another budget work session on March 6, 2014 at 9:00 a.m., at which time the governing body would review the request of the Tax Assessor for a salary adjustment; would review the staffing levels of the Construction Department and Land Use Office; would review the request of the Colesville Fire Department for paving their fire department parking lot; and would review the request of the Sussex Fire Department for a contribution of money to be used for hose purchase and/or SCBA equipment.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mayor DeBoer opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments. As there was no one from the public who wished to address the Committee, Mayor DeBoer closed the meeting to the public.

As there was no further business to discuss, Mr. Bassani moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

Ayes: Bassani, DeBoer, Gaechter **Nays:** None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

Mayor DeBoer declared this meeting to be adjourned.

James R. Doherty, Administrator/Clerk