

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 24, 2014  
8:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Time: 8:05 p.m.

**Salute to the Flag/Invocation**

Councilwoman Higbee

**Open Public Meetings Act Statement** - Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, I hereby announce that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by adopting a schedule of regular meetings for 2014, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 5, 2014.

**Roll Call**

Councilman Austin: Present  
Councilwoman Higbee: Present  
Councilman Pierpont: Present  
Mayor Johnson: Present  
Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Councilman Blass: Present  
Councilwoman Kelley: Present  
Council President Razze: Present  
Borough Solicitor Duffield: Present

**Approval of Minutes**

Work Session, Closed Work Session, and Formal Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2014

Motion: Blass

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman Kelley: Abstain  
Council President Razze: Yes

**Committee Reports**

**Councilman Austin** – Councilman Austin reported that the Police Department has received a new Dodge Charger, which will be put into use as a patrol vehicle. Ptl. Barbetta and Ptl. Parker will attend a course titled "Street Survival" in August and September of this year.

Councilman Austin reminded everyone that tonight and tomorrow, Venice Restaurant will donate fifteen percent of all food orders to the Police Department's K-9 Trust Fund. Also, on February 27, from 9:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m., Venice Restaurant will host the first "Coffee with a Cop" event. Hopefully this will be something that will provide a forum for residents to communicate their concerns to the department. On March 21, 2014, a Beef and Beer will be held at Masso's in Glassboro. Proceeds from this event will also benefit the K-9 Trust Fund. The department's Community Appreciation Day will be held at Alcyon Lake Park on June 4, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Councilman Austin announced that the paving project for West Holly Avenue is scheduled to begin on March 3. Residents along West Holly Avenue will be kept informed of the progress and

any road closings that may affect them as the project moves forward.

Councilman Blass – Councilman Blass reported that the McCowan Memorial Library Board of Trustees will meet tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. Friends of Alcyon Lake will meet on Thursday, February 27, at 7:00 p.m. in the McCowan Memorial Library.

Council President Razze – Council President Razze reported that he attended the Tri-County Joint Insurance Fund meeting prior to this meeting this evening. He reminded the Borough Clerk that the Fidelity Bonds for certain employees will need to be reviewed and updated.

Our Recreation Department's basketball season is winding down, and playoffs are set to begin next week. The T-ball program will also begin next week. The elementary field hockey program is doing well, and has a large number of participants.

Council President Razze reported that at the last budget meeting Council discussed the Alcyon Park and Recreation Department budgets. The idea of combining the maintenance of all Borough parks to be performed by the Recreation Department was discussed. He expressed the hope that Council will be able to formulate a plan that will work for both the Recreation Department and the Public Works Department which presently has the responsibility of maintaining several of the parks.

Councilwoman Higbee – Councilwoman Higbee reported that at tonight's budget meeting Council discussed the budgets for Fire Company #1 and the Office of Emergency Management. At the Work Session meeting on March 10, at 6:30 p.m., Council will again be reviewing the 2014 budget. The budget of the Combined Planning and Zoning Board will be discussed at that time.

The Historic Committee meeting scheduled for February 13 was cancelled due to inclement weather. The application that was to have been reviewed at that meeting was presented at the February 18<sup>th</sup> Planning and Zoning Board Meeting. The Board approved the application which was for changes to the exterior of the Pitman Bakery building.

Councilwoman Kelley – Councilwoman Kelley reported that the new owners of the Pitman Bakery received the necessary approvals from the Planning and Zoning Board for changes to the exterior of their building. They are planning to open for business on April 1, 2014. The next meeting of the Planning and Zoning Board will take place on March 17 at 7:00 p.m.

The Economic Development Committee met on February 20. A new pamphlet promoting Pitman should be going to print shortly. Also discussed were the parking issues for the uptown shopping area. The EDC intern has been searching for grants that would be beneficial for the businesses and for Pitman as a whole. The committee is planning to have a promotional day for Pitman, and hopes to possibly tie it in with the re-opening of the bakery. The next meeting of the EDC is scheduled for March 20, at 7:00 p.m.

The Borough's Code Enforcement Officer is working to get all vacant homes within the Borough to be in compliance with the ordinance passed in 2013 which requires registration and sets standards for the upkeep of vacant properties. Currently, thirty-one owners of vacant properties have been identified and have received notification of the need to register their property.

### **Unfinished Business**

**Ordinance No. 3, 2014 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman,**

**County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter II Entitled “Administration” of the Code of the Borough of Pitman**

Second Reading/Public Hearing

Motion: Austin Second: Blass

Motion to open to the public: Razze Second: Austin  
Time: 8:18 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close public hearing: Razze Second: Austin  
Time: 8:18 p.m.

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes	Councilman Blass: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes	Councilwoman Kelley: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes	Council President Razze: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____	

**Ordinance No. 4, 2014 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter XVIII entitled “Streets and Sidewalks” of the Code of the Borough of Pitman**

Second Reading/Public Hearing

Motion: Pierpont Second: Higbee

Motion to open to the public: Razze Second: Blass  
Time: 8:20 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close public hearing: Razze Second: Blass  
Time: 8:20 p.m.

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes	Councilman Blass: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes	Councilwoman Kelley: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes	Council President Razze: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____	

**Ordinance No. 5, 2014 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Ordinance No. 11, 2013 Establishing the Salaries and Wages for Employees of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey for the Year 2013 and Forward**

Second Reading/Public Hearing

Motion: Higbee Second: Kelley

Motion to open to the public: Razze Second: Kelley  
Time: 8:21 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close public hearing: Razze  
Time: 8:21 p.m.

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman Kelley: Yes  
Council President Razze: Yes

**New Business**

**Ordinance No. 6, 2014 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Granting Renewed Consent and Permission to South Jersey Gas Company to Use the Public Streets to Furnish Gas For Light, Heat, and Power in the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey**

First Reading

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman Kelley: Yes  
Council President Razze: Yes

**Resolution No. 47, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Members to the Borough of Pitman Public Safety Committee**

Motion: Austin

Second: Razze

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman Kelley: Yes  
Council President Razze: Yes

**Resolution No. 48, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Cancellation of Water and Sewer Charges**

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman Kelley: Yes  
Council President Razze: Yes

**Resolution No. 49, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving an Increase in the Salary of the Water and Sewer/Main Office Clerk for the Borough of Pitman**

Motion: Higbee

Second: Pierpont

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman Kelley: Yes  
Council President Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution No. 50, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving an Increase in the Salary of the Accounts Payable/Payroll Clerk for the Borough of Pitman**

Motion: Higbee

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment of Bills**

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Raffle Permit Application**

**Event:** Arm Chair Race

**Applicant:** Pitman Athletic Association

**Date:** May 10, 2014

**Time:** 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

**Location:** Pitman VFW Post #6469 – 142 Oakcrest Avenue

**Contact Person:** Ed Powell

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Abstain

Council President Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Public Portion**

Motion to Open to the Public: Razze

Second: Kelley

Time: 8:30 p.m.

**Mickey Smith, 470 Locust Avenue**, Trustee, Pitman Mews Owners Association – Mr. Smith stated that he was in attendance at the court hearing for the issues that the Borough has been having with the lot owned by Richard Fazzio, which is adjacent to the Mews. He stated that the hearing was postponed with a new court date set for sixty days from the current court date to give Mr. Fazzio an opportunity to obtain a site plan for the use of the property. Mr. Smith noted that up until this time Mr. Fazzio has resisted getting a site plan prepared. Mr. Smith said that the residents would like to testify at any future hearings involving this issue and asked the Borough to keep them informed of the dates when these hearings are scheduled.

Motion to Close the Public Portion: Razze

Second: Kelley

Time: 8:33 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Motion: Higbee  
Time: 8:33 p.m.

Second: Blass

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell  
Borough Clerk/Administrator