

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, HELD AT THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 888 STATE HIGHWAY ROUTE 23, WANTAGE, N.J., ON
JUNE 12, 2014.**

Mayor DeBoer called the regular meeting to order, and requested the Deputy Clerk call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor Bill DeBoer, Committeeman Ron Bassani, and Committeeman Bill Gaechter. The following members were absent: None.

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

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor DeBoer invited all persons present to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America Flag.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor DeBoer requested that the governing body review the Regular Consent Agenda.

Mr. Bassani moved to approve the following reports for filing:

Construction Department Report for May 2014

Board of Health Report for May 2014

Registrar of Vital Statistics Report for May 2014

Municipal Clerk Report for May 2014

Tax Collector Report for May 2014

Seconded by Mr. Gaechter. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to approve Payment of Bills for the Meeting of June 12, 2014, excluding Purchase Order 11579 for Bassani Power and Equipment in the amount of 156.20.

Seconded by Mr. Gaechter. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to approve the refund of \$30.00 to Helen Russell, Block 41 Lot 1, for Bulky Waste permit canceled prior to pick up. Seconded by Mr. Gaechter. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to approve the refund of \$65.00 to Ray Barnitt, Block 18 Lot 30, for a roof project abandoned under building permit #BP13-427. Seconded by Mr. Gaechter. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to approve an amendment to 2014 Municipal budget to accept a grant in the amount of \$35,689, representing 2014 New Jersey Clean Communities Grant Allocation.

Seconded by Mr. Gaechter. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to approve an amendment to 2014 Municipal budget to accept a grant in the amount of \$132,500, representing 2014 New Jersey Department of Transportation Grant for Improvements to a Section of Pidgeon Hill Road. Seconded by Mr. Gaechter. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to confirm the Hiring of Craig Hough as a Part Time Laborer of the Public Works Department at a rate of \$14.25 per hour for 32 hours a week.

Seconded by Mr. Gaechter. Upon Roll Call:

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

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Mr. Bassani moved to approve the Renewal of Various Liquor Licenses of Wantage Township for the 2014-15 Licensing Term, as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, does hereby approve the renewal of the liquor licenses named below for the licensing term of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015

PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSES:

<u>License #</u>	<u>Licensee & Location:</u>	<u>Trading As:</u>
1924-33-001-007	AKSHAR Liquors Wantage LLC 65 Route 639	Airport Pub & Package
1924-33-002-004	Douglas J. Thomson 447 Route 284	Cabin Fever
1924-33-003-008	ARETEO LLC. 1 Libertyville Road	The Stuffed Olive
1924-33-006-006	Penne Vodka Inc. Inactive	n/a
1924-33-007-003	Presti Liquor LLC 289 Route 23	Sussex Queen Diner
1924-33-008-008	Jersey Innovative Investments LLC 205 Route 23	Wantage Plaza Liquor Outlet

PLENARY RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSES:

1924-44-011-003	HPlay Liquors, LLC 83 Hamburg Ave, Route 23	Woody's Liquor Shop
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CLUB LICENSES:

1406-31-012-001	Pvt. Charles Auberger Post 213 American Legion 915 Route 23	American Legion Post 213
1406-31-013-001	Sussex Lodge #2288 BPOE Route 565 Lewisburg Rd	Sussex Lodge #2288

Seconded by Mr. Gaechter. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Bassani moved to approve the release of \$10,168 Bid Security to H&H Mack upon successful delivery of vehicle. Seconded by Mr. Gaechter. Upon Roll Call:

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

MAYOR'S ACTIONS

Mayor DeBoer appointed Nancy Nolte of Mount Salem Road to a seat on the Wantage Township Board of Recreation Commissioners, to fill a vacant seat with a term running through December 31, 2015

Mayor DeBoer appointed Tanya Chiofalo of Bantry Terrace to serve as Alternate #1 on the Board of Recreation Commissioners for a term running through December 31, 2015

BILL LIST Continued

Mr. Gaechter moved to approve the Purchase Order 11579 for Bassani Power and Equipment in the amount of \$156.20. The motion was seconded by Mayor DeBoer. Upon roll call,

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

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: None

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committeeman Gaechter: None

Committeeman Bassani: offered his congratulations to Jon Morris for his Primary win.

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Mayor DeBoer: stated that there was a great turn out at Wantage Day, and a good time was had by all. He acknowledged the great efforts of the Recreation Commission in making the event a success. Mayor DeBoer also spoke about Mackenzie Genung, of Newton, who, instead of receiving gifts at her eighth birthday bowling party, asked her friends to bring supplies for the care of animals. The Wantage Pound, because of Mackenzie's request, received numerous items, including dog and cat food, toys, bleach, paper towels, cloth towels, and cat and dog treats. He added that Mackenzie is a young person that we can all be proud of and that she has been sent a Citizens Award signed by the mayor.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Final Adoption of Ordinance 2014-11: Special Emergency For Tax Map Preparation

Mr. Bassani moved to adopt on final reading, Ordinance 2014-11, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION AS AUTHORIZED BY N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53 et. seq. FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN APPROVED TAX MAP." Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion.

There being no public comment, Mayor DeBoer requested a Roll Call:

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

Introduction of Ordinance 2014-12: Bond Ordinance for Volcanic Hill Road Improvement

Mr. Bassani moved to introduce on first reading, Ordinance 2014-12, entitled "BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO VOLCANIC HILL ROAD IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$115,000 THEREFOR, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$109,250 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE COST THEREOF," final hearing date scheduled for July 17, 2014. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Motion made by Mr. Bassani to amend the Capital Budget of Wantage Township to reflect the inclusion of the project for Improvements to Volcanic Hill Road. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion.

Upon Roll Call:

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

Introduction of Ordinance 2014-13: Direct Deposit

Motion made by Mr. Bassani to introduce on first reading, Ordinance 2014-13, entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO MANDATE DIRECT DEPOSIT FOR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE PURSUANT TO C. 52:14-15 et. seq." with a final hearing date scheduled for June 25, 2014. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Approval of minutes

Motion made by Mr. Bassani to adopt the minutes of the Wantage Township governing body meeting held on May 15, 2014. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:

Jackie Espinoza, of Jersey Central Power & Light, introduced herself and invited the Committee to tour the JCP&L Northern Dispatch Office in Morristown. Tours are held monthly. She works at the Newton office. Ms. Espinoza warned about the Green Dot scam.

Kathy Gorman spoke about the dispute between a Frankford 4-H Member and the New Jersey State Fair regarding the Fair requirement that only de-horned goats be allowed to be shown at the Fair. Ms. Gorman asked that the Committee support the 4-H girl who believes that it is inhumane to de-horn goats. Ms. Gorman stated that a covering could be used over the goat horns, but added that other horned animals are shown at the fair.

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William Gettler asked what the legal amount time should be between first and second readings. He expressed a belief that Ordinance 2009-16 removed Wantage Township from the Lake Neepaulin issue. Mr. Gettler offered his opinions on the topic of potential Township ownership of Lake Neepaulin, stating his belief that potential ownership of Lake Neepaulin by Wantage Township is a matter that should be placed on the November Ballot for the voters to decide. Mr. Gettler proposed that an attorney not affiliated with Weiner Lesniak or Laddey, Clark and Ryan, perform audits of legal work done on behalf of Wantage Township. Mr. Gettler expressed concern with the Township's handling of the FOLN issue. Mr. Gettler expressed a desire that a township attorney be hired that has no relationship with Weiner Lesniak or Laddey, Clark and Ryan.

At this time, Mayor DeBoer closed the meeting to the public.

Mr. Bassani made the motion to close the meeting in order to go into Executive Session. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Attorney Glenn Kienz read the reasons for the public to be excluded from the Executive Session:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P. L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage, that the public shall be excluded from discussion of the following matter(s):

- 1) Negotiation of the terms of a potential Shared Services Agreement with Sussex Borough
- 2) Matters falling within the attorney-client privilege and potential litigation: Review and Consideration of the FOLN Response to the Township's Decision to Adjust Cost Responsibility for Repayment of NJDEP Loan on the dam at Lake Neepaulin

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Minutes will be kept on file in the municipal clerk's office, and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes shall be made public. All in favor.

After meeting in closed executive session, Mr. Bassani moved to return to open session. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. All in favor.

A member of the public requested the continuance of OPEN PUBLIC SESSION.

Mayor DeBoer granted the request.

Karen Merritt spoke about the Ordinance on the Wantage Township website regarding vehicles such as ATVS. She expressed the belief that the Township should call the New Jersey State Police, not the residents, because "violators will be prosecuted," and a resident does not have the authority to prosecute. Mr. Bassani stated that the Township does not prosecute. Ms. Merritt added that Bob Heiden spoke about investigating bus stops, but there is no update.

Kathy Gorman stated that if there is any legal activity coming from FOLN, she will join the party.

Mayor DeBoer closed the public portion of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for the attention of the governing body, Mr. Bassani moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll call,

Ayes: Bassani, Gaechter, DeBoer **Nays:** None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

Mayor DeBoer declared this meeting adjourned.

Christine Von Oesen, Assistant Clerk