

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COMMITTEE OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, HELD AT THE WANTAGE TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 888 STATE
ROUTE 23, WANTAGE NJ, HELD AT 7:00 P.M. ON
NOVEMBER 10, 2016.**

Mayor Bassani called the meeting to order, and requested that the Clerk call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor Ronald Bassani, Committeeman Jon Morris, and Committeeman William Gaechter. Also present: Administrator/Acting Clerk Debra Millikin, Deputy Clerk Christine M. Von Oesen, Attorney Glenn Kienz.

Mayor Bassani 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."

Mayor Bassani invited all those in attendance to join in the Salute to the Flag.

Mayor Bassani requested a Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

RESOLUTIONS (Approval for the following actions):

- Clerks Report for the month of October 2016.
- Zoning Report for the month of October 2016.
- Land Use Reports (Land Use Board, Housing, Driveway) for the month of October 2016.
- Board of Health Report for the month of October 2016.
- Registrar's Report for the month of October 2016.
- Tax Collector's Report for the month of October 2016.

A Motion is in Order to approve a RESOLUTION CANCELLING COMPLETED IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZATIONS.

A Motion is in order to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2016 Wantage Township Mayor and Committee Meeting.

A Motion is in Order to approve the Bills List for November 2016.

A Motion is in Order to approve a TRANSFER RESOLUTION for items located in the 2008 Current Fund Budget.

A Motion is in order to approve a RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR/ACTING CLERK AND QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT.

Mayor Bassani requested a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion by Mr. Gaechter. Second by Mr. Morris.

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

REPORTS

Clerk Report – None

Administrator Report – Ms. Millikin congratulated Mayor Bassani on his winning the election for another three year committee term, and noted high voter turnout. Mr. Keinz prepared a resolution offering procedures for municipal lowering of the flag. Ms. Millikin priced flag poles. Ms. Millikin advised that a resident of Courtland Drive has requested a “Hearing Impaired” road sign for a family member. Ms. Millikin advised that 2016 appointments need updating in preparation for the December 8, 2016 Committee Meeting. Ms. Millikin is working on proposals such as snow plowing, salt and sanding, government deals and auctions. Ms. Millikin has distributed MRV forms. Ms. Millikin met with Harold Pellow and discussed the 5 year Capital Improvement update. Ms. Millikin met with almost all municipal departments. Ms. Millikin advised that Wantage has a new fire truck. She and CFO Michelle LaStarza are working on the budget. All municipal offices are closed tomorrow, November 11, 2016. Ms. Millikin requested some changes to the spending limits, as she is a Qualified Purchasing Agent. Mayor Bassani answered that the spending limits would not be changed.

Attorney Report – None

Committeeman Report – Mr. Morris advised that Frist Aid Squad nominations will soon be accepted. He adds that Sussex EMS has filled in any response gaps, although there have been two calls to Atlantic Health Care. He advised that there have been occasions where there have been 3 simultaneous calls.

Committeeman Report – Mr. Gaechter offers his congratulations to Mayor Bassani and welcomes Administrator/Acting Clerk Debi Millikin to Wantage Township.

Mayor Reports – Mayor Bassani attended the election day event held at the Farmstead.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Bassani requested a Motion to approve on first reading Ordinance #2106-11 AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$6,450.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF SERVER.

Motion by Mr. Morris. Second by Mr. Gaechter.

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

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION:

Steve Tribuzio stated that he asked about Wantage First Aid issues two meetings ago, is waiting for an update. Mayor Bassani responded that those issues are being worked on.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Mayor Bassani requested a Motion to close the Public Portion of the meeting and then assemble in Executive Session to conduct discussion regarding personnel and contract negotiations.

Motion by Mr. Morris. Second by Mr. Gaechter.

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

Attorney Report – None

Committeeman Report – Mr. Morris - Mr. Morris spoke with Wantage Fire Chief Larry Bono, who was in attendance. Mr. Bono said that the new fire truck would be delivered next week and that a get together is being planned to celebrate same. The new Jaws of Life apparatus arrived today. Mr. Morris stated that the Wantage First Aid Squad continues to rectify issues while keeping up on most calls, while Sussex Boro has been very helpful with the rest. Some Volunteer Fire Fighters are also driving for the Wantage First Aid Squad.

Committeeman Report – Mr. Gaechter - Mr. Gaechter met with Wantage First Aid Squad President Bill DeBoer, who indicated that he is optimistic about Wantage First Aid Squad feasibility.

Mayor Report – None

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Harold Simons asked if the Fire Department members will be permanently driving for the Wantage First Aid Squad. Mayor Bassani responded that it is not anticipated to be permanent, but is an available option. Mr. Simons asked what will happen if the First Aid Squad is not adequately staffed by a given date. Mayor Bassani responded that there is no deadline, and although other possibilities may have to be pursued, the hope is that membership will increase to the numbers that are needed. He added that volunteerism is often cyclical.

Larry Bono agreed that volunteerism is often cyclical, and that is problematic. It is not an unusual occurrence when members are volunteers.

John Morris agreed with Mr. Bono. He added that people are busy with family and jobs, and that much training is required to become a volunteer.

Mayor Bassani advised that the new administrator will begin on November 1, 2016.

There being no further comments or questions from those in attendance, Mayor Bassani closed Open Public Session.

Mayor Bassani asked for a Motion to adjourn.

Motion by Mr. Morris Second by Mr. Gaechter

Ayes: Gaechter, Morris, Bassani

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine M. Von Oesen
Deputy Clerk