

**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
FEBRUARY 28, 2019**

Mayor Bassani called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and requested that the Clerk call the roll. Upon roll call, the following members of the governing body were present: Mayor Ronald Bassani, Deputy Mayor Jonathan Morris and Committeeman William Gaechter. Also, present: Administrator/Clerk Debra Millikin and Mr. Louis Karp, Esq.

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."

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Bassani requested a motion to approve Resolution #38-2019, Resolution #39-2019 and Resolution #41-2019.

A motion was made by excluding Resolution #40-2019 Mr. Gaechter and seconded by Mr. Morris

Upon Roll Call:

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

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #38-2019

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF FEDERAL FUNDS AND PARTICIPATION IN THE FEDERAL
GRANT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 allows for acceptance of federal funds and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Wantage has been awarded FY 2018 Emergency Management Performance Grant Program (EMPG), Emergency Management Agency Assistance (EMAA) subaward number FFY18-EMPG-EMAA-1924 for July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019, CFDA #: 97.042, and

WHEREAS, the total amount of this grant up to \$22,402.00, including up to \$10,000.00 Federal Award and up to \$12,402.00 Township of Wantage Cash Match be used for salary, wages, and fringe benefits, and

WHEREAS, the Township of Wantage is authorized to and does accept the subaward for the purpose of enhancing the Township of Wantage's ability to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from acts of terrorism, natural disasters and other catastrophic events and emergencies.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, does hereby authorize acceptance of federal funds and participation in the federal grant program administered by the State of New Jersey, Department of Law & Public Safety

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #39-2019

RESOLUTION APPROVING KENNEL LICENSE FOR THE DOGGIE CHALET

WHEREAS, under section 5-3 of the revised general ordinance book of Wantage Township allows for kennels to be licensed; and

WHEREAS, The Doggie Chalet, located at 23 Gemmer Road, Wantage known, as Block 142, Lot 2.02 and are reapplying for a kennel license for 2019;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex that it hereby approves the kennel license for 2019 to The Doggie Chalet for Block 142, Lot 2.02.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #41-2019

RESOLUTION APPROVING BILLS AND VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage in the County of Sussex that payment is hereby approved for all vouchers that have been properly authenticated and presented for payment, representing expenditures for which appropriations were duly made in 2018 and 2019 Budgets adopted by this local Governing Body, including any emergency appropriations, and where unexpended balances exist in said appropriation accounts for the payment of such vouchers.

Mayor Bassani requested a motion on Resolution 40-2019 Appointment of Municipal Prosecutor for calendar year 2019.

A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mr. Gaechter.

Upon Roll Call:

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

REPORTS

Clerk/Administrator – Mrs. Millikin advised she has been working with Nancy VanHorn on a new electronic sign for the front of the building. The money to fund this project will be done through Clean Community Money that is in place. The quotes received are Stewart Signs \$17,919.00 with the Township installing and removing the sign. E&M Signs is \$23,344.17 + \$1,000 with cellar requirement on a yearly basis. Stewart sign actually did the Sussex Borough Sign, Sussex Wantage Middle School, Ogdensburg, SCARC, Karen Ann Quinlin signs. Mayor Bassani questioned how is the sign changed. It is done through

the computer with WIFI through an antenna on the building to the sign. There will be a need to have the Clean Community Logo along with the Township Seal. Mr. Gaechter questioned if this is a color sign. Mrs. Millikin indicated that it is a color sign. Mayor Bassani questioned some details on the communication. Mr. Gaechter wants to confirm that this is a color sign. Mayor Bassani also questioned how the pixels are handled when they are no longer working. He also questioned the lumens for evening hours. Mr. Gaechter questioned if this is double sided. Mrs. Millikin stated yes. Mr. Gaechter questioned where the money comes from for the sign. Mrs. Millikin explained this is through clean community money for road clean ups, tire turn in day, shred day and he purchases supplies for Wantage Day. Mrs. Millikin stated Mr. Kearins is the one who recommended this project.

Mrs. Millikin stated 173 Clove Road has been demolition. Looks great.

Mrs. Millikin stated Berry Road parcel is scheduled to close on March 21st.

Mrs. Millikin stated that her and Mayor Bassani met with NJDEP regarding RER matter and believes Mayor Bassani will be updating the Committee on this.

Attorney – Mr. Karp advised that the closing is scheduled for Berry Road. Received a letter from the attorney for Clove Hill Manor Association and looking for the Township to take over the roadways. This has been forwarded to Harold Pellow for his review.

Mayor/Committee – Committeeman Gaechter – None

Committeeman Morris – None

Mayor Bassani stated the Open Space Committee is moving forward to finalizing the Open Space and Recreation Master Plan. On March 19th is the presentation to the Land Use Board. The Land Conservancy has done a great job with this project. The Open Space Committee will be submitting a grant application at the end of March. Still on hold on the Blue Acres money for Lake Neepaulin boat ramp.

Mayor Bassani stated there was a meeting with NJDEP, Senator Oroho, Assemblyman Wirths, Assemblyman Space were present on the RER matter. The major concern was the odor issue. The one representative regarding odor was brought to the meeting by phone. There will be some homework related to RER and they had information to provide operating within their permit. Mayor Bassani stated that NJDEP is looking at regulation changes. One item specific is a modification would require Township approval. Mrs. Millikin advised that it was also recommended that this go back to the Land Use Board on an informal basis. The current regulation is local complaints. There is the need that a business or person who lives within this area to make a complaint. The person has to remain on site to meet with the inspector when they come out to do the inspection. Mayor Bassani is going to make an effort to speak with the business owners in this area to make a complaint. Mrs. Millikin indicated one of the biggest issues is the fact that this seems to happen on the weekends. Mayor Bassani stated it was great to have Senator Oroho, Assemblyman Wirths, and Assemblyman Space at the meeting. Mrs. Millikin advised that the Township and NJDEP will most likely have a meeting with RER at some point on this matter. Another issue brought up was if the RER business were to leave the

site a bond should be posted to clean up the site. Recycling rules will be changing in 2022.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Bassani stated a motion is in order to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Committee Special Meeting February 11, 2019, Special Meeting February 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.m., Executive Session Special Meeting February 14, 2019, and Executive Session Regular Meeting on February 14, 2019. Regular Meeting on February 14, 2019.

A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mr. Gaechter.

Upon Roll Call:

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

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mayor Bassani opened the meeting to the public.

Mrs. Kathy Gorman – Fernwood Road, she said the new historical map that has been completed and recommended the Township frame the map for the wall. She advised that with a new sign approval should be obtained for this matter. Mrs. Millikin stated it will be required to go to Land Use to advise them of the use of capital money.

Mr. Wisse – Valley View, the Recreation Commission will be going to the Mets game on April 28th. The Elks March 9th Lori Space Day, Car Show June 23 and Salute to Veterans on May 19th.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Bassani request a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel, Contract Negotiating & Pending Litigation. Mr. Karp read Resolution #42-2019 into the record.

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #42-2019

EXECUTIVE SESSION FEBRUARY 28, 2019

WHEREAS, the Township of Wantage is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specific purposes when authorized by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b and designated below:

- (1) Personnel – Administrator Search
- (2) Contract Negotiations – Blue Collar
- (3) Litigation – When Pigs Fly

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, assembled in public session on February 28, 2019, that an Executive Session closed to the public shall be held on February 28, 2019, at 7:28 PM in the Township of Wantage Municipal Building, 888 Route 23, Wantage, NJ, for the discussion of matters relating to the specific item designated above.

It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Township Committee that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mr. Gaechter.

Upon Roll Call:

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

A motion to come out of Executive Session was made by Mr. Gaechter and seconded by Mr. Morris.

Upon Roll Call:

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

Mr. Karp stated no action will be taken tonight regarding Executive Session discussed tonight.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Millikin, Municipal Clerk