

**MINUTES FOR THE ORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, HELD AT THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 888 STATE HIGHWAY ROUTE 23, WANTAGE, NJ, ON JANUARY 6, 2022**

Administrator/Acting Clerk Michael Restel called the meeting to order at 7PM.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Michael L Restel read the "Statement of Determination" of the Board of County Canvassers, relative to an election held in the Township of Wantage County of Sussex and State of New Jersey, for the election of certain officers for said municipality on the 2nd day of November 2021,

The said Board does determine that the said election:

Name	Office	Term
William Gaechter	Committeeman	3 year

was duly elected to the office and for the term above set forth.

DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true, full and correct statement of the determination of the Board of Canvassers therein mentioned.

In WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand, this 22nd day of November 2021.

Signed by Timothy McCabe, Chairperson of the Board of County Canvassers. Attest by Jeffrey M. Parrott, Sussex County Clerk, Clerk of the Board of County Canvassers.

**ROLL CALL OF TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR 2022**

Present: Ronald Bassani, William Gaechter, Jonathan Morris

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT: MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2022**

Mr. Restel opened the floor for Committee nominations for the position of Mayor for 2022.

Mr. Morris nominated Ron Bassani. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion.

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

Mr. Restel Administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Bassani

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT: DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 2022**

Mayor Bassani opened the floor for the Committee nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor for 2022.

Mr. Gaechter moved to name Jon Morris as Deputy Mayor for 2022. Mayor Bassani seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

## **OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT COMPLIANCE**

Mayor Bassani stated, "This meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, Public Laws of 1975, Chapter 231. It has been properly advertised and certified by the Clerk."

## **FLAG SALUTE**

Mayor Bassani invited all those in attendance to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

## **BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

Mayor Bassani made known his nominations for appointment to the various boards, agencies, and commissions of the Township, as follows:

### **LAND USE BOARD**

Ron Bassani, Class I Member, for a term running through 12/31/2022

Joe Konopinski, Class II Member, for a term running through 12/31/2022

Jon Morris, Class III Member, for a term running through 12/31/2022

William DeBoer, Class IV member for a term running through 12/31/2025

Joanne Kanapinski, Class IV Member for a term running through 12/31/2025

George Unverzagt, Alternate #2, for a term running through 12/31/2023

Alternate #4 Vacant

Mayor Bassani opened the floor to the Committee, for the Class III appointment to the Land Use Board, for a one-year term running through 12/31/2021.

Mayor Bassani nominated Mr. Morris for the Class III appointment to the Land Use Board. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion.

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

## **COMMITTEE APOINTMENTS**

Mayor Gaechter offered the following nominations for Township Boards and Committees as follows:

### **BOARD OF HEALTH**

Karen Jackson, Regular Member, for a term running through 12/31/2025

Alternate Vacant

## **RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Daryl Wuhrl Regular Member 3 Year Term Expires 12/31/2023  
Warren Wisse Regular Member 3 Year Term Expires 12/31/2023  
Susan Weiss Regular Member 2 Year Term Expires 12/31/2022  
Gary Margiotta Regular Member 2 Year Term Expires 12/31/2022  
Heather Hill Regular Member 1 Year Term Expires 12/31/2022  
Alternate #1 2 Year Term Expires 12/31/2022  
Alternate #2 1 Year Term Expires 12/31/2021

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Emergency Management Coordinator	Joseph Konopinski	thru 12/31/23
Deputy Coordinator #1	Tom Madsen	thru 12/31/22
F.A.S., EMC member	Jeff Post	thru 12/31/22
F.A.S., EMC Alternate	Stan Gardner	thru 12/31/22
Damage Assessment	Joseph Butto	thru 12/31/22
Fire Chief, EMC member	Mark Snook	thru 12/31/22
Facilities, EMC Member	Amy Heater	thru 12/31/22
Communications, EMC Member	William Gebhard	thru 12/31/22
DPW Supt., EMC Member	Claude Wagner	thru 12/31/22
Sanitarian, EMC Member	SC BOH	thru 12/31/22
Finance/Resource Mgt., EMC Memb	Ashley Wilson	thru 12/31/22
Resource Management	Charles Rokonsny	thru 12/31/22
Mayor, EMC Member	Ron Bassani	thru 12/31/22
Public Information Officer	Michael Restel	thru 12/31/22
Media	New Jersey Herald	thru 12/31/22
Evacuation	Leroy Little	thru 12/31/22
Operations, EMC Member	Joseph A. Konopinski	thru 12/31/22
Operations, EMC Member	Alex Rubin	thru 12/31/22

Mayor Bassani requested the Committee to confirm the Mayor's nominations as shown above.

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

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

Mayor Gaechter offered the following nominations for professional appointments of the Township of Wantage for 2021, as follows:

- Township Judge: Glenn T. Gavan through 12/31/2023
- Township Attorney: Glenn Kienz through 12/31/2022
- Township Bond Counsel: Edward McManimon through 12/31/2022
- Township Auditor: Thomas Ferry through 12/31/2022
- Township Prosecutor: Jonathan McMeen through 12/31/2022
- Township Engineer: Harold Pellow through 12/31/2024
- Public Defender: through 12/31/2022
- Alternate Public Defender: Michael Justice through 12/31/2022

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

**MAYOR'S APOINTEMENTS**

Mayor Gaechter presented his nominations for appointment to the various positions of the Township Government for the year 2022, as follows:

- Subdivision Approval Certification Officer: Michael L Restel
- Recycling Coordinator: SCMUA
- Assessment Search Officer: Michael L Restel
- Qualified Purchasing Agent: Michael L Restel
- Municipal Affordable Housing Liaison: Michael L Restel
- Public Agency Compliance Officer for Affirmative Action: Michel L Restel
- Municipal Chief Finance Officer – 4-year appt through 12/31/23 Ashley Wilson
- PERS/PFRS Certifying Agent: Ashley Wilson
- Tax Search Officer: Melissa Caton
- Tax Collector 4-year appointment through 12/31/23: Melissa Caton
- Tax Assessor 4-Year appointment through 12/31/24 Kristy Lockburner
- Principal Public Works Manager: Claude Wagner
- Animal Control Officer: Claude Wagner
- Emergency 911 Coordinator: Joseph Konopinski
- Risk Management Consultant-Health Benefits: Vozza Agency
- Risk Management Consultant-Statewide Insurance Fund: Keith Mitchell, The Mitchell Agency

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

## **OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Mayor Gaechter offered the following nominations for appointment of members to the 2022 Open Space Advisory Board of Wantage Township:

Mr. Ronald Bassani, 6 Roberts Way

Ms. Victoria Gill, 47 Courtright Road

Mr. Justin Dudzinski, 804 Greenville Road

Ms. Allison Orsi, 41 Lowe Road

Ms. Kathleen Gorman, 53 Fernwood Road

Mrs. Ellen Smith 13 Spring Hollow Road

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

## **RECOGNITION OF LINE OFFICERS**

### **Wantage Fire Department**

Mark Snook	Department Chief
Justin Vandergroef	Deputy Chief - Beemerville
Leo Kinney JR.	Deputy Chief - Colesville
Hunter Space	Captain - Beemerville Captain
Mike Ferrarella	- Colesville
Will Vallone	1 <sup>st</sup> Lieutenant-Beemerville
Todd Tarrant	1 <sup>st</sup> Lieutenant - Colesville
John Buskiewicz	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant - Beemerville
James Courtright JR.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant - Colesville
Joe Marrocco	Fire Police Captain
Ben Langevin	Fire Police Lieutenant
Joe Vallone	Fire Police Lieutenant

**Wantage Township First Aid Squad**

Captain: Stephanie Reinbott  
1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant: Carrie Conklin  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant: Vacant  
Training Officer: Patrick Hanson  
President: Jeffrey Post  
Vice President: Stan Gardner  
Secretary: Marion Porrino  
Treasurer: Stan Gardner  
Engineer: William DeBoer

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Gaechter requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items I to XVI.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

**RESOLUTION #1-2022**

Designate Appointment of Municipal Judge, Municipal Attorney, Bond Counsel, Municipal Auditor, Risk Manager, Prosecutor, Public Defender and Alternate Public Defender for Calendar Year 2021

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5 et. seq. Allows for a municipality to award a contract without public advertising for bids and bidding thereof under certain circumstances, and

WHEREAS, the Township has a need for assistance during the course of this calendar year involving various professional services, and

WHEREAS, the services being solicited are essential to the security of the community, and

WHEREAS, the contract award for these services complies with requirements set forth by N.J.S.A.19:44A-20.4 et seq., as shown on the attached Pay to Play Compliance Statement; and

WHEREAS, the governing body of the Township of Wantage is of the opinion that the circumstances for professional service contractual arrangements, as required by NJSA 40A:11-5(1) are satisfied in this situation,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, that the following contracts be and they are hereby approved without the need for public advertisement of bids and bidding thereof:

Awarded to: Glenn Gavan, Esq.  
Services: Municipal Judge  
Duration: calendar year of 2021, 2022 and 2023  
Amount: Based on contract

Awarded to: Glenn Kienz, Esq., of the law firm Weiner Lesniak, Parsippany, NJ  
Services: Township Attorney  
Duration: calendar year of 2022  
Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

Awarded to: Edward McManimon, of the law firm McManimon Scotland and Baumann of Roselle Park, NJ  
Services: Township Bond Counsel  
Duration: calendar year of 2022  
Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

Awarded to: Thomas Ferry, of the Accounting & Auditing firm Wielkocz and Company of Newton, N.J.  
Services: Township Auditor  
Duration: calendar year of 2022  
Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

Awarded to: Jonathan McMeen Laddey, Clark and Ryan  
Services: Township Prosecutor  
Duration: December 31, 2022  
Amount: Varies based on service per fee schedule attached to contract

Awarded to: Keith Mitchell, The Mitchell Agency of Newton, NJ  
Services: Risk Management Consultant  
Duration: calendar year of 2022  
Amount: Commission based on service contract with Statewide Insurance Fund

Awarded to:  
Services: Public Defender  
Duration: calendar year of 2022  
Amount:

Awarded to: Michael Justice  
Services: Alternate Public Defender  
Duration: calendar year of 2022  
Amount: \$200.00 per case

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

**RESOLUTION #2-2022**

APPROVING TEMPORARY BUDGET FOR 2022

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-1 et seq. deals with state regulation of local budget matters and these regulations require a temporary budget be adopted covering the first quarter of the fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, the total appropriations exclusive of capital improvements, debt service, deferred charges and reserve for uncollected taxes amounted to \$4,943,304 in the 2022 municipal budget

**WHEREAS**, the total appropriations in the 2021 Budget, less appropriations made for Capital Improvement Fund, Debt Service, and Public Assistance is the sum of \$4,973,084.00 for the Current Fund; and \$116,520.00 for the Sewer Utility Allocation; and

**WHEREAS**, 26.25% of the total appropriations in the 2020 Budget, less appropriations for Capital Improvement Fund, Debt Service, and Public Assistance in the said 2021 Budget is the sum of \$1,297,617 for the Current Fund.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

**RESOLUTION #3-2022**

ESTABLISH THE RATE OF INTEREST TO BE CHARGED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF  
TAXES & UTILITIES

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 permits the governing body of each municipality to fix the rate of interest to be charged for non-payment of taxes or assessments subject to any abatement or discount for the late payment of taxes as provided by law; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-67 has been amended to permit the fixing of said rate of 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of the delinquency and 18% per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00, and allows an additional penalty of 6% to be collected against a delinquency in excess of \$10,000.00 on properties that fail to pay the delinquency prior to the end of the calendar year;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to charge 8% per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of taxes becoming delinquent after due date and 18% per annum on any amount of taxes in excess of \$1,500.00, becoming delinquent after the due date, and if the total amount due on December 31, is in excess of \$10,000.00, an additional penalty of 6% shall be charged against the delinquency.
2. There will be a ten (10) day grace period for quarterly tax payments. However, any payments not paid within the ten-day grace period will be charged interest from the due date.
3. The Tax Collector is hereby authorized to proceed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-123, "Receiver of Rents and Income from Real Property in the Municipality for Collection and Satisfaction of Delinquent Taxes", as provided by statute, for collection of delinquent taxes.
4. The Township Clerk shall provide a certified copy of this resolution to the Tax Collector, Township Attorney, and Township Auditor for the Township of Wantage.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

**RESOLUTION #4-2022**

OVERPAYMENT/UNDERPAYMENT OF TAXES

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, that the Tax Collector be and she is hereby authorized to cancel of record



any overpayment or underpayment of taxes and/or utilities in the amount of \$10.00 or less for the calendar year 2021, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17.1.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

**RESOLUTION #5-2021**

ESTABLISH CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of NJ, that for the calendar year 2022, the following shall serve as the cash management plan of the Township of Wantage.

The Chief Financial Officer is directed to use this cash management plan as the guide and is empowered to invest cash funds as bank balances will allow from time to time in order to realize a revenue.

I. IDENTIFICATION OF FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS TO BE COVERED BY THE PLAN

The Plan is intended to cover the deposit and/or investments of the following funds and accounts of the Township of Wantage:

- Current Fund/Current Account
- Grant Fund/Current Account
- General Capital Fund/General Capital Account
- Animal Control Fund/Animal Control Account
- Other Trust Funds/Trust Other Account
- COAH Trust/COAH Trust Accounts
- Developers Escrow
- Assessment Trust Fund/Assessment Trust Account
- Open Space Fund/Open Space Account
- Payroll Account
- Flexible Spending Account
- Public Assistance Fund/Public Assistance Account

II. The following are authorized as suitable investments:

- a. Interest-bearing bank accounts in banks as authorized above for deposit of local unit funds which are GUDPA approved
- b. Certificates of deposit in GUDPA approved banking institutions
- c. Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America. This includes instruments such as treasury bills, notes, and bonds.
- d. Government money market mutual funds that comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1(e).
- e. Any federal agency or instrumentality obligation authorized by Congress that matures within 397 days from the date of purchase, and has a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index or external factors
- f. Bonds or other obligations of the local unit or school district of which the Township is apart.

- g. Any other obligations with maturities not exceeding 397 days, as permitted by the State Division of Investments.
- h. Local government investment pools which comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1 (e) and conditions set by the Division of Local Government Services.
- i. New Jersey Cash Management Fund
- j. Repurchase agreements (re pos) of fully collateralized securities which comply with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-15.1 (e)
- k. New Jersey Asset & Rebate Management Program
- l. New Jersey CLASS

III. All municipal funds received by any official or employee shall be deposited within 48 hours to an interest-bearing account in the same name of the Township of Wantage. Additionally, funds can be received utilizing methods of electronic and/or automated clearing house.

IV. The following funds shall not be required to be maintained in interest bearing accounts:

- a. Change Funds
- b. Petty Cash Funds
- c. Trust funds to the extent that the deposit of such funds to an interest-bearing account would require by law the payment of interest to the provider of the funds
- d. Any grant funds required by the grant agreement not to be placed in interest bearing accounts
- e. Any other funds or balance which, due to reasons of practicality or requirements of some regulatory authority, must be placed in non-interest-bearing accounts.

V. No municipal funds shall be disbursed by the Chief Financial Officer prior to the approval of the Committee of the Township of Wantage except for:

- a. Debt Service Payments
- b. Investments
- c. Utilities
- d. Leases and/or Contract Agreements
- e. Tax Payments made to the County of Sussex, the Sussex Wantage Board of Education, and High Point Regional High Schools
- f. Payroll and Payroll Turnovers to agencies
- g. Contributions to the NJ State administered pension system
- h. Payments deemed necessary by the Chief Financial Officer

Items a-h shall be submitted to the Township of Wantage Committee for approval on the bill list resolution presented at the next township committee meeting.

VI. There are no approved security broker/dealers. In the event that a security broker/dealer should be approved during the year, the registered principal of said

brokerage firm so approved shall be provided with and sign an acknowledgment that they have seen and reviewed the cash management plan.

VII. The following banks and financial institutions are hereby designated as official depositories for the Deposit of all public funds referred to in the Plan, including certificates of deposit which are not otherwise invested in Permitted Investments as provided by this Plan:

The Provident Bank

VIII. The following Township Officials are hereby designated as those authorized to sign checks and warrants for the withdrawal of funds from the official depositories of the Township of Wantage for the year 2022:

- a. Mayor Ronald Bassani (and/or Deputy Mayor Jonathan Morris)
- b. Administrator/Acting Clerk Michael Restel
- c. Chief Financial Officer Ashley Wilson

IX. Electronic Disbursement/Claimant Certifications: In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16 (c) and Regulatory N.J.A.C. 5:30 9.6 up to or below \$17,500 of payments to vendors do not require claimant's certification unless to satisfy the township on the integrity of the received goods or services. The following require claimant's certification:

- a. Goods and Services over \$17,500.
- b. Advanced Payments
- c. Employee reimbursements for goods or services

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, this plan shall be in effect from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 as approved by the committee of the Township of Wantage.



CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, at a meeting held on January 6, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael L Restel, Administrator/Acting Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

**RESOLUTION #6-2021**

DESIGNATE BANKS AS THE OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES FOR TOWNSHIP FUND IN 2021

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, that the following Banks be and they are hereby designated as depositories for the funds of the Township of Wantage for the calendar year 2021: Chase Bank, SB One Bank, Lakeland Bank; and TD Securities

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Finance Officer of the Township of Wantage be and she is hereby authorized to invest and reinvest the Township's Funds in the above-designated official depositories, in accordance with the statutory duties of the office of Chief Finance Officer and the Municipal Ordinances governing said duties.

**RESOLUTION #7-2022**

Establishing Schedule of Public Township Committee Meetings for 2022

**WHEREAS**, Section 13 of the Open Public Meetings act, approved October 21, 1975 as Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, requires every public body to post and maintain posted throughout the year a schedule of the meetings of said public body;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Town of Wantage, Sussex County, New Jersey that the following schedule for 2022 indicates all public meetings of the Wantage Township Committee will be held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, unless otherwise indicated, in the Committee Room, 888 Route 23, Wantage, New Jersey; and

Committee Meetings 7:00 p.m.							
January	6	and	27	July	14		
February	10	and	24	August	18		
March	10	and	24	September	8	and	22
April	14	and	28	October	13	and	27
May	12	and	26	November	17		
June	9	and	23	December	8	and	22

January 5, 2023\*

\*Reorganization and Regular Meeting

Michael L Restel, Administrator/Acting Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

**RESOLUTION #8-2022**

Designate Newspapers that will Received Notices Required by the NJ Open Public Meetings Act for 2022

WHEREAS, Section 3D(2) of the Open Public Meetings Act, approved October 21, 1975 as Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, requires every public body to designate two (2) newspapers to receive notices required to be mailed, telephoned, telegraphed or hand delivered;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage that it hereby designates the newspapers listed below as newspapers to receive notices required by the Open Public Meetings Act:

New Jersey Herald  
New Jersey Sunday Herald  
Star Ledger

**RESOLUTION #09-2022**

Designate Legal Newspaper for Calendar Year 2022

WHEREAS, by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage that the newspapers listed below be designated as the official newspapers for the Township of Wantage for legal advertising during the 2022 calendar year.

New Jersey Herald  
  
New Jersey Sunday Herald  
  
Star Ledger

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, at a meeting held on January 6, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael L Restel, Administrator/Acting Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE  
**RESOLUTION #10-2022**

AUTHORIZE THE TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY AND THE TOWNSHIP TAX ASSESSOR TO DEFEND THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE AGAINST ALL APPEALS FILED DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2022

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, that the Township Attorney Glenn Kienz, and the Township Tax Assessor Kristy Lockburner, be and they are hereby officially authorized to represent the Township of Wantage for Tax Appeals filed for 2022, for the purpose of correcting the Township of Wantage Tax List including but not limited to rollback complaints, added and omitted assessment complaints, and such other appeals as are necessary to correct the assessment for the Township of Wantage,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Attorney and the Township Tax Assessor be and they are hereby designated as the agents of the Township of Wantage for the purpose of entering into and signing settlements of the foregoing matters by stipulation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Attorney and the Township Tax Assessor shall be compensated for their services in the defense and representation of the Township, with respect to Tax Appeals filed for 2022, in accordance with the existing employment contract on file for the Township Attorney and Township Tax Assessor, respectively, in effect for calendar year 2022.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

**RESOLUTION #11-2022**

Legal Township Holidays for 2022

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, that the following dates shall be recognized as official Township Holidays for the calendar year 2022, during which municipal offices shall be closed to the public in recognition of the said Holidays:

Monday, January 2, 2023	New Year's Day
Monday, January 17, 2022	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, February 21, 2022	President's Day
Friday, April 15, 2022	Good Friday
Monday, May 30, 2022	Memorial Day
Monday, July 4, 2022	Independence Day
Monday, September 5, 2022	Labor Day
Monday, October 10, 2022	Columbus Day
Friday, November 11, 2022	Veterans Day
Thursday, November 24, 2022	Thanksgiving Day
Friday, November 25, 2022	Day after Thanksgiving
Friday, December 23, 2022	Christmas Eve
Monday, December 27, 2022	Christmas Day (Observed)

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

**RESOLUTION #12-2022**

APPROVE THE INSURANCE BONDS AND BLANKET BONDS FOR VARIOUS MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, approve the insurance bonds for various municipal officials and the blanket bond covering all bondable officials for the calendar year 2022.

#### TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

#### **RESOLUTION #13-2022**

AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATOR, MUNICIPAL CLERK, AND QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT TO HAVE DISCRETIONARY SPENDING AUTHORITY

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, authorize the Administrator, Municipal Clerk and Qualified Purchasing Agent to have discretionary spending authority of up to \$17,500 on any given purchase or project during calendar year 2022, with any proposed expenditure above this amount being brought to the governing body for authorization prior to the issuance of a purchase order.

#### **MAYOR'S STATEMENT**

Mayor Bassani read into record a prepared statement.

Mayor Bassani Thanked the Citizens of Wantage Township for outing their trust into the Wantage Township Committee.

Mayor Bassani Thanked the DPW and Staff for their hard work and dedication to Wantage Township

Mayor Bassani stated Wantage will be looking into a Grant writer for 2022

Mayor Bassani stated there will be continued upgrades to Animal Control including changing the name to Animal Shelter instead of Pound.

Mayor Bassani stated there will be upgrades to citizens programs including an emergency alert system

Mayor Bassani stated Wantage will work hard to maintain the low Municipal Taxes.

#### **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

Deputy Mayor Jon Morris stated it is an honor and privilege to serve on the Wantage Township committee with Mayor Bassani and Mayor Gaechter.

Mr. Morris thanked the Staff of Wantage Township for their hard work.

Mr. Morris stated he looks forward to keeping the taxes stable in the 2022 budget.

Mr. Morris stated that he looks forward to working with High Point Youth Football and the expansion of their football field.

Committeeman William Gaechter Thanked the Staff and Volunteers for their hard work throughout 2021.

Mr. Gaechter stated this committee will work hard to keep taxes stable and have been doing that since 2010.

Mr. Gaechter stated Wantage will reevaluate the Shared Services the town provides.

### **OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

Bill DeBoer Beemer Road: Mr. DeBoer thanked the Mayor and Committee for their hard work.

Mr. DeBoer stated he knows the feeling as I served on the Committee for 12 years.

Kathy Gorman Fernwood Road: Mrs. Gorman stated she would like to see the lawlessness of the town go away.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Bassani asked for a motion to adjourn from the Organization Meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Gaechter, and seconded by Mr. Morris.

All in Favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael L Restel

Administrator/Acting Clerk