

**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
FEBRUARY 14, 2019**

Mayor Bassani called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and requested that the Clerk call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor Ronald Bassani, Deputy Mayor Jonathan Morris and Committeeman William Gaechter. Also, present: Administrator/Clerk Debra Millikin and Mr. Louis Karp, Esq.

Mayor Bassani 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 Bassani requested a motion to approve Resolution #30-2019 to Resolution #34-2019, monthly reports for January 2019 for: Board of Health, Clerk, Construction, Dog Report, Housing, Land Use Report, Property Maintenance, Registrar, Tax Collector and Zoning Report.

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

Mayor Bassani questioned Resolution #31-2019 approving the temporary soil removal permit for Bicsak Brothers. He requested that Mr. Pellow review the approving resolution for any type of parking on the site before a final permit is issued.

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #30-2019

RESOLUTION APPROVING TEMPORARY LICENSE FOR SOIL REMOVAL TO MAJ WANTAGE LAND,
LLC. TILL APRIL 30, 2019

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates completed an inspection of Block 21, Lots 8 and 9 in the Township of Wantage; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, in his letter dated January 22, 2019, recommends approval of a temporary soil removal permit till April 30, 2019, for items out lined in his letter to be completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby concurs with the Town Engineer's recommendation and approves the temporary license for soil removal to MAJ Wantage Land, LLC to April 30, 2019.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #31-2019

RESOLUTION APPROVING TEMPORARY LICENSE FOR SOIL REMOVAL TO BICSAK BROTHERS REALTY,
LLC, TILL APRIL 30, 2019

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates completed an inspection of Block 11, Lots 5 and 5.02 in the Township of Wantage; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, in his letter dated January 22, 2019, recommends approval of a temporary soil removal permit till April 30, 2019, for items out lined in his letter to be completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby concurs with the Town Engineer's recommendation and approves the temporary license for soil removal to Bicsak Brothers Realty, LLC. to April 30, 2019.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #32-2019

RESOLUTION APPROVING TEMPORARY LICENSE FOR SOIL REMOVAL TO EASTERN CONCRETE
MATERIALS, INC., TILL APRIL 30, 2019

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates completed an inspection of Block 11, Lots 5.01 in the Township of Wantage; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, in his letter dated January 22, 2019, recommends approval of a temporary soil removal permit till April 30, 2019, for items out lined in his letter to be completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby concurs with the Town Engineer's recommendation and approves the temporary license for soil removal to Eastern Concrete Materials, Inc., to April 30, 2019.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #33-2019

RESOLUTION APPROVING TEMPORARY LICENSE FOR SOIL REMOVAL TO 565 LAND DEVELOPMENT,
LLC., TILL APRIL 30, 2019

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates completed an inspection of Block 117, Lots 38.01 in the Township of Wantage; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, Harold E. Pellow, of Harold E. Pellow & Associates, in his letter dated January 21, 2019, recommends approval of a temporary soil removal permit till April 30, 2019, for items out lined in his letter to be completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby concurs with the Town Engineer's recommendation and approves the temporary license for soil removal to 565 Land Development, LLC., to April 30, 2019.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #34-2019

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE FISCAL GRANT CYCLE JULY 2014 – JUNE 2020

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Township Council of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Sussex;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Sussex/Wantage Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2019 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$12,493.00
Cash Match	\$ 3,123.00
In-Kind	\$ 9,370.00
2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

REPORTS

Clerk/Administrator – Mrs. Millikin stated the Township received 17 OPRA request in January. The request were basic and routine looking for assessing records, construction, zoning permit activity and taxes current.

Mrs. Millikin advised that she has a resolution on the dais tonight for the Township Committee consideration. This resolution is for the execution of discharge of mortgage and related documents. This is related to a housing rehabilitation program from years ago and the money has been paid to the Township in full to cancel the mortgage.

Mayor Bassani requested a motion to approve Resolution #37-2019 Auhtorize Execution of Discharge of Mortgage and Related Documents.

Mr. Morris made a motion and seconded by Mr. Gaechter.

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #37-2019

AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF DISCHARGE OF MORTGAGE AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

WHEREAS, the Township of Wantage is the holder of two Mortgages made by Susanne Barnett pursuant to the Housing Rehabilitation Program in the principal amount of \$10,737.40 and \$411.71; and

WHEREAS, the amounts due pursuant to the Mortgages has been paid in full.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Township Clerk are authorized to execute a Discharge of Mortgage and such other documents as may be necessary to evidence the payment in full of the aforementioned Mortgages and to discharge the Mortgages of Record.

Mrs. Millikin thanked the DPW who were out Tuesday into Wednesday. This storm was another material user.

Mrs. Millikin advised that budget meetings have been set up for Tuesday, February 19th at 4:00 p.m. Engineer and DPW and at 5:00 p.m. for Recreation. February 28th is another budget workshop at 6:00 p.m. with Wantage Fire Department with Sussex joining around 6:15 p.m. and then I am waiting for confirmation from the First Aid Squad for 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Millikin advised that Nicole Dunn the Recreation Secretary provided me with information regarding Skylands Ice World. Apparently if kids sign up to participate in their hockey programs the Township receives a percentage of this amount. The Township received a check for \$102.00 for a total of 3 kids that signed up for this program. Does the Committee have any issue with this being advertised on the website and on facebook. There was not objection.

Mrs. Millikin advised that Reuben Kline has submitted his request again for 2019 for the Grand Fondo Bicycle Event. The event will be held on Sunday, June 22, 2019 at 7:30 a.m. beginning in Butler.

Mrs. Millikin updated that the Berry Road parcel closing is scheduled for March 21st.

Mrs. Millikin advised that 173 Clove Road, Wantage Excavating is moving forward with this project. Most likely will be ready to demo sometime next week.

Mrs. Millikin indicated the Township received correspondence from NJDEP regarding the RER matter and the Township's letter. A meeting is scheduled to take place on February 22nd with the NJDEP representatives here at the Municipal Building.

Mrs. Millikin's final item was a request from a potential buyer for 734 Route 23 requesting a payment plan for the vacant property fee. Apparently, the bank is saying he is responsible for this fee and has requested a payment plan. Discussion ensued. The Committee requested that Mrs. Millikin get more information regarding the need for the payment plan.

Attorney – Mr. Karp advised that the closing is scheduled for Berry Road. He also advised that his office has distributed the revised soil ordinance for the Committee's review.

Mayor/Committee – Committeeman Morris indicated that a SWAC meeting was held last night and that a subcommittee has been put together regarding local issues with Sparta, Vernon and Wantage.

Mr. Gaechter questioned if the Township needs to respond to any of the Cagiano e-mails. Mrs. Millikin stated at this time no formal OPRA request has been received.

Mayor Bassani stated he and Mrs. Millikin met with Mrs. Horsefield regarding Economic Development. He will be working with Mrs. Millikin on a potential brochure to be provided to the interested businesses along with information on the Township website.

Mayor Bassani stated the Township Committee is in receipt of a letter of resignation from Mrs. Millikin providing her 60-day notice dated February 7th resigning from her position as Administrator and Municipal Clerk. She has accepted a position to become the Administrator for Jefferson Township. Thank you for everything you have done for the Township. Mrs. Millikin stated she is very appreciative of the opportunity to work for Township of Wantage and thank you.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Bassani stated a motion is in order to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Committee Regular Meeting on January 24, 2019.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mayor Bassani opened the meeting to the public.

Mr. Wisse indicated the Elks have a benefit comedy show for Drug Awareness and Veterans Committee by Lori Space Day. Casino Trip on March 23rd and May 19th is the salute to veterans at High Point Monument.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Bassani request a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel. Mr. Karp read Resolution #36-2019 into the record.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #36-2019

EXECUTIVE SESSION FEBRUARY 14, 2019

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, assembled in public session on February 14, 2019, that an Executive Session closed to the public shall be held on February 14, 2019, at 7:34 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.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

A motion to come out of Executive Session was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mr. Gaechter

Upon Roll Call:

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

Mayor Bassani stated the Committee reviewed the Prosecutor interviews and advertisement for the Administrator Position.

Mayor Bassani requested a motion to allow for Mrs. Millikin to advertise the Administrator Position through the League of Municipalities in an amount not to exceed \$300.00.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Millikin, Municipal Clerk