

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL 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 4:00 P.M. ON
FEBRUARY 19, 2019**

Mayor Bassani called the special meeting to order at 4:00 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.

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."

BUDGET 2019

Mayor Bassani moved to the discussion with the Township Engineer and Department of Public Works. Present for this discussion were Mr. Harold Pellow, Township Engineer, Mr. Bob Wagner, DPW Supervisor, Mr. Mark Little, Assistant DPW Supervisor, and John Card, Mechanic & Buildings and Grounds. Mr. Millikin recommended that the discussion begin with Mr. Pellow. Mr. Pellow confirmed the Committee had received the November 8th memo. He advised that the proposed road is Coykendall Road Section I, Ryan Road, Layton Road and a mile of road in Lake Neepaulin. The only road eliminated was Lewisburg Road. Discussion ensued regarding the roads proposed. Mayor Bassani stated the budget is tight but if there is a need to cut, he requested that Mr. Pellow and the DPW review what could be cut if needed. Mayor Bassani stated he would hope we can fund the projects, but want to make sure this is part of the thought process. Mr. Gaechter also brought up the issue with the property owner on Clydesdale Ridge discussion ensued and it was agreed what Tilcon does as a repair is what the Township will except.

Mayor Bassani moved on to the request from the DPW. Mr. Wagner stated the proposed oil and stone roads proposed are: Skytop, Crigger, Rosemarrow, 3 sides of Gemmer, Snover, Brown, Hickory, Judgebeach, Dewitt, Roy and Goodrich. Mr. Wagner did indicate the budget for oil and stone was cut by \$50,000. Discussion ensued on the oil and stone roads. Next was the discussion of wacker roller for utilization for patching the various oil and stone roadways. Mayor Bassani moved on to the Loader. Is this a necessary purchase this year? Mr. Card stated yes. There is a lot of maintenance issues with this Loader. Mrs. Millikin advised that based on the price Mr. Card has received \$188,750 with a \$20,000 trade-in to bring the total cost of the Loader to \$168,750.00. Discussion ensued on the Loader and the potential to utilize a lease for the Loader. Mr. Card indicated one of the biggest issues is the salt because the Loader is utilized to mix the salt and grit.

Mr. Card discussed the fuel tanks that are going to need to be upgraded above ground. The NJDEP know requires a certified person to handle the fuel tanks. Discussion ensued on this matter and this will become an issue moving forward. Mrs. Millikin indicated this is something that needs to be looked into for 2020. The Township does

have insurance coverage for this on a yearly basis as well while they remain underground. The Committee thanked the DPW for their time.

Mayor Bassani next welcomed Nicole Dunn, Recreation Secretary, Christy Tuper, President Recreation & Parks President and Warren Wisse, Vice President Recreation & Parks. The Committee reviewed the memo dated November 19, 2018 regarding the budget for 2019. Mrs. Tuper went through the various items listed in the memo. The first item was the septicare budget for port a john the Recreation and Parks Committee would like these cleanings being done two times a week. Soccer has requested the Recreation and Parks Committee split the cost for paint of the fields. Mrs. Millikin stated currently in the budget is the cost to the fence on field 5 & 6. Mrs. Tuper stated that there is work on going on Lott Road field 2 and the potential that a reimbursement for cost for the field work. The Committee was not in favor of providing this cost since this field is still not completed and it has been over 4 years. Mrs. Tuper discussed a timeline for park improvements. Discussion ensued on this topic. Mrs. Millikin advised that the walking path has been budgeted to begin next year. Mayor Bassani indicated the budget is tight this year because there will be a tax increase.

There being not other items for discussion Mayor Bassani opened the meeting to the public.

Mrs. Kathy Gorman, Fernwood Road requested that something needs to be done at the beach at Lake Neepaulin. Fence maybe being taken down or picnic table or benches. Discussion ensued on this and will look into these requests.

There being no other public this portion was closed.

Mayor Bassani thanked Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. Tuper and Mr. Wisse for attending. Mayor Bassani requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Morris made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Gaechter.

Upon Roll:

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

The special budget meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra J. Millikin
Municipal Clerk