

**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 23, 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/Acting Clerk Michael Restel and 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."

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Bassani requested a motion to approve Resolution #68-2019 through Resolution #75-2019.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

**WANTAGE TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION #68-2019 TO SUPPORT THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND
CHILD PREVENTION EXPLOITATION PREVENTION ACT**

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a global phenomenon that traps millions in cycles of exploitation for sex or labor and is often called "Modern slavery"; it is a direct affront to individual human rights and jeopardizes community health; and

WHEREAS, the Hampton Township Committee have a compelling interest in protecting the public health and protecting minors from being exposed to obscenity through products sold by Manufacturers and Wholesalers that distribute on the Internet; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Assembly Bill A878 and New Jersey Senate Bill S540 make it an unlawful practice under the consumer fraud act to manufacturer, sell, offer for sale, lease or distribute a product that make content accessible on the Internet unless the product contains digital blocking capability that renders any obscene material inaccessible; and

WHEREAS, it would be an unlawful practice for a minor to receive such a product unless the digital blocking capability is active and properly operating; and

WHEREAS, under these Bills a person who manufactures, sells, offers for sale leases, or distributes a product that makes contact accessible on the Internet is to

1- Make reasonable and ongoing efforts to ensure that the digital content blocking capability

functions properly; Establish a reporting mechanism, such as a website or call center to allow a consumer to

report unblocked obscene material or report block material that is not obscene; 3- Ensure that all child pornography and revenge pornography is inaccessible on the product; 4- prohibit the product from accessing any funds that facilitates prostitution 5- Render websites that are known to facilitate human trafficking inaccessible; 6- Manufacturers and Wholesalers that distribute on the internet or make content on the internet

accessible install filters that will protect consumers from accessing child pornography and

incurring criminal liability; 7- A person who manufacturers, sells, offers for sale or leases or distributes a product that make

content accessible on the Internet may elect to pay a twenty dollar opt-out fee for each product that enters New Jersey's stream of commerce; and

WHEREAS, any digital blocking capability may be deactivated after a consumer

1- Requests in writing that the capability be disabled 2- Present identification to verify that the consumer is 18 years of age or older; 3- Acknowledges receiving a written warning regarding the potential danger of deactivating the digital blocking capability 4- Pay a one-time twenty-dollar digital access fee; and

WHEREAS, the twenty-dollar deactivation tax funds could be used by government and non-government groups working to uphold community standard of decency and to fight sex crimes and provide grants for government and non-government groups that are working against indecency, sexual assault, human trafficking and domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, an unlawful practice is punishable by a monetary penalty of not more than

\$10,000 for the first offense and not more than \$20,000 for any subsequent offense. Additionally, a violation can result in cease and desist orders issued by the Attorney General, the assessment of punitive damages and the awarding of treble damages and costs to the injured.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wantage Township Committee hereby supports New Jersey Assembly Bill A878 and New Jersey Senate Bill S540 which Support The Human Trafficking and Child Prevention Exploitation Prevention Act

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Phil Murphy, State House, PO Box 001, Trenton, New Jersey 08625; Honorable Steven V. Oroho, Honorable Parker Space and Honorable Harold J. Wirths; One Wilson Drive, Suite 2B, Sparta, New Jersey; Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, 935 Kings Highway, Suite 400, West Deptford, New Jersey 08086; and all Sussex County Municipalities,

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Township Committee at their regular meeting held Mat23, 2019 at the Wantage Township Municipal Building, Sussex County, New Jersey.

Michael L Restel CPWM

Town Administrator/Acting Clerk

**Township of Wantage
County of Sussex
Resolution 69-2019**

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING TO LOCAL RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES THAT THE
MUNICIPALITY WILL NOT COLLECT NEW STORMWATER MANAGEMENT OR RAIN
TAXES**

WHEREAS, bill S1073/A2694 authorizing municipalities and counties to establish stormwater utilities was signed into law by Governor Phil Murphy; and

WHEREAS, municipalities or counties that choose to establish a stormwater utility will be allowed to apply an undetermined tax on property and business owners based on the amount of impervious surface they have, often referred to as a rain tax; and

WHEREAS, there is no limit to the amount property owners and local businesses can be taxed as long as it can be justified as going towards improving stormwater management, however, 5 percent or \$50,000 of the revenue is required to be paid to the state and another 5 percent can be used for a locality's general fund; and

WHEREAS, sewage authorities must adhere to a two-percent cap on annual increases to property owners and businesses, but stormwater utilities will not have to adhere to the cap; and

WHEREAS, municipalities and counties already have stormwater systems in place that manage stormwater without the need of creating another level of bureaucracy; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey property taxpayers already pay the highest taxes in the nation, and the creation of any new tax is an impossible burden to put on their backs; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's Business Tax Climate was named last in the nation by the nonpartisan Tax Foundation, and any new taxes to our business owners are not feasible; and

WHEREAS, State Senator Steve Oroho, Assemblyman Parker Space, and Assemblyman Hal Wirths are calling on municipalities and counties to come together and signal to their tax-paying residents and businesses that they're aware that New Jersey's tax burden is already too high by making their intentions known through this resolution; and now be it

RESOLVED, that the ___**TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE GOVERNING BODY**___ already has a system in place to manage stormwater and will not create a stormwater utility that would impose new taxes on its residents; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the ___**TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE GOVERNING BODY**___ understands and sympathizes with the heavy tax burden already placed on New Jersey residents and businesses and, therefore, will not charge them an extra tax for having driveways, parking lots and other impervious surface

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Phil Murphy, Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver, New Jersey Senate President Steve Sweeney, New Jersey Senate Republican Leader Thomas Kean, Jr., New Jersey Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, New Jersey Assembly Republican Leader Jon Bramnick, State Senator Steve Oroho, Assemblyman Parker Space, and Assemblyman Hal Wirths.

Michael L. Restel CPWM,

Town Administrator/Acting Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #70-2019

AUTHORIZING REFUND

WHEREAS, the Land Use Secretary has recommended the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage reimburse funds for a completed land use application.

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

\$351.25 to PAK, LLC, for Land Use Application L-2014-01

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, at a meeting held on May 23, 2019.

Michael Restel, Acting Clerk/Administrator

WANTAGE TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION #72-2019

AUTHORIZING REFUND

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor has recommended the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage reimburse funds for a certified list paid for twice.

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

\$10.00 to French & Farrello Associates for a duplicate request for certified list.



CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, at a meeting held on May 23, 2019.

Michael Restel, Acting Clerk/Administrator

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #73 AUTHORIZING ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:5-113 authorizes assignment by a municipality of tax sale

Certificates for the full amount of the Certificate, including all subsequent municipal taxes and other municipal charges; and,

WHEREAS, NJSL 301, LLC has presented an offer to purchase, by assignment, Certificate of Sale #2018-006 which was issued to the Wantage Township at a tax sale held 12/3/2018, on Block 18 Lot 24 and assessed to Gail C & Megan A Piazza, in the amount of \$13,447.90, being the full amount of the certificate, including all subsequent municipal taxes and other municipal charges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute the necessary assignment document to effect assignment of the above referenced Certificate of Sale.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, at a meeting held on May 23, 2019.

Michael Restel, Administrator/Acting Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #74-2019 AUTHORIZING ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:5-113 authorizes assignment by a municipality of tax sale

Certificates for the full amount of the Certificate, including all subsequent municipal taxes and other municipal charges; and,

WHEREAS, NJSL 301, LLC has presented an offer to purchase, by assignment, Certificate of Sale #2018-014 which was issued to Wantage Township at a tax sale held 12/03/2018, on Block 76 Lot 6 and assessed to ST Developers, LLC, in the amount of \$9,610.72, being the full amount of the certificate, including all subsequent municipal taxes and other municipal charges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute the necessary assignment document to effect assignment of the above referenced Certificate of Sale.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, at a meeting held on May 23, 2019.

Michael Restel, Administrator/Acting Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE

RESOLUTION #75-2019 AUTHORIZING ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:5-113 authorizes assignment by a municipality of tax sale Certificates for the full amount of the Certificate, including all subsequent municipal taxes and other municipal charges; and,

WHEREAS, NJSL 301, LLC has presented an offer to purchase, by assignment, Certificate of Sale #2018-024 which was issued to Wantage Township at a tax sale held 12/03/2018, on Block 150 Lot 6.03 and assessed to Michael D & Margaret B Lynes, in the amount of \$24,893.51, being the full amount of the certificate, including all subsequent municipal taxes and other municipal charges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Committee of the Township of Wantage, County of Sussex, does hereby authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute the necessary assignment document to effect assignment of the above referenced Certificate of Sale.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Wantage, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, at a meeting held on May 23, 2019.

Michael Restel, Administrator/Acting Clerk

Mayor Bassani stated Resolution 68-2019 that Wantage Township Supports NJ Assembly Bill A878 and NJ Senate Bill S540 Human Trafficking and Child Prevention Exploitation Prevention Act.

Mayor Bassani stated about Resolution 69-2019 added tax for Municipal Stormwater Tax that the Township will not be taxing stormwater and that we are taxed enough

Reports:

Administrator/Clerk: Mr. Restel stated he attended the NJDEP Meeting in Vernon with Mayor Bassani, Commissioner of NJDEP McCabe discussed the issues with a certain property in Vernon.

Mr. Restel stated he attended the Clove Hill Manor meeting to introduce himself and spoke about the new Amended Soil Ordinance.

Mr. Restel stated the closing for Berry Road was May 17th

Attorney Report: None

Mayor and Committee:

Mr. Morris stated June 1st is the Hazardous Waste day at the Landfill 100 pounds per vehicle from 7am-2pm and the next E-Waste is July 20th

Mr. Gaechter welcomed Michael Restel to the Township and explained his dealings with Michael as Professional and always informed.

Mayor Bassani attended Elks Veteran Memorial at High Point State Park and there was a good turnout.

Mayor Bassani attended the Vernon PAID (People Against Illegal Dumping) and explained the different points about the meeting.

Mayor Bassani attended the NJDEP meeting in Vernon talked about the one on one he had with the Commissioner and he will be following up with her. Mayor Bassani explained how NJDEP in certain areas can be really aggressive and certain areas their hands are tied by the laws.

Mayor Bassani stated there was another illegal dumping issue of County Route 565 and explained the process.

Mayor Bassani has started writing up a newsletter with the help from Mr. Restel, major portion of newsletter will be about the Soil Ordinance.

Mayor Bassani stated he has received calls from Congressman Gotthiemers office about the Lake Windsor issue and has met with the residents, Congressman Gotthiemers office will be sending NJDEP a letter on behalf of Lake Windsor to explain that NJDEP should be more involved.

Mayor Bassani stated Sussex Airport contacted Congressman Gotthiemers office seeking help, but most likely not because its looking like an FAA issue.

Mayor Bassani spoke about the Berry Road property and the future of it.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Bassani stated a motion is in order to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Committee Meeting May 9, 2019.

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

Upon Roll Call:

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

OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

Mayor Bassani opened the meeting to the public.

Karl Hoffman: Spoke about the Bridge replacement on Mudtown and his concerns about the project. Discussion ensued.

Dan Veit Jr 1273 Route 23 Colesville: Complained about Resident on Route 23 and the expansion of the Bird Rescue and spoke about a pile of dirt that was leveled at the residency.

Dan Viet Sr Brink Road: Complained about Resident on Route 23 piles of dirt leveled and the bird's noise.

Kathy Gorman Fernwood Road: Spoke about the Fishing contest a High Point Student would like to hold at Lake Neepaulin and question what could be done with the boat ramp. Mrs. Gorman would like on the Administrative level get in contact with the student about the contest. Mrs. Gorman spoke about the abandoned pool in Lake Neepaulin and discussion ensued on how to handle the issue with the owner.

Ben Lanchman 1263 Route 23: Spoke about the excessive noise with the birds and discussion ensued.

Dan Viet Sr: Spoke and the Home Turf Rule and was happy to see Wantage Township moving into the 21st Century with their Ordinances.

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

Mr. Restel stated there was an employee resignation in Animal Control, Melanie has accepted a full-time position at a Veterinary.

Mayor Bassani spoke about the hiring of a part-time employee for Tax Collectors office through the shared service monies and Wantage is still making enough monies. Discussion ensued. Mr. Morris asked to look into Full-Time Zoning discussion ensued.

Mr. Restel spoke about Vernon Dispatch renewal with a 5-year flat fee contract.

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

A voice vote was unanimously in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael L Restel CPWM

Administrator/Acting Clerk