

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, HELD AT THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL
BUILDING, 888 STATE HIGHWAY 23, WANTAGE, N.J. ON FEBRUARY 22, 2016**

Mayor Bassani called the meeting of the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage to order, and requested the proceeded to call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor Bassani, Committeeman Morris, Gaechter.

The following member was absent: None.

Also present: Clerk Pro Tem Michelle La Starza

Mayor Bassani led those present in the Salute to the Flag.

Mayor Bassani 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 to the public, and certified by the Clerk."

New Business:

The quotes for replacement of the salt shed were reviewed and tabled until further clarification can be made.

BUDGET

Executive Session

Mr. Morris moved to enter into closed session, as follows:

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 matters involving personnel matters related to the Zoning Official.

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.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

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

After meeting in closed session, Mr. Gaechter moved to return to open session and continue with the regular order of business. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

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

The remaining open items were discussed regarding requested budget and salary increases as well as which capital projects to fund the year 2016.

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mayor Bassani opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments.

Anne Smulewicz, 108 Route 23, informed the Governing Body that she has been in touch with Debbie Hirt from the State Department of Transportation and there are improvements needed to the parking lot on her property. She also stated that D. Hirt has already been in touch with Harold Pellow regarding the matter. A brief discussion ensued, and Mrs. Smulewicz said the Governing Body could get back to her once Debbie Hirt has contacted the Township. Mayor Bassani asked Ms. LaStarza to contact Harold Pellow to get some background on this topic.

Mrs. Smulewicz further informed the Governing Body that she thought the staffing patterns should be reviewed and if full-time employees are not needed, they should be changed part-time.

As there was no one from the public present, Mayor Bassani closed the meeting to the public.

As there was no further business to discuss, Mr. Gaechter moved to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon roll call,

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

Mayor Bassani declared this meeting to be adjourned.