

**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  
FEBRUARY 25, 2016.**

Mayor Bassani called the meeting to order, and requested the Clerk call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor Ron Bassani, Committeeman Bill Gaechter, and Committeeman Jon Morris. The following members were absent: None. Also present: Township Attorney Glenn Kienz.

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 and certified by the Clerk."

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Bassani requested that the governing body review the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Gaechter moved to approve payment of Bill List for the meeting of February 25, 2016, excluding P.O. #13258 to Bassani Power & Equipment in the amount of \$772.49 for purchase of a new chain saw.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Gaechter moved to confirm Mayor Ronald Bassani as a member of the Wantage Township Emergency Management Council for the year 2016. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Gaechter moved to designate the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Wantage Township, as follows:

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a complex and ongoing problem in our society, affecting many children in Sussex County; and

WHEREAS, every child is entitled to be loved, cared for, nurtured, feel secure and be free from verbal, sexual, emotional and physical abuse, and neglect; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect not only directly harm children, but also increase the likelihood of criminal behavior, substance abuse, health problems, and risky behavior;

WHEREAS the effects of child abuse are felt by communities as a whole, and need to be addressed by the entire community;

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among families, social service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies and the business community;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that Wantage Township does designate the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, and calls upon all citizens, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Gaechter moved to confirm renewal of contract with Aquatic Analysts, Inc., for water quality monitoring and treatment program for Lake Neepaulin for the year 2016.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Gaechter moved to approve contract with Farmside Landscape & Design for 2016 Field Maintenance Program in the amount of \$13,725.00. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

CONSENT AGENDA, Continued

Mr. Gaechter moved to authorize Submission of Strategic Plan for Funding Under the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse for the current fiscal year, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

WHEREAS, The Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Sussex;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

The Township Committee does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Sussex/Wantage Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2017 in the amount of:

DEDR \$12,712.00  
Cash Match \$ 3,179.00  
In-Kind \$ 9,537.00

The Township Committee acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Gaechter moved to authorize Tonnage Grant Application for the 2015 Recycling Grant cycle, as follows:

WHEREAS, The Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L.1987, c.102, has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grant may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent and the spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and to expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has promulgated recycling regulations to Implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, The recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including but not limited to, making and keeping accurate, verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, A resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for the 2015 Recycling Tonnage Grant will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and to indicate the assent of The Mayor and Committee of Wantage Township to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS, Such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage that Wantage Township hereby endorses the submission of the recycling tonnage grant application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and designates James R. Doherty to ensure that the application is properly filed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the monies received from the recycling tonnage grant be deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Gaechter moved to authorize refund of \$35 to Jersey Innovative Investments LLC for a Liquor License Transfer application which was withdrawn. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

**Payment of Bill**

Mr. Gaechter moved to approve Payment of P.O. #13258 to Bassani Power & Equipment in the amount of \$772.49 for purchase of a new chain saw. Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

Mayor Bassani recused himself from participation in this motion.

Upon Roll Call:

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

**MAYOR'S PRESENTATION**

At this time, Mayor Bassani presented a Certificate of Award from the Township Governing Body to Nicholas McKenney, a member of the Wantage Township First Aid Squad, for his actions in responding to an ambulance call which led to his delivering the birth of twins in the course of his response. Mayor Bassani offered his congratulations to Mr. McKenney for his poise and excellence in service to the community, and stated this was also a clear sign of the outstanding training that the Wantage First Aid Squad provides to its members.

Assemblyman Parker Space presented a joint resolution of the New Jersey State Legislature to Mr. McKinney applauding his actions, and joined Mayor Bassani in offering his praise.

All members of the governing body and audience present offered their congratulations to Mr. McKinney.

**ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

**Rolling Hills Development (Former Toll Bros)**

Mr. Doherty presented a report from Township Engineer Harold Pellow regarding outstanding punch list items to be completed on this development. Mr. Kienz reported on the status of the Bond.

**Builder's Agreement to Complete Public Improvements – Mountain View Manor**

Mr. Doherty reported that, as a condition of the Preliminary and Final Site Plan Approval granted to Mountain View Manor at Wantage, Inc., the Developer needs to enter into a Builder's Agreement with the Township to ensure completion of the Clark Road Improvements. The Land Use Board is seeking the governing body's approval for the Mayor to sign the attached Builder's Agreement, in this regard.

Mr. Gaechter moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Builder's Agreement to Complete Public Improvements on the Mountain View Manor project.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

**Request of Ken Wentink**

Mr. Doherty reviewed a request of local engineer Ken Wentink regarding a proposed drainage improvement at property on Neepaulin Drive/South Shore Drive. Mr. Doherty presented Township Engineer Harold Pellow's input; and offered his recommendation to endorse the proposed project but making it clear that any and all work in the Township right of way will require a private contractor to obtain a road opening permit from the Township.

Mr. Morris moved to endorse the proposed project based on the condition that any and all work in the Township right of way will require a private contractor to obtain a road opening permit from the Township.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Doherty reported that the proposed transfer of liquor license involving Fireman Dan's would need to be tabled until the March 10 meeting as the criminal background check report from the State Police has not yet been received.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** Mr. Kienz offered an update report on the status of offering a municipal response in the COAH/Affordable Housing case. Mr. Kienz reported an April 4 deadline for action to be taken in response to the Judge's orders, and indicated his office would be coordinating necessary actions between now and that date, with the Land Use Board and consultant Ken Nelson.

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Mr. Morris offered reminders for the upcoming Fish & Chips Dinner fundraiser of the Wantage First Aid Squad in March, and the Wantage Recreation Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for March 19. Mr. Morris also offered a reminder of the Sussex Fire Department St. Baldrick's Fundraiser on March 12.

Mayor Bassani offered the governing body a reminder that the Unionville Fire Department Annual Dinner is scheduled for March 12, and the Daughters of the American Revolution were holding an event at the Lafayette House on February 27.

Mayor Bassani acknowledged receipt of a letter from resident William Gettler, stating the governing body would review the communication.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Renewal of Liquor License 1924-32-010-003, Fireman Dan's Sports Lounge**

Mr. Morris moved to authorize the renewal of liquor license 1924-32-010-003, 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 license named below for the licensing terms of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, and July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016:

**PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LIQUOR LICENSE WITH BROAD PACKAGE PRIVILEGE:**

License #:	Licensee Name:	Trading As:
1924-32-010-003	Fireman Dan's Sports Lounge LLC 766 Route 23	Fireman Dan's

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:  
Ayes: Bassani, Gaechter, Morris      Nays: None      Absent: None      Abstain: None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Morris moved to approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Wantage Township governing body held on January 14, 2016.

Mr. Gaechter seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:  
Ayes: Bassani, Gaechter, Morris      Nays: None      Absent: None      Abstain: None

Mr. Morris moved to approve to approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Wantage Township governing body held on January 28, 2016 (Mr. Gaechter absent).

Mayor Bassani seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:  
Ayes: Bassani, Morris      Nays: None      Absent: None      Abstain: Gaechter

Mr. Gaechter moved to approve the minutes of the Executive Session and Budget Meeting of the Wantage Township governing body held on February 4, 2016.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion. Upon Roll Call:  
Ayes: Bassani, Gaechter, Morris      Nays: None      Absent: None      Abstain: None

**Next Budget Meeting**

Upon review and discussion, the members of the governing body agreed to hold a Budget Meeting on March 7, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:**

Mayor Bassani opened the meeting to the public at this time.

Bill DeBoer, Beemer Road, offered details regarding the First Aid Squad Fish & Chips Dinner.

Kathy Gorman, Fernwood Road, stated that she had no part in the letter recently sent by Mr. Gettler to the governing body.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

Mayor Bassani declared this meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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James R. Doherty, Municipal Clerk