

**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
October 24, 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 Louis Karp.

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 #123-2019 through Resolution #124-2019.

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

**TOWNSHIP OF WANTAGE
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION
OF MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATE OF SALE #123-2019**

WHEREAS, on property known as Block 117 Lot 37.02 a Tax Lien was struck off to Wantage Township on December 3, 2018;

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has received the funds necessary to redeem this certificate.

WHEREAS, the cancellation of the certificate requires the original signatures of the Clerk and Mayor and be affixed with the Municipal Seal.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Wantage that the Mayor and Clerk



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 October 24, 2019.

Michael Restel, Acting Clerk/Administrator

Reports

Administrator/Acting Clerk: Mr. Restel spoke about there are 2 boxes in the main entrance of Townhall for a Coat Drive and Food Drive

Mr. Restel explained why the Flags were at Half Staff, as per Executive Order 88 in memory of US Representative Elijah Cummins.

Mr., Restel stated there were 3 Request for Proposals sent out for Public Defender, Land Use Attorney and Snow Plow Operations.

Mr. Restel explained the Illegal Dumping complaint that was received.

Attorneys Report. Mr. Karp spoke about resolution 125-2019 approving Acting Attorney Louis Karp to sign documents pertaining to Wantage Township Bond Sale. Resolution #125-2019 approved.

Deputy Mayor's Report: Mr. Morris explained the meeting that was held Between OEM, Mr. Morris, Mr. Restel and Wantage First Aid Squad pertaining to day time EMT services. Mr. Morris stated that Atlantic Ambulance will be covering Wantage Township 6am-6pm 7 days week.

Committeemen William Gaechter: Mr. Gaechter wished Mr. Bill DeBoer a Happy Birthday.

Mayor Ron Bassani: Mayor Bassani asked if the LED Sign out front was delivered Mr. Restel confirmed it.

Mayor Bassani spoke about the recent article pertaining to New Jersey Enterprise Zone and why Wantage was left out, discussion ensued.

Mayor Bassani spoke about the Meeting with Tilcon and what was going to be done.

Mayor Bassani mentioned that the Berry Road Property Survey will be available on the township Website.

Mayor Bassani explained that on October 31st he will be involved on a Conference call with NJDEP pertaining to a property in Wantage Township.

Mayor Bassani welcomed Mrs. Susan Weiss as a new Member to the recreation Board.

Mayor Bassani spoke about the Traveling Vietnam Wall coming to Wantage in 2020 and discussion ensued.

MEETING MINUTES:

Mayor Bassani requested a motion to approve the minutes of the Mayor and Committee Meeting October 10, 2019 and executive Session Minutes on October 10, 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:

William LaSalla 123 Rose Morrow Road: Mr. LaSalla asked if there was any update about the Road Conditions of Wantage School Road.

Mr. LaSalla asked about the First Aid and if Atlantic will contribute to the Wantage First Aid squad and discussion ensued.

Kathy Gorman Fernwood Road: Mrs. Gorman asked for clarification pertaining to the EMS squad, discussion ensued.

Mrs. Gorman would like to see if Wantage Township bring back their Economic Development Committee.

Bill DeBoer Wantage NJ: Mr. DeBoer spoke about the First Aid issues and stated that the Township used to have an Economic Development Committee.

Ann Smulewicz Route 23: Mrs. Smulewicz spoke about the New Jersey Enterprise Zone and discussion ensued.

Mrs. Smulewicz spoke about the Land Use Board and is not happy about the situation that is going on there and the property next door doesn't meet the criteria that was approved in their resolution.

Dan Viet JR 1273 Route 23: Mr. Viet asked if there was any movement on the Noise Ordinance, Mayor Bassani requested Mr. Viet give Mr. Restel his contact information to sit down and discuss further.

John Difiliy 403 Pidgeon Hill Road: Mr. Difiliy spoke about Wantage Township Soil Importation Ordinance and it doesn't address soil moving that was dug up in Wantage Township. Discussion ensued pertaining to this topic.

Mr. Difiliy spoke about the Property Maintenance and long-term storage of wood, Mr. Restel stated it's in the Ordinance.

Warren Wise: Mr. Wise spoke about a few upcoming Elks club and Recreation dates for events.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A Motion is in Order to approve Resolution#126-2019 Authorizing the Township Committee to go into Executive Session to discuss Contract Negotiations, Personnel and Shared Services. Attorney Louis Karp read into record the Executive Session Resolution. Executive session started at 7:34PM

Mayor Bassani requested a motion to return from executive session at 8:15pm.

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

Mayor Bassani requested a motion to approve the hire of an additional Zoning Officer

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

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

Upon Roll:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael L Restel Administrator/Acting Clerk