

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP
OF WANTAGE, HELD VIA VIRTUAL MEETING AT 4:00 P.M. ON
MAY 7, 2020**

Mayor Morris 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 Jon Morris, Deputy Mayor William Gaechter and Committeeman Ron Bassani. Also, present: Administrator/Clerk Michael Restel, Attorney Glenn Kienz and Chief Financial Officer Michelle LaStarza.

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."

DISCUSSION:

Mayor Morris explained that Resolution 41-2020 is Authorizing the Tax Collector to extend the Tax Grace Period 30 days to June 1, 2020.

Mr. Restel stated that tax collector reports were emailed to the Committee that explained how the tax collection numbers. Mr. Restel stated the current May Collection report already exceeds the May 2019 report. Mr. Restel stated the Tax collection rate through May 7th is 70%. Mr. Restel spoke about a question raised by Mr. Bassani pertaining to if Wantage's tax collection drops and there is no money to pay the bills how do we pay. Mrs. LaStarza spoke about Tax Anticipation Note which is the same thing as Bonding out for money.

Mayor Morris explained if the taxpayer pays June 2nd, the interest will go from May 1 to June 1, no interest will be charged if the tax payers pays it on June 1st.

Mr. Gaechter stated it's a good thing what we are doing and it unfortunate if Wantage no matter what we have to pay the School and County taxes even if we do not collect enough money.

Mr. Bassani stated it's a great thing and hopes the right people take advantage of this and this puts Wantage in an awkward spot because Wantage still has to pay the Schools and County their monies.

Mayor Morris requested a motion to approve Resolution #41-2020.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:

Susan Weiss Sherman Ridge Road; Mrs. Weiss asked to clarify the interest build up if it was June 1st or June 2nd. Mayor Morris stated no interest will be accrued if you pay on June 1st, if paid on June 2nd there will be 30 days of interest accrued.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Upon Roll:

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

Meeting Adjourned 4:10PM