

**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  
OCTOBER 12, 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, Committeeman Ron Bassani, and Committeeman William Gaechter. Also, present: Administrator/Acting Clerk Debra Millikin.

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."

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Morris requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Resolution 110-2017 to 113-2017 and monthly reports for September 2017 for: Board of Health, Clerk, Driveway, Housing, Land Use, Property Maintenance, Registrar, Tax Collector, and Zoning.

Motion made by Mr. Bassani, and seconded by Mr. Gaechter

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #110-2017

RESOLUTION AWARDDING CONTRACT FOR ROCK SALT AND SNOW GRIT THROUGH COUNTY OF  
SUSSEX COOP

WHEREAS, County of Sussex has obtained bids for the purchase of rock salt snow grit and these prices are extended to other Municipalities within Sussex County; and

WHEREAS, Morton Salt, from Chicago, Illinois, was awarded the contract for rock salt by the County of Sussex in the amount of a \$52.32 per ton; and

WHEREAS, 284 Aggregates LLC, from Wantage, New Jersey was awarded the contract for snow grit by the County of Sussex in the amount of \$11.00 per ton; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Wantage will participate in the purchase of rock salt and snow grit as extended to other Sussex County Municipalities through this contract; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, does hereby authorize the purchase of rock salt through Morton Salt at \$52.32 per ton and snow grit through 284 Aggregates LLC at \$11.00.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #111-2017

RESOLUTION APPROVING BILLS AND VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage in the County of Sussex that payment is hereby approved for all vouchers that have been properly authenticated and presented for payment, representing expenditures for which appropriations were duly made in 2016 and 2017 Budgets adopted by this local Governing Body, including any emergency appropriations, and where unexpended balances exist in said appropriation accounts for the payment of such vouchers.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #112-2017

AUTHORIZING REFUND FOR BLOCK 121, Lot 1.04

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

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

\$33,766.74 to US Bank for Block 121 Lot 1.04 for tax sale certificate 15-20

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION # 113-2017

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ASSIGNMENT OF BLOCK 11, LOT 5

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:5-113 authorizes assignment by a municipality of tax sale Certificates for the full amount of the Certificate, including all subsequent municipal taxes and other municipal charges; and,

WHEREAS, M and V liens has presented an offer to purchase, by assignment, Certificate of Sale #16-04 which was issued to the Township of Wantage at a tax sale held 12/06/16, on Block 11 Lot 5 and assessed to Bicsak Brothers Realty, LLC, in the amount of \$43,669.85, being the full amount of the certificate, including all subsequent municipal taxes and other municipal charges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute the necessary assignment document to effect assignment of the above referenced Certificate of Sale.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

A motion is in Order to approve PO#14793 for Bassani Power Equipment, LLC for \$185.81.

Motion made by Mr. Gaechter, and seconded by Mayor

Upon Roll Call:

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

## **REPORTS**

Clerk – Mrs. Millikin advised for the month of September the Clerk's Office processed 20 OPRA requests.

Mrs. Millikin advised that November 6<sup>th</sup> is the Sussex County EDP Mayor's Reception from 5 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Mohawk House and if you would like to attend to advise Mrs. Millikin

Administrator – Mrs. Millikin went over the Best Practices Work Sheet for 2017. The Township scored a 92% out of 100%. The two items the Township answered no to #21 For any employee covered by a collective bargaining agreement, has your municipality instituted a policy to not compensate said employees for sick leave accumulated after a certain date. The other questions that was answered no #22 Has your municipality instituted a written policy to not compensate non-union employees for sick leave accumulated after a certain date? Mrs. Millikin indicated the Township will be reviewing these two matters and should address in time for next year's best practice worksheet. The Committee had no questions.

Mrs. Millikin stated the Havens Road project has been completed.

Mrs. Millikin provided an update regarding the Clove Road parcel and Mr. Butto sent an e-mail regarding his inspection and will have more for the next meeting.

Mrs. Millikin stated the Municipal Office is receiving numerous calls regarding utilizing the pavilion for weddings, and special events. Mrs. Millikin suggested the Township should update the park use application form to include the pavilion. Does the Township want to charge a fee? How would the Committee like these requests handled? Mayor Morris indicated he would like to allow people to utilize the pavilion and maybe obtaining a sign indicating reserved for special event. The Committee requested that Mrs. Millikin do some research on this matter for the Committee. Mrs. Millikin advised that she will also reach out to insurance as well.

Mrs. Millikin advised budget memo for 2018 has been sent out to the Departments and are due into Michelle and I by November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mrs. Millikin finally she will be at a seminar in Mt. Olive tomorrow. If you need me please contact me on my cell or e-mail me.

Attorney Report – None

Mayor's Report – Mayor Morris stated a reminder the Car Show is this Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Committee Member Report – Mr. Gaechter had None

Committee Member Report – Mr. Bassani had None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Morris introduced Mayor Wayne Levante regarding the school consolidation.

Mr. Levante stated he is currently a teacher in Newark Ironbound District teaching middle school mathematics. He stated this concept came about when he moved to Newton and was surprised that a school district with less than 1,500 students with one superintendent, one business administrator and staff he was shocked with all the personnel for the district. The Newton Town Council felt it was important to looking into a County Consolidated system and have a study completed on this matter. Mayor Levante stated that Senator Oroho has had a task force set up but it is held up in the assembly. His job is to try to get other municipalities to encourage a study. He discussed some of his research specifically regarding Illinois School District Consolidation. He stated some facts from the second page of the report. He feels there is not the need for 25 superintends in the County. Mr. Levante stated he would be happy with one business office. Based on this he feels there are future savings for the residents of the County.

Mr. Bassani questioned how would you do this consolidation in Sussex County? He indicated your proposal is a task force. If a task force is formed can this group exam the ability to utilize more shared services? Mr. Levante stated this could be examined. Discuss ensued on this matter. Mr. Levante stated this study would be worth the investment and provide a definitive analysis. Mr. Bassani stated could you please send more information to the Committee regarding your investigation on these consolidation studies. Mr. Bassani is looking for more information but you raise some good questions.

Mayor Morris stated he is concerned with giving the County control because it effects the basis of home rule. Maybe it would be worth looking into consolidating the 5 regional school districts for High Point Regional. Based on all of these there are still some questions on this matter so a decision to vote on a resolution will not happen tonight. More studies will be helpful to the Committee to review.

Mayor Morris questioned if Mr. Levante would be able to stay and take some questions from the public after the meeting. Mr. Levante stated he needed to go to another meeting.

## **Introduction**

Mayor Morris advised that the next two ordinances are being re-introduced due to a procedural issue. A motion is in order to introduce on first reading Ordinance #2017-14 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 TH TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

ORDINANCE #2017-14

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 #2017-15 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. Bassani and seconded by Mr. Gaechter

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

ORDINANCE # 2017-15

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 28, 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: Bassani

Mr. Bassani had one other item for consideration under new business. He stated he would like to make a motion to put aside monies for flag poles for the pavilion. This way the American Flag is there along with the State or Wantage Flag. Suggestion is our DPW do the installation. He recommends not spending more than \$4,000 on this matter. Mr. Gaechter stated there is a flag pole at the park. Mayor Morris seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call:

Aye: Bassani, Morris    Nay: Gaechter    Absent: None    Abstain: None

## **OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

Mayor Morris opened the meeting to the public.

Mrs. Kathy Gorman – Fernwood Road she stated she had some concerns regarding Mr. Levante presentation and she had spoken with Dr. Rosalie Lamonte regarding consolidation studies and she indicate there have been 2 studies done for two districts in Sussex County. Cost was \$40,000 for the studies. Mrs. Gorman indicated that she did some more research and cost would be in the \$100,000 plus. Anything of this nature the state has to approve all studies. The senate bill Mr. Levante stated is regarding regionalization.

Ms. Karen Merritt – Alpine Road she stated she was concerned with comparing Newark with Sussex County this apples to oranges. She is concern with another feasibility study.

Mrs. Ann Smulewiz – 180 Route 23 she stated that the Township should consider Mr. Levante request and admire him for proposing this concept for consideration. She feels the Township should consider supporting this concept to take the next step in the process.

Mr. Carl Hoffman – 4 Mudtown Road he stated the old clove bridge steel grates were loose. He called the County and they came out and welded the bridge. He indicated that the County advised they would be replacing this bridge and realign Mudtown Road. He is very concerned due to the fact that bridge is in pictures from 1908 and would like to make sure the bridge is not replaced. Mayor Morris indicated the Township will reach out to the County Engineering department regarding this matter. Mr. Hoffman also requested the potential for speed humps on the road as well.

Mr. Wayne Dunn – 19 Ann Marie Lane for disclosure he is High Point School Board Member but is here tonight as Wantage tax payer. Mr. Dunn thanked the Committee for listening to the presentation by Mr. Levante and appreciate the Committee staying open to

ideas. Mr. Dunn indicated he is a bit disappointed that Mr. Levante has not approached the school boards with this subject. How would he feel about a study about consolidating municipalities? If you go on the Department of Education website you can go and see each school's ratios for students to personnel. Please be mindful that this proposal is not a zero-cost proposal. There are other ways to have savings through potential shared services.

Mr. Justin Vander Groef – 1 Shady Brook Lane he is here tonight as a tax payer not as the Fire Chief. He is concerned that there is a referendum question on the ballot for the upcoming election and has a fear that the press has been negative on the open space even though Open Space and the Committee have done a great job. Mr. Gaechter indicated it will be a tough battle. Mr. Bassani stated the County approval for the open space passed overwhelming. Mr. Vander Groef is concerned about the press on this matter. Mayor Morris stated if you speak openly about the referendum and get word out about the benefit it would help. Mr. Bassani indicated it will be placed in the Township newsletters referencing some of the projects the Township is doing with open space. Mr. Gaechter stated people do not realize that if this does not get passed we are going lose out on green acres funding for these projects.

Ms. Emily Bittner - 23 Armstrong Road she indicated that she wanted to know when the Berry Road Bridge will be replaced. Mayor Morris indicated this is a low priority bridge from the County of Sussex. She questioned how the Mudtown Road Bridge will be replaced first. She questioned how do I make this a priority? Mayor Morris indicated that you can contact Bill Koppenaar, the County Engineer regarding this matter.

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

#### Executive Session

Motion is in order approve Resolution #114-2017 Authorizing the Township Committee to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters related to the Court. Motion was made by Mr. Bassani and seconded by Mr. Gaechter.

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

Mrs. Millikin read Resolution #114-2017 into the record.

#### TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

#### RESOLUTION #114-2017

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION OCTOBER 12, 2017

WHEREAS, the Township of Wantage is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specific purposes when authorized by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b and designated below:

(1) Personnel - Court

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, assembled in public session on October 12, 2017, that an Executive Session closed to the public shall be held on October 12, 2017, at 8:09 PM in the Township of Wantage Municipal Building, 888 Route 23, Wantage, NJ, for the discussion of matters relating to the specific item designated above.

It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Township Committee that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, at a meeting held on October 12, 2017.

Mayor Morris requested a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:27. Motion made by Mr. Gaechter seconded by Mr. Bassani.

Upon Roll Call:

Aye: Bassani, Gaechter, Morris      Nay: None    Absent: None      Abstain: None

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Bassani and seconded by Mr. Gaechter.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Millikin, Acting Municipal Clerk