

**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  
May 10, 2018**

Mayor Gaechter 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 William Gaechter and Deputy Mayor Ronald Bassani. Committeeman Jonathan Morris had called ahead to be excused. Also, present: Administrator/Clerk Debra Millikin and Glenn Kienz, Esq.

Mayor Gaechter 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."

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Gaechter requested a motion to approve Resolution #55-2018 and Monthly Reports for April 2018: Board of Health, Clerk, Dog, Housing, Property Maintenance, Registrar, Tax Collector, and Zoning

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #55-2018

AUTHORIZING REFUND FOR BLOCK 165, LOT 24.01 &  
BLOCK 169, LOT 18

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has recommended the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage reimburse funds for a tax sale redemption and premium.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, does hereby authorize the refund of

\$16,967.97 to Emil Conforth, Block 165 Lot 24.01 for tax sale certificate 15-26  
\$33,291.71 to Ronald & Jacqueline McNeir, Block 169, Lot 18 for tax sale  
certification 16-23  
\$11,000.00 to Ronald & Jacqueline McNeir, Block 169, Lot 18 for tax sale premium

**REPORTS**

Clerk/Administrator – Mrs. Millikin stated the total number of OPRA request for April was 18.

Mrs. Millikin stated Resolution #56-2018 is being requested by Joe Konopinski the Township Emergency Management Coordinator for the grant funding the Township receives for Fiscal Year 2017. The total grant amount is \$20,248.15 with a state portion and the Township match.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

Mrs. Millikin advised the Yankee trip from this year will be a profit of \$37.00. The cost the Township charges covers the total cost of the trip. In regards to Wantage Day the cost is \$3,800 a year to hold and this is budgeted each year for the event.

Mrs. Millikin provided an update on the flag poles. The new ones have been ordered and am waiting for a date for installation.

Mrs. Millikin advised that she has arranged a potential training for residents related to Narcan a date provided by Center of Prevention and Counseling for August 15<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. She advised there is a need to have the commitment of at least 12 to 15 people to make this event successful.

Mrs. Millikin final item was a reminder that Wantage Day is Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from noon till 4 pm. The ribbon cutting ceremony for the pavilion is scheduled for noon. Mr. Bassani advised he would be away on vacation and will not be in attendance.

Attorney – None.

Mayor/Committee Report – None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> READING & PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Gaechter stated a motion is in order to adopt on final reading Ordinance #2018-07 AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TONWSHIP OF WANTAGE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, FO THE YEAR 2018.

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

Mayor Gaechter opened this portion of the meeting to the public.

Mr. Gettler, 98 Gemmer Road, if the Township wants to save money make the Tax Assessor salary zero.

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

ORDINANCE # 2018-07

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, FOR THE YEAR 2018

BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:9-165, the Township of Wantage shall pay its municipal officers and employees for services rendered as shown below. Figures shown represent annual salary, unless otherwise indicated.

DEPARTMENT & POSITION

Township Committee Ronald Bassani	\$ 6,000	Annual
Township Committee William Gaechter	\$ 6,000	Annual
Township Committee Jonathan Morris	\$ 6,000	Annual
Administrator Debra Millikin	\$71,500	Annual
Keyboarding Clerk I Administration Nancy Van Horn	\$42,621	Annual
Municipal Clerk Debra Millikin	\$48,500	Annual
Deputy Clerk Christine Von Oesen	\$55,130	Annual
Chief Financial Officer Michelle LaStarza	\$73,278	Annual
Michelle LaStarza Shared Service C.F.O. Salary	\$16,126	Annual
Debra Millikin Shared Service QPA Stipend	\$ 250	Annual
Nancy Van Horn Shared Service Finance Stipend	\$ 1,000	Annual
Keyboarding Clerk I Finance Arlene De La Osa	\$37,000	Annual
Arlene De La Osa Shared Service Finance Stipend	\$ 1,000	Annual
It Technician Melissa Caton	\$ 3,184	Annual
Tax Collector/Tax Search Officer Melissa Caton	\$60,200	Annual
Melissa Caton Shared Service Tax Stipend	\$ 3,500	Annual
Melissa Caton Shared Service Tax Salary	\$ 6,975	Annual
Keyboarding Clerk I Tax Collection Nicole Dunn	\$ 4,194	Annual
Nicole Dunn Shared Tax Stipend	\$ 500	Annual
Tax Assessor Kristy Lockburner	\$56,244	Annual
Kristy Lockburner Shared Service Assessor Stipend	\$ 4,400	Annual
Keyboarding Clerk I Assessment Nicole Dunn	\$23,766	Annual
Nicole Dunn Shared Service Assessor Stipend	\$ 500	Annual
Land Use Secretary Jeanne McBride	\$14,768	Annual
Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer (PT) Patrick Stefanelli	\$17,981	Annual
Code Enforcement/Asst. Zoning Officer/Secretary Jeanne McBride	\$19,808	Annual
Emergency Management Coordinator Joseph Konopinski	\$ 4,606	Annual
DPW Supervisor Claude Wagner	\$71,245	Annual
Snow Compensation Time, Claude Wagner	\$ 8,596	

Building Maintenance John Card	\$ 7,122	Annual
Building Maintenance Mark Little	\$ 3,000	Annual
Board of Health Secretary Jeanne McBride	\$ 7,424	Annual
Registrar of Vital Statistics Christine Von Oesen	\$ 4,106	Annual
Deputy Animal Control Officer Claude Wagner	\$ 3,247	Annual
Recreation Secretary Nicole Dunn	\$ 7,200	Annual
Judge of the Municipal Court Glenn Gavan	\$38,203	Annual
Municipal Court Administrator Donna Chernov	\$60,180	Annual
Violations Clerk (Part Time) Lauren McIntosh	\$ 13.01	Hourly
Assistant Violations Clerk (Part Time) Shirley Rumore	\$ 11.26	Hourly
Court Keyboarding Clerk (Part Time) Deborah Bottomley	\$ 10.40	Hourly
Municipal Court Constable Dennis Negele	\$ 5,242	Annual
Dennis Negele Shared Service Court Stipend	\$ 1,800	Annual
Municipal Court Attendant Amy Heater	\$ 4,018	Annual
Amy Heater Shared Service Court Stipend	\$ 1,730	Annual
Joseph Konopinski, EMMA Grant	\$ 5,000	Annual
Debra Millikin, EMMA Grant	\$ 2,500	Annual
Michelle LaStarza, EMMA Grant	\$ 2,500	Annual
Constable John Abate	\$ 3,055	Annual
Backup Snow Plow Operator (Part Time) Darrell Caton	\$ 18.00	Hourly
Backup Snow Plow Operator (Part Time) Michael Flood	\$ 18.00	Hourly
Backup Snow Plow Operator (Part Time) Russell Rome	\$ 18.00	Hourly
Backup Snow Plow Operator (Part Time) Jeffrey Krohn	\$ 18.00	Hourly
Backup Snow Plow Operator (Part Time) Kyle Kuperus	\$ 18.00	Hourly

Section 2. All former ordinances or parts thereof conflicting or inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect after publication and passage according to law.

**INTRODUCTION**

Mayor Gaechter stated a motion is in order to introduce on first reading #2018-09 ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$24,000 FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS TO NORTH SHORE DRIVE/NEW YORK AVENUE.

Mayor Gaechter explained that this has been an on going issue at a home and the water is draining through a house and this \$24,000 should address this problem.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

WANTAGE TOWNSHIP  
ORDINANCE # 2018-09

ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$24,000 FOR DRAINING IMPROVEMENTS TO NORTH SHORE DRIVE/NEW YORK AVENUE

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey as follows:

SECTION 1: The sum of Twenty-Four Thousand dollars (\$24,000.00) presently located in the General Capital Reserve for Road Improvements is hereby appropriated for Drainage Improvements to North Shore Drive/New York Avenue:

Drainage Improvements to North Shore Drive/New York Avenue: \$24,000.00

SECTION 2: In connection with the amount authorized in Section 1 hereof, the Township makes the following determinations:

- 1) The purpose described in Section 1 hereof is not a Current Expense and is a purchase the Township of Wantage may lawfully make as a capital purchase.
- 2) The period of usefulness of the purpose described in Section 1 hereof is not in the limitation of said Local Bond law and according to the aggregate reasonable life thereof is five (5) years or longer.

SECTION 3: All ordinances or parts of ordinances which are inconsistent with the terms of this ordinance be and the same hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

SECTION 4: This ordinance becomes effective immediately upon publication after adoption.

## **PROCLAMATION**

Anthony Mason – Mayor Gaechter stated that Committeeman Morris will be presenting this to Mr. Mason on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

Office of the Mayor

### **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS, ANTHONY MASON** has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, which represents an accomplishment of high regard within the Wantage Community, and

**WHEREAS**, as a member of Boy Scout Troop 84, Anthony has held numerous leadership positions in the troop, including Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader and Senior Patrol Leader, which is the highest youth leadership position in the Boy Scouts, and

**WHEREAS**, Anthony has distinguished himself by earning 29 merit badges during his Boy Scout career, as well as through service to his community, including his Eagle Scout Project for which he dedicated 70 hours to planning, constructing and installing trail marking posts for High Point State Park, and

**WHEREAS**, Anthony who attends High Point Regional High School has been a member of the school's academic team for two years. When his schedule allows, he volunteers for One Step Closer Animal Rescue (O.S.C.A.R.) In the Fall, Anthony will be attending Millersville University, College of Science and Technology, where he has been accepted into their honors program.

**WHEREAS**, such a fine record of accomplishment is worthy of praise and recognition,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, William Gaechter, Mayor of the Township of Wantage, hereby offer my congratulations to Anthony Mason for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, and

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that the entire Wantage Community is hereby encouraged to join in the recognition of this fine accomplishment.

Lange Family – Mayor Gaechter stated this will be presented at Wantage Day.

Office of the Mayor

PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS, The LANGE FAMILY,** has achieved their dream and desire to build a pavilion with architecture features of barns on the grounds of Woodbourne Park, for the entire community to use, and

**WHEREAS,** the pavilion was built on the former Lewellen Farm, where the dairy barn once stood. It was designed to pay tribute to our local farms and the rural character of our township. There were numerous hinges, hardware and parts from the previous farm found when the work began and, the “lucky” horseshoe hangs above the entrance for all to see, and

**WHEREAS,** the surrounding landscape was graded to allow spectator seating. The Lange's hope is to see musical & theatre productions; award ceremonies, summertime movies or simply grab a blanket and find a perfect spot to relax with family and friends, and

**WHEREAS,** The Lange Family is very active in the Wantage community. They are owners of Majestic Hills LLC and own several properties within Wantage Township. The Lange family have restored these properties to create a better environment in which to live, and

**WHEREAS,** such a fine record of accomplishment is worthy of praise and recognition,

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, William Gaechter, Mayor of the Township of Wantage, hereby offer my gratitude to The Lange Family for their dreams and forethought to bring to fruition the beautiful pavilion that stands today in Woodbourne Park.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Gaechter stated a motion is in order to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Mayor and Committee Special Meeting on March 1, 2018, Mayor and Committee Regular Meeting on April 26, 2018, and Executive Session Minutes on April 26, 2018.

Motion was made by Mr. Bassani and seconded by Mayor Gaechter.

Upon Roll Call:

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

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

Mayor Gaechter opened the meeting to the public.

Mr. Joseph Retz, 145 Libertyville Road, Mr. Retz questioned what the Township is going to receive from the PILOT with Shop Rite. He was questioning the land tax and the fact that three acres are missing regarding property. Mr. Bassani stated the Township is speculating the taxes until determined by the Tax Assessor. Mr. Retz feels that the Township will get a

lot less of a PILOT then projected. Mr. Retz questioned the COAH requirement for Shop Rite. Mr. Retz questioned who did the study of the financial agreement. Mr. Bassani stated it was a consultant for both Wantage & Sussex and this is an excellent deal for the Township of Wantage. Discussion ensued regarding the PILOT for Shop Rite and the property is contaminated and constrained by wetlands. Mr. Kienz stated that the COAH portion will be reviewed by Ken Nelson and will determine what the COAH requirement will be. As part of this project the Township has no building just the parking lot.

Mr. William Gettler, 98 Gemmer Road, questioned if the same tax benefits will be given to other businesses that leave Wantage because of Shop Rite.

Mrs. Ann Smulewicz, 108 Route 23, she wanted to find out an update on Mr. Maggio because Vernon Township fined a person violating their laws by \$75,000. Mayor Gaechter stated the matter was in front of the judge and Mr. Maggio did get fined. Mrs. Millikin stated that we have met with the Lake Windsor Association and Mr. Haggerty. Mr. Kienz indicated that we are working with some of the attorney's representing some of the residents within this area. Mayor Gaechter stated that the Vernon matter did not have Soil Conservation, NJDEP Permits, and no site plan. He also advised Mr. Maggio is storing his commercial vehicles at County Concrete.

Mrs. Kathy Gorman, Fernwood Road, she requested the Township purchase a picnic table for \$109.00 for the beach at Lake Neepaulin. The Committee said they had no issue with this request. Mrs. Millikin stated the Township is also looking at doing picnic tables for the pavilion. Mrs. Gorman also advised a tree laying in Lake Neepaulin again.

There being no other public this portion of the meeting was closed.

Mayor Gaechter requested a Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Bassani and seconded by Mayor Gaechter.

Upon Roll Call:

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Millikin, Acting Municipal Clerk