

**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 JANUARY 15, 2015**

---

Mayor Gaechter 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 Gaechter, Committeeman Bassani, Morris. The following member was absent: None.

Also present: CFO Michelle La Starza

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

Mayor Gaechter 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**

### **Recreation**

The governing body held discussion with Recreation Commission Vice President Christy Tupor and Board Secretary Arlene De La Osa, and with last year's Board Secretary Jeanne McBride. Ms. Tupor presented various projects and program costs for consideration in 2015. The members of the governing body requested that the Recreation Commission provide a summary sheet with each proposal and a cost figure to be associated with each request.

Discussion turned to costs and programs to be undertaken in connection with Lake Neepaulin and the Beach area adjacent to the lake. Mayor Gaechter stated the governing body was in the midst of conducting due diligence on this matter. Mayor Gaechter and Mr. Bassani both spoke with respect to their desires to make this area of the Township active and successful in recreational opportunities.

### **Fire Department**

The members of the governing body reviewed Fire Department budget requests for 2015 with Chief Larry Bono, Assistant Chief Justin VanderGroef, Assistant Chief Alex Rubin, Emergency Management Coordinator Joe Konopinski, and Chief Jake Little of the Sussex Fire Department.

Discussion included immediate year needs including replacement of Command Vehicle; possible purchase of a second command vehicle; possible continuing the paving of Colesville Fire Department parking lot; purchase of extrication stabilization equipment. A request from Sussex Fire Department for consideration of financial assistance with the purchase of equipment and supplies also took place. General consensus was expressed to consider providing \$10,000 in assistance if and when confirmation was obtained that the Sussex governing body would be purchasing a new fire vehicle for the Sussex Fire Department.

### **Ambulance**

The governing body discussed the needs of the First Aid Squad with Mr. Bill DeBoer. Mr. DeBoer requested an increase in the annual contribution from \$30,000 to \$32,000, and explained the need to replace the existing Command Vehicle.

### **General/Miscellaneous**

The governing body reviewed the procedures involved in participating in State Contract Pricing and the Morris County Cooperating Pricing council, as it relates to bids for vehicles and price fluctuations in fuel and oil.

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

Mayor Gaechter 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 Gaechter closed the meeting to the public.

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

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

Mayor Gaechter declared this meeting to be adjourned.

---

James R. Doherty, Administrator/Clerk