

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP
OF WANTAGE, HELD AT THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 888 STATE ROUTE 23,
WANTAGE, NJ, HELD AT 7 P.M. ON
SEPTEMBER 28, 2017**

Mayor Morris called the meeting to order, and requested that the Clerk call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor Jonathan Morris, and Committeeman William Gaechter. Also, present: Administrator/Acting Clerk Debra Millikin, and Mr. Glenn Kienz, Esq.

Mayor Morris stated, "This meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231. It has been properly noticed and certified by the Clerk."

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION

Mayor Morris stated he has a proclamation for Space Farms and the Space Family for their 90th Anniversary, which is quite a milestone! Mayor Morris stated as he prepared for this presentation he thought about the contributions to this community. The Space Family have been active participates whether politics local, county, state, various committees, public outreaches, the fire department. I want to thank the Space family for their contribution to the Township of Wantage.

Mayor Morris read the Proclamation and presented to Fred Space and his family.

Office of Mayor

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Space Farms Zoo and Museum was established in 1927 by Ralph and Elizabeth Space and celebrated its 90th year in July as one of the Tri-state region's favorite family attractions; and

WHEREAS, Ralph and Elizabeth Space started their business with the purchase of ¼ acre of land in Beemerville and continued to buy contiguous farms as they became available increasing the acreage of their farm to four hundred and thirty-five acres; and

WHEREAS, Ralph first developed a fox farm from the wild varmints he was hired to trap by the State of New Jersey. He then changed to farming mink and other wildlife that local residents found and brought to him, or he captured. Mr. Space received his first zoo permit in 1928 calling the zoo the Blue Ridge Wild Animal Farm and Indian Museum; and

WHEREAS, in 1939 the Spaces bought the neighboring Christy dairy farm thence creating Space Farms from the three separate farms owned under one name. Ralph's curiosity about his native American heritage made him a curious artifact hunter in his home village and throughout the South U.S. The artifacts were put on display creating the beginnings of the Space Farms Museums; and

WHEREAS, Fred Space's son, Ralph, chose to develop the zoo as his lifelong passion phasing out the dairy and mink farm and creating Space Farms Zoo into what it is today. The zoo has many exotic species from around the world and features over 500 animals of 100 different species, having the largest private collection of North American

animals in their natural surroundings in the United States. The zoo is internationally known for their bear and lion cub, elk and fallow deer breeding programs. The museum has grown to hold over 50,000 artifacts, including antique cars, motorcycles, farm implements, early American tools, dolls, clocks, tractors, and horse drawn sleighs. Space Farms is the oldest family attraction in the state owned and operated by its original family, and is currently operated by the family's fourth generation, Parker, Jill and Hunter Space.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jonathan Morris, Mayor of the Township of Wantage, along with the Committee, hereby commend and acknowledge Space Farms on 90 years of success.

The Mayor also stated it was Fred Space's 89th Birthday today. Happy Birthday!

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Morris requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Resolution 106-2017 through Resolution 109-2017.

Motion made by Mr. Gaechter, and seconded by Mayor Morris.

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #106-2017

Approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Sherman Ridge Road project

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wantage Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Administrator/Acting Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2018-Sherman Ridge Road-00067 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of Wantage Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Administrator/Acting Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of Wantage Township and that their signatures constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approve the execution of the grant agreement.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #107-2017

AUTHORIZING REFUND FOR BLOCK 53.02, Lot 4

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has recommended the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage reimburse funds for a tax overpayment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, does hereby authorize the refund of

\$2,442,85 to Robert and Mary Stumpf for Block 53.02 Lot 4 for tax overpayment.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #108-2017

RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE ELIMINATING LONGEVITY AWARDS AND
BONUS PAYMENTS FOR NON-UNION EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, The Township has never offered non-union employees longevity and does not commonly offer bonuses, and,

WHEREAS, the CY 2017 Best Practices Worksheet requires approval of resolution eliminating such,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

The Township of Wantage does not offer longevity awards or bonus payments for non-union employees.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #109-2017

RESOLUTION TO IMPLEMENT CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY FOR
OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT

WHEREAS, The Township of Wantage wishes to implement a Conflict of Interest Policy for Outside Employment in accordance with the recommendation in the CY 2017 Best Practices Worksheet, and

WHEREAS, Township Department Heads should be required to submit notice of outside employment to determine that no conflicts of interest impinge on their employment within the Township,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

The Township of Wantage does direct the Township Administrator and Municipal Attorney to create forms to document said policy.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

REPORTS

Clerk – None

Administrator – Girls Scout Troop 70994 could not be in attendance tonight due to it being back to school night. The girls will be in attendance at the October 26th Meeting.

Mrs. Millikin advised Melissa Caton has provided a request from a current lien holder who wishes to have a lien assigned to him that the Township currently holds. The assignment would be for \$43,233.46 approximately. This amount increases daily with interest of \$18.45. The parcel is for Block 11, Lot 5 owned by Bicsak Brothers Realty, LLC. Is this something the Committee would like to proceed on? If so a resolution will be prepared for your next meeting. The company requesting this lien is M&V Liens out of Newton. Mayor Morris questioned is there any reason why this should not be done? Mr. Kienz stated no issue that he is aware of on this matter. The Committee agreed to proceed with the lien assignment.

Mrs. Millikin stated she received the environmental report for 41 Berry Road. She is currently still reviewing the report.

Mrs. Millikin advised that the Haven Road reclamation occurred yesterday and today. Restoration of driveways with DGA will be done tomorrow and paving will begin on Monday and completed by Friday, October 6th.

Mrs. Millikin stated the Woodbourne Park 5K was a great event! My family and I had a great time!

Mrs. Millikin advised that Mayor Wayne Levante from the Town of Newton will be at the Township Committee Meeting on October 12th.

Mrs. Millikin stated that she has jury duty on October 5th. October 11th, she will be in Trenton all day taking the state exam for Municipal Clerk.

Attorney Report – Mr. Kienz stated he had a couple of items for the Committee. The first item is related to the Morris County COOP for the purchase of salt. The Township did not purchase salt through the Morris County COOP, but actually through the County of Sussex because it was a cheaper price. Based on participating with the Morris County COOP does not require the purchase of the salt. The company awarded the contract through Morris County COOP has sued all 33 municipalities individually. His office has filed the necessary information and are trying to get the Township out of the case. Mr. Kienz advised that the company had provided a settlement 65% of what the Township would purchase. Mr. Kienz recommendation is that the Township did not have to purchase through the MCOOP and in fact this year's cost is even cheaper through the County of Sussex.

Mr. Kienz stated the second issue is regarding 175 Clove Road regarding the fire that occurred to the home. Mr. Butto has provided a letter regarding the structure and feels something should be done. Mr. Kienz advised there is some money potentially available to get this matter addressed due to the fact that is a life health and safety decision. Mr.

Gaechter stated this is due to the letter from Mr. Butto's stating the house is an unsafe structure. Mayor Morris questioned how much the cost would be for the demolition. Mrs. Millikin indicated that one quote was obtained for about \$28,000, but does not include removal of asbestos. Mrs. Millikin recommends going out for an RFP. The Township is getting some complaints about the property maintenance issues for the site. Mayor Morris questioned if Mr. Butto can go and inspect the house to determine if asbestos on the parcel. Mr. Kienz recommended getting an estimate for asbestos. Mayor Morris would like an update provided for next meeting.

Mayor's Report – Mayor advised it is with deep regret I announce the passing of one of the Township residents that he got to know as Fire Chief as well as attending the Township Committee Meetings on a regular basis. Jack Higel had a massive stroke last week and was a member of the Clove Hill Manor Community and was going to be 90 years old in a couple of months. God bless him and his family. Funeral arrangements are viewing at Pinkel on Sunday and Monday the funeral at St. Monica's.

Mayor Morris stated he also was at the 5K and ran some of the race. Great job by the Recreation Committee, Jeanne & Creighton McBride.

Committee Member Report – Mr. Gaechter had None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

2nd Reading & Public Hearing

A motion is in order to adopt on final reading Ordinance #2017-12 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF OPEN SPACE IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, I THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$950,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$950,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

Motion was made by Mr. Gaechter and seconded by Mayor Morris.

Mayor Morris opened the hearing to the public on this ordinance.

Mr. William Gettler of 98 Gemmer Road stated he does not want the Township to purchase these two properties and not to go into any more debt and objected to the Bond Ordinance being passed.

Mrs. Millikin explained that this is money the Township already has in place and provides the ability of the Township to spend the funds prior to the reimbursement being received by the State of New Jersey. No debt will be issued for the acquisition of parcels.

No other member of the public wishing to speak on this ordinance this public hearing was closed.

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

ORDINANCE #2017-12

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF OPEN SPACE IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$950,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$950,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The improvement described in Section 3(a) of this bond ordinance is hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey (the "Township") as a general improvement. For the improvement or purpose described in Section 3(a), there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$950,000, including a grant expected to be received in the maximum amount of \$622,000 from the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program (the "State Grant"). No down payment is required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-11(c) as the improvement or purpose referred to in Section 3(a) is being partially funded by the State Grant.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the improvement or purpose and in anticipation of receipt of the State Grant, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$950,000 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 3. (a) The improvement hereby authorized and the purpose for the financing of which the bonds are to be issued is the acquisition of open space consisting of Block 132, Lot 1.01 and Block 135, Lot 6.01 on the tax maps of the Township also known as 41 Berry Road and

LGR Enterprises Tract, Sherman Ridge Road, respectively, including all related costs and expenditures necessary therefor and incidental thereto.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of bonds or bond anticipation notes to be issued for the improvement or purpose is as stated in Section 2 hereof.

(c) The estimated cost of the improvement or purpose is equal to the amount of the appropriation herein made therefor.

Section 4. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer; provided that no bond anticipation note shall mature later than one year from its date. The bond anticipation notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the chief financial officer. The chief financial officer shall determine all matters in connection with bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the bond anticipation notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of the Local Bond Law. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the bond anticipation notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the bond anticipation notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the bond anticipation notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 5. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this bond ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent

with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 6. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The improvement or purpose described in Section 3(a) of this bond ordinance is not a current expense. It is an improvement or purpose that the Township may lawfully undertake as a general improvement, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefitted thereby.

(b) The period of usefulness of the improvement or purpose within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is 40 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$950,000, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$95,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purpose or improvement.

Section 7. The Township hereby declares the intent of the Township to issue bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount authorized in Section 2 of this bond ordinance and to use the proceeds to pay or reimburse expenditures for the costs of the purposes described in Section 3(a) of this bond ordinance. This Section 7 is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for purposes of Treasury Regulations.

Section 8. Any grant moneys received for the purpose described in Section 3(a) hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvement or to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this bond ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are so used.

Section 9. The chief financial officer of the Township is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Township and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Township. The chief financial officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Township pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Township and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Township fails to comply with its undertaking, the Township shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

Section 10. The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Township for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

Section 11. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

Mayor Morris stated a motion is in order to adopt on final reading Ordinance #2017-13 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$107,100 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$102,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

Motion was made by Mr. Gaechter and seconded by Mayor Morris.

Mayor Morris opened the public hearing to speak on this ordinance.

Mr. William Gettler 98 Gemmer Road had the same objection as previously stated.

Mayor Morris closed the public portion of the ordinance.

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

ORDINANCE # 2017-13

BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$107,100 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$102,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The improvement described in Section 3(a) of this bond ordinance is hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey (the "Township") as a general improvement. For the improvement or purpose described in Section 3(a), there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$107,100, including a \$102,000 grant expected to be received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (the "Grant") and further including the sum of \$5,100 as the down payment required by the Local Bond Law. The down payment is now available by virtue of provision for down payment or for capital improvement purposes in one or more previously adopted budgets.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the improvement or purpose not covered by application of the down payment and in anticipation of receipt of the Grant, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$102,000 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 3. (a) The improvement hereby authorized and the purpose for the financing of which the bonds are to be issued is the acquisition of self contained breathing apparatus, including all related costs and expenditures necessary therefor and incidental thereto.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of bonds or bond anticipation notes to be issued for the improvement or purpose is as stated in Section 2 hereof.

(c) The estimated cost of the improvement or purpose is equal to the amount of the appropriation herein made therefor.

Section 4. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer; provided that no bond anticipation note shall mature later than one year from its date. The bond anticipation notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the chief financial officer. The chief financial officer shall determine all matters in connection with bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the bond anticipation notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of the Local Bond Law. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the bond anticipation notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the bond anticipation notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount,

the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the bond anticipation notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 5. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this bond ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 6. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The improvement or purpose described in Section 3(a) of this bond ordinance is not a current expense. It is an improvement or purpose that the Township may lawfully undertake as a general improvement, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefitted thereby.

(b) The period of usefulness of the improvement or purpose within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is 15 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$102,000, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$10,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purpose or improvement.

Section 7. The Township hereby declares the intent of the Township to issue bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount authorized in Section 2 of this bond ordinance and to use the proceeds to pay or reimburse expenditures for the costs of the purposes described in Section 3(a) of this bond ordinance. This Section 7 is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for purposes of Treasury Regulations.

Section 8. Any grant moneys received for the purpose described in Section 3(a) hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvement or to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this bond ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are so used.

Section 9. The chief financial officer of the Township is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Township and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Township. The chief financial officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Township pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Township and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Township fails to comply with its undertaking, the Township shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

Section 10. The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance.

The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all the taxable real property within the Township for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

Section 11. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A Motion is in Order to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2017, Mayor and Committee Regular Meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Gaechter and seconded by Mayor Morris

Upon Roll Call:

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

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mayor Morris opened the meeting to the public.

Mr. George Stafford, 16 Kitchel Avenue, Wharton, representing the NJ Highlands Coalition and Keep it Green an advocacy group for Open Space. He asked the Township Committee consider a resolution regarding open space for the entire state of New Jersey. Mr. Stafford explained some of the reasons for why the resolution is being presented. The Committee thanked Mr. Stafford for this information. He provided information to the Committee on this matter. He also mentioned that question #2 on the ballot is on the November ballot with regarding the holding polluters accountable.

this Saturday. Car show is October 8th. He also reminded the public of the Elk Lodge event with Uncle Floyd.

Mr. William Gettler, 98 Geemer Road, Mr. Gettler stated he had an OPRA request and found some of the information provided interesting. Regarding the mishandling of his tax appeal the Township has not heard the last regarding this matter. He is following a different path in regards to this matter. He discussed the litigation matter with property maintenance. He recommends the watching of legal fees moving forward. He advised that the employee hand book should have a specific clause not to defend an employee who is under criminal charges.

There being no other member of the public wanting to comment public comment was closed.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Gaechter and seconded by Mayor Morris

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Millikin, Acting Municipal Clerk