

**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 7:00 P.M. ON
October 11, 2018**

Mayor Gaechter 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 William Gaechter, Deputy Mayor Ronald Bassani and Committeeman Jonathan Morris. Also, present: Administrator/Clerk Debra Millikin and Mr. Glenn Kienz, Esq.

Mayor Gaechter 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 Gaechter requested a motion to approve Resolution #117-2018 to Resolution #119-2018, and monthly reports for September 2018 for: Board of Health, Clerk, Construction, Dog, Housing, Property Maintenance, Registrar, Tax Collector and Zoning Report with the removal of PO #15606 for Bassani Power Equipment, LLC., in the amount of \$261.90.

A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mr. Bassani.

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #117-2018

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE SHERMAN RIDGE ROAD – SECTION II 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-2019-Sherman Ridge Road-Section II-00011 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 #118-2018

AUTHORIZING REFUND FOR BLOCK 42, LOT 1.04

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has recommended the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage reimburse funds for redemption of tax sale certificate with premium.

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

\$59,695.20 to Lien Times LLC, Block 42 Lot 1.04 for tax sale certificate 2010-14
\$20,000.00 to Lien Times LLC, Block 42 Lot 1.04 for tax sale premium

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #119-2018

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 2017 and 2018 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.

Mayor Gaechter stated a motion is in order to approve payment of PO# 15606 for Bassani Power Equipment, LLC., in the amount of \$261.90.

A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mayor Gaechter.

Upon Roll Call:

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

REPORTS

Clerk/Administrator – Mrs. Millikin stated there were 12 OPRA requests processed in the Clerk's Office. All requests were basic requests of tax records, permit files, or searches related to selling of properties.

Mrs. Millikin stated as a reminder the Wantage Day Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, October 13th from 12 pm to 4 pm. The pavilion dedication will take place at 12 pm.

Mrs. Millikin advised that Wantage Excavating will beginning the field restoration on fields #5 & #6 starting on October 15th. The soccer club has been advised to remove any lights or nets prior to the work commencing. Wantage Excavating feels this will take about a week to complete.

Mrs. Millikin stated that Ms. LaStarza has been working with an attorney who needs a discharge of Mortgage from a housing program from years ago. The full amount was received and the Committee needs to do a resolution to discharge the mortgage. I have prepared Resolution 121-2018. Mayor Gaechter requested a motion.

A motion was made by Mr. Bassani and seconded by Mr. Morris.

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #121-2018

AUTHORIZING DISCHARGE OF MORTGAGE

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer certifies that the amount of \$4,659,00 was received June 4, 2004 to satisfy the Mortgage for Block 58 Lot 15, 53 Libertyville Road, Wantage NJ 07461.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, release \$4,659 Mortgage for Block 58, Lot 16.

Mrs. Millikin stated she is trying to set up a meeting on the vehicle replacement schedule. She question 10/15, 10/16, or 10/17. Mrs. Millikin will e-mail out the dates to get a meeting schedule.

Mrs. Millikin stated the final item is October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The Township Employees are raising money for this great cause in honor of Deborah Bottomley who is an employee and just finished her last round of radiation 2 weeks ago. We wanted to ask for the Committees' support.

Attorney – none.

Mayor/Committee – Mayor Gaechter stated this is the first Wantage Day Fall Festival. Calling for some rain in the morning, but good weather for the afternoon.

Mr. Bassani – questioned if a list of the various events for Wantage Day could be provided for his review. Mr. Bassani stated did try to meet with the Blue-Collar Union, but due to a death in the family it was canceled.

Mr. Morris – none.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance

A motion is in order to introduce on first reading Ordinance #2018-12 ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$12,000 FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A FUEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

Mayor Gaechter just asked Mrs. Millikin to give a brief description what this is for. Mrs. Millikin stated that the Township has a key system and it crashed. The Township received quotes and this is a fully funded ordinance.

A motion was made by Mr. Bassani and seconded by Mr. Morris.

Upon Roll Call:

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

WANTAGE TOWNSHIP
ORDINANCE # 2018-12

ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$12,000 FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A
FUEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage,
County of Sussex, State of New Jersey as follows:

SECTION 1: The sum of Twelve Thousand dollars (\$12,000.00) presently located in the
General Capital Reserve for Vehicle Maintenance is hereby appropriated for Replacement and
Installation of a Fuel Management System:

Purchase and Install of Fuel Management System: \$12,000

SECTION 2: In connection with the amount authorized in Section 1 hereof, the Township
makes the following determinations:

- 1) The purpose described in Section 1 hereof is not a Current Expense and is a purchase the
Township of Wantage may lawfully make as a capital purchase.
- 2) The period of usefulness of the purpose described in Section 1 hereof is not in the limitation
of said Local Bond law and according to the aggregate reasonable life thereof is five (5)
years or longer.

SECTION 3: All ordinances or parts of ordinances which are inconsistent with the terms of
this ordinance be and the same hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

SECTION 4: This ordinance becomes effective immediately upon publication after
adoption.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Gaechter stated a motion is in order to approve the minutes of the Mayor and
Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2018.

A motion was made by Mr. Bassani and seconded by Mr. Morris.

Upon Roll Call:

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

Discussion

LOSAP Resolution – Mrs. Millikin advised she had Mr. Kienz Office prepare a draft resolution regarding LOSAP for the First Aid Squad and the Fire Department. Mrs. Millikin indicated that the top tier \$527.00, second tier \$395.00 and third tier \$264.00. She stated that in 2016 the amount spent was \$31,753 and in 2017 the amount spent was \$26,091. The Township budgets \$40,000 each year. The proposal is to raise the amount from \$527 to \$647 including the CPI. Mr. Bassani asked to forecast the impact. Mrs. Millikin indicated it would be about \$31,000. Mayor Gaechter stated the yearly increase is based off the CPI. Mrs. Millikin stated this is established through Local Finance Board. This is in the resolution for the CPI and building in to accommodate the request by the Fire Department and the First Aid Squad. Mayor Gaechter explained what LOSAP stands for on this matter and reason for the discussion. The Committee had no other comments and asked that this be put on the October 25th Meeting. Chief Justin Vander Groef stated the Fire Department may still look to go out for referendum to go increase to \$750 to \$1,000. Chief Vander Groef indicated the Fire Department is happy with the proposed resolution.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mayor Gaechter opened the meeting to the public.

Mrs. Susan Weiss, 63 Sherman Ridge Road. Mrs. Weiss stated she had sent a letter to the editor but it was not published by the Herald so she asked to read it to the Committee. The Committee allowed Mrs. Weiss to read her letter into the record. Her letter is on file with the Township Administrator. Mayor Gaechter stated as before the Township Committee never took a position whether pro-marijuana or against marijuana the Township does not have a leg to stand on. The Township will revisit this matter once the legislation is approved. Mayor Gaechter stated that the legislation will have an opt out for Municipalities. Until the legislation is in place the Committee is protecting Wantage. Mrs. Weiss stated if she can be helpful she would like to help out.

Mrs. Bess Radimer, Frankford, stated she has written something about the pound and has 6 concerns regarding the pound since she has been volunteering at the pound. She provided detail items regarding the pound and the ACO John Abate. Mrs. Radimer advised she has helped to place 25 animals over her past year volunteering at the pound. She wants the Township to address these 6 concerns raised. Mrs. Radimer stated that ACO Heater, and ACO Monstra are great! Mayor Gaechter asked her if she reached out to the Administrator on these issues. Mrs. Radimer stated no. Mrs. Millikin advised that the heating system was just upgraded and this was paid out on the bill list tonight. Regarding the fence Mrs. Millikin was aware and has been working Mr. John Card to get this repair made. It has been tough getting quotes to rectify the situation but she will follow up on this tomorrow. Mrs. Radimer stated that it has been months and her husband was willing to do the work. Mrs. Radimer statement is on file with the Township Administrator.

Mr. Ryan Earely, resident of Sandyston, he wants to just make the Township aware he will be taking Mrs. Radimer's letter to Sandyston since this is a shared service.

Mr. Ray Shank, 57 Walnut Street. He is here regarding traffic concerns with Shop Rite coming in. He would like to have speed bumps. He is concerned that Sussex Borough is going to be paving this road. There are 300 yards in the Township border. Mayor Gaechter asked that Mrs. Millikin reach out to Mr. Restel. Second item is he walks in Woodbourne park everyday and wants to have the Township look into gates as oppose to moving the rocks because it damages the grass and rocks. Mayor Gaechter indicated this has been budgeted for as part of the items for the park.

There being no other public this portion of the meeting was closed.

Executive Session

Mayor Gaechter stated a motion is in order to approve Resolution #120-2018 Authorizing the Township Committee to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Court and Contract Negotiations Blue Collar Union and Administrator Contract.

A motion was made by Mr. Bassani and seconded by Mr. Morris

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #120-2018

EXECUTIVE SESSION OCTOBER 11, 2018

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
- (2) Contract Negotiation – Blue Collar Union
Administrator Contract

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, assembled in public session on October 11, 2018, that an Executive Session closed to the public shall be held on October 11, 2018, at 7:40 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.

Mayor Gaechter requested a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Bassani rejoined the Committee at 8:14 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Bassani and seconded by Mr. Morris to come out of Executive session at 8:14 p.m.

Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Kienz advised that nothing discussed in Executive Session tonight will be released.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Millikin, Municipal Clerk