

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 14, 2014
8:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Salute to the Flag/Invocation

Council President Razzo

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 Razzo: Present
Borough Solicitor Duffield: Present

Approval of Minutes

Work Session and Formal Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2014

Motion: Blass

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

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

Committee Reports

Councilman Austin

Police Department:

Councilman Austin reported that members of the Police Department will be meeting with the owners of a kennel on August 4, 2014 as the first step in purchasing a K-9 unit for the department. Patrolman Hoffman has completed the department's Field Training Officer (FTO) program.

Councilman Blass

No report

Council President Razzo

Council President Razzo thanked everyone who participated in the Fourth of July festivities. The Miss Pitman Pageant was a great success. Hailey Mae Migeot was crowned Miss Pitman 2014. Council President Razzo thanked the members of the pageant committee, particularly Stephanie Tartaglione who is stepping down from the position of Secretary for the organization. Lauren Peterson will be assuming that role.

Council President Razze reported that the Fourth of July was a great success, with perfect weather for the race, which had over 880 runners registered. The parade went off with a slight glitch in the beginning, which included a little mix up in the line up of some of the groups. Council President Razze thanked the members of the Parade Committee and the volunteers who came out in the morning to help. The fireworks at Alcyon Park were also a great success, and having the DJ in Betty Park also worked out great and added to the fun that night.

Councilman Pierpont

Councilman Pierpont read the following report:

First, I would like to congratulate, but more importantly, thank our Parade Committee for a wonderful Fourth of July parade and fireworks. I know the committee is a small group of hard working volunteers and they truly deserve our thanks. Never have so many enjoyed the tools of so few and I thank them for it.

The Water and Sewer Division of our Public Works Department has been busy replacing three fire hydrants, repairing water leaks, taking water meter readings, and flushing hydrants, and also sent after hour's assistance in manpower and equipment to Clayton for an emergency water main break. In addition, they moved the water main on Cedar Avenue to Alcyon Boulevard to facilitate the repair of a sink hole at that location.

The Water Division also mapped out the storm drain system on Spruce, Elsie, and North Brentwood Avenues to provide accurate information on the problems and needed repairs in order to obtain a price quote for a video camera inspection of these areas. Workers physically entered the storm drain system next to TD Bank to photograph the damage there, and provided that information to our engineer.

The Highway Division was busy preparing for our Fourth of July celebration, painting curbs, picking up trash, cutting grass, spraying weeds, running the street sweeper, and cleaning up our town seal to be pulled at the start of the parade.

In addition, they collected:

- 231 loads of trash totaling 227 tons
- 14 loads of recycling totaling 68 tons
- 83 truck loads of brush
- 10 trucks loads of bulk trash

In addition, the employees cleared branches and debris from the library roof and dropped off two dump trucks at residences for yard clean-up. As mentioned before, this is a service provided by the Public Works Department, where someone from the department will park an empty truck at your home for you to fill with yard debris, and when full, they will return and haul it away. Residents should call 589-1040 for details or to schedule a truck.

The Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce will meet tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. in the Pitman Manor. As always, the Chamber would like to remind all residents to stroll, shop, dine, and stay local.

Councilwomen Higbee

Councilwoman Higbee reported that Borough Tax Collector, Beth Walls, reported that tax payments in the amount of \$297,139.30 were collected during the month of July.

The Borough of Pitman has received the certification schedule for the 2014 general tax rate which

is 3.885. per \$100.00 of the assessed value of a home located in the Borough. In 2013, the rate was 3.798. In earlier reports, Councilwoman Higbee mentioned some items that have contributed to increasing our tax rate this year. The increases in costs are:

- Police budget - \$67,000
- Snow removal - \$21,000
- Solid waste tipping - \$15,000
- Streets and roads budget - \$10,800.

The Borough of Pitman also received the statement of state aid for the calendar year 2014. For the fourth year, municipal government aid has remained flat at \$700,157.00. The total state aid affecting the Borough of Pitman, which includes aid to municipal government, the school district, and county government, saw a decrease of \$31,127.43. Councilwoman Higbee said that she looked back to 2006, her first year on Council, and at that time the Borough's state aid to municipal government was \$1,202,123.00, representing a loss of over \$500,000.00 in property tax relief to the Borough of Pitman in those nine years.

Councilwomen Kelley

Councilwoman Kelley reported that the Borough's Combined Planning and Zoning Board will have their monthly meeting on July 21, at 7:00 p.m. Currently on the agenda is an application for a minor subdivision.

The Economic Development Committee will be cancelling their July meeting. There are at least six members unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts. The next meeting will be on August 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Construction Office statistics for the month of June include:

- Forty-two permits processed for additions, alterations, or demolitions
- Sixty-six Certificates of Approval and two Certificates of Occupancy were issued
- Permit fees collected totaled \$4,957.00
- Miscellaneous fees collected for Zoning permits, Outdoor Seating permits, and vacant property registrations per Ordinance No. 12, 2013, totaled \$1,465.00.

Council President Razzo acknowledged Borough resident, Dr. Len Clark, on his retirement from employment with County government, and thanked him for his assistance on numerous occasions with Borough issues.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance No. 11, 2014 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Acquisition of Real Property Known as Block 3, p/o Lot 1, and Lot 4, in the Borough of Pitman from Brad McHugh for Municipal and Public Purposes

Second Reading – Public Hearing

Motion: Blass

Second: Kelley

Motion to Open to the Public: Razzo

Second: Blass

Time: 8:17 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to Close Public Hearing: Razzo

Second: Blass

Time: 8:18 p.m.

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

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

Bond Ordinance No. 12, 2014 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase and Site Plan Approval and Improvements for Block 3, p/o Lot 1 and Lot 4 in for the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey; Appropriating the Sum of \$100,000 Therefore; Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey, in the Aggregate Principal Amount of \$95,000 to Borrow With a Down Payment of \$5,000; Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection With the Foregoing

Second Reading – Public Hearing

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Motion to Open to the Public: Kelley
Time: 8:19 p.m.

Second: Razze

No public comment.

Motion to Close Public Hearing: Kelley
Time: 8:20 p.m.

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

Ordinance No. 14, 2014 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 19-4 Entitled “Removal of Grass, Weeds, Brush and Other Impediments” of the Code of the Borough of Pitman

Second Reading – Public Hearing

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Motion to Open to the Public: Razze
Time: 8:21p.m.

Second: Kelley

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

Ordinance No. 15, 2014 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Establishing the Salaries and Wages for Employees of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey for the Year 2014 and Forward

Second Reading – Public Hearing

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Motion to Open to the Public: Razze

Second: Higbee

Time: 8:22 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to Close Public Hearing: Razze

Second: Higbee

Time: 8:22 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 _____

New Business

Ordinance No. 13, 2014 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing an Amendment to the Borough of Pitman Police Department Rules and Regulations

First Reading

Motion: Austin

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 _____

Ordinance No. 16, 2014 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 7 Entitled “Vehicles and Traffic” to Create a New Section 7-43 Entitled “Student Loading and Unloading Zone” of the Code of the Borough of Pitman

First Reading

Motion: Austin

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 _____

Resolution No. 102, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Patrolman Matthew L. Perry the Police Department’s Breast Badge Upon His Retirement From the Borough of Pitman Police Department

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

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. 103, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Patrolman James Visalli the Police Department’s Breast Badge Upon His Retirement From the Borough of Pitman Police Department

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

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. 104, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Refund of Real Estate Taxes and Other Miscellaneous Refunds

Motion: Higbee

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

Resolution No. 105, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Refund of an Erroneously Issued Lien

Motion: Higbee

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

Resolution No. 106, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Contract for Renovations to the Former Court Office in the Borough Hall of the Borough of Pitman

Motion: Blass

Second: Austin

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. 107, 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 Green Team

Motion: Kelley

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. 108, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Pitman Police Department to Acquire, Train, and Care for a Police K-9 Unit

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

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. 109, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Pitman Police Patrolman Andrew Carson as the Right to Know Coordinator for the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

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. 110, 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 Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

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. 111, 2014 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving the Incidental Modifications to the Project Scope/Limits of the Lexington Avenue Phase 2 Project

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

Event Permit Applications

Event: Wedding Ceremony

Applicant: James Chiara

Date: August 2, 2014

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: Glen Lake Park

Contact Person: James Chiara

Motion: Razze

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 _____

Event Permit approved contingent upon the applicant providing the Borough with a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough as Additional Insured.

Event: Car Wash

Applicant: Pitman High School Music Department

Date: July 19, 2014

Time: 8:00 a.m. – Noon

Location: Pitman Fire Company #1

Contact Person: Terry Miles

Motion: Razze

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 _____

Event Permit approved contingent upon the applicant providing the Borough with a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough as Additional Insured.

Raffle License Application

Applicant: Knights of Columbus

Type: Off Premises 50/50 Raffle

Date: November 13, 2014

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Location: 161 Pitman Avenue, Pitman

Contact Person: Bill Becker

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Abstain

Councilman Pierpont: Abstain

Council President Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Payment of Bills

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes, Abstains to #28930

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Public Portion

Motion to Open to the Public: Razze

Second: Austin

Time: 8:40 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to Close the Public Portion: Razze
Time: 8:40 p.m.

Second: Higbee

Adjournment

Motion: Razze
Time: 8:41 p.m.

Second: Blass

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator