

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP  
OF WANTAGE, HELD VIA VIRTUAL MEETING 7:00 P.M. ON  
OCTOBER 22, 2020**

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

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."

Bryan Morris from Phoenix Advisors provided a brief summary of their Financial Services for the possibility of Long-Term Financing. Mr. Morris stated finance rates are low right and is the time to look into a long-term finance. Discussion ensued.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Morris requested a motion to approve Resolution #87-2020 - #90-2020 with the removal of PO#17328 for Bassani Power Equipment LLC in the total amount of \$1,754.69

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

A Motion is in order to approve PO# 17328 for Bassani Power Equipment LLC in the amount of \$1,754.69

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

Resolution #91-2020 Authorization for Wantage Township to Apply for Local Government Emergency Fund COVID-19 Reimbursement.

Mr. Restel stated during the first round of the NJ Cares Act Sussex County was not part of the Grant. Mr. Restel stated when the Second round of Grant Money was available Sussex County was entitled to its share, Wantage Township was approved to apply up to \$57,700. Mr. Restel stated the office staff is working diligently to gather all the proper information needed including Staff Salaries, Equipment and Supplies purchased to sanitize all Township owned properties.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

## REPORTS

Administrator/Clerk: Mr. Restel stated the Ballot box will be locked at 8PM on Election Day.

Attorneys Report: Mr. Kienz spoke about the High Point High School Appeal and that the State is looking Department of Education Commissioners office is looking for a dismissal of the case.

Mayors Report: Mayr Morris thanked the Open Space Committee and Mr. Bassani for their hard work and giving the residents a tour of the Berry Road Property.

Mayor Morris Thanked the Recreation staff and Wantage Township staff for their hard work at Wantage Festival. Mayor stated it was a great night and the fireworks were a hit.

Mr. Bassani stated Wantage should integrate the Fireworks to future Wantage Day events.

Mayor Morris approved Ellen Smith to the Open Space Committee and tanked Mrs. Smith for Volunteering.

Committee Member Bassani: Mr. Bassani thanked the Mayor for thanking himself and Open Space for their hard work.

Mr. Bassani stated n estimated 26 people took the tour of the Berry Road Property.

Mr. Bassani stated there were many ideas presented and the Open Space will be meeting in November to discuss the potential Finalization of the Berry Road Property.

Mr. Bassani stated the Route 23 Bridge Project will be completed Summer of 2021. Mr. Bassani stated he emailed the NJDOT Commissioner pertaining to the project which was previously supposed to be completed Fall of 2020.

Mr. Bassani urged everyone to get out and vote.

## APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

A motion is in order to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2020 Mayor and Committee Regular Meeting.

Mr. Bassani made a Motion and was seconded by Mr. Gaechter.

Upon Roll Call:

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

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:

Kathy Gorman Fernwood: Mrs. Gorman thanked the Land Use Board for denying the Application that was heard on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Gorman asked if the US Fish and Wildlife Partnership would include Lake Neepaulin. Mayor Morris stated he will ask Nathaniel.

Mr. Bassani stated with the US Fish and Wildlife partnership we have to ask ourselves what would Wantage have to give up. Discussion ensued.

Donna Rockefeller 25 Oil City Road: Mrs. Rockefeller stated Skylands was great this weekend the music seemed lower. Mrs. Rockefeller thanked the committee for speaking with the owner. Mrs. Rockefeller stated that Friday and Saturday nights were loud.

Mr. Gaechter stated he was present at the Establishment and spoke with the owner and he is making an effort to reduce the sound.

MaryJo Vroegendewey Old 84: Mrs. Vroegendewey agreed with Mrs. Rockefeller the noise level was down on Thursday and Sunday, but was loud on Friday and Saturday Night.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Upon Roll:

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

Meeting Adjourned 7:45PM

Respectfully submitted by

Michael L Restel

Administrator/Acting Clerk