

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

June 22, 2015

8:00 P.M.

Call to Order

Time: 8:10 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 2015, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 4, 2015.

Roll Call

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

Councilman Blass: Present
Council President Kelley: Present
Councilman Razzo: Present
Borough Solicitor Duffield: Present

Proclamation Presentation

Elwood Franklin Ewan

Announcement of 2015 Fourth of July Parade Grand Marshal

Former Borough of Pitman Councilman Gene Shoemaker

Approval of Minutes

Work Session, Closed Work Session, Formal Meeting, and Closed Formal Meeting of June 8, 2015

Motion: Blass

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

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

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

Committee Reports

Councilman Blass – Councilman Blass reported that he attended the Friends of the Library's Teddy Bear Picnic on June 10. Children were able to make a stuffed animal and decorate a t-shirt for their animal to wear. Mrs. Forte, as always, did a great job with the children.

This Thursday, June 25, the Pitman Recreation Commission and the Friends of the Grove are sponsoring a

Family Picnic from 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. on the grounds around the Grove Auditorium. The evening will conclude with a concert performed by the Hobo Band.

The Pitman Memorabilia Museum was open on Saturday, June 13, at which time Councilwoman Higbee and Councilman Blass received the donation of a C. W. Kersey lard tin from the Dole Family. Mr. Kersey was a butcher in Pitman, and in the early 1900's, hogs would be brought by train and then taken to his slaughterhouse located on Delsea Drive.

The Museum will be open again this Friday during the Fourth Friday event, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The Pitman Board of Education will meet this Wednesday, June 24, at 7:30 p.m. in the Pitman High School Library.

Councilman Razzo – Councilman Razzo congratulated Parade Grand Marshal Gene Shoemaker, and thanked Ed Ewan for his many years of service in the armed forces, and to the Borough of Pitman. He read the following report:

Approximately two-thirds of the parade participants have received emails with their line up information. Notification of the remaining participants will be finished by tonight. The total number of registrations is just under what we had last year, but more than in prior years.

The Economic Development Committee met last week, and among some of the topics discussed was a potential new tenant for the bakery, directional signage for parking to be going up around town, as well as some additional aesthetic projects to take place around town.

Chamber of Commerce President Lisa Morgey and I were invited by Jeff Sanders to a networking event called Dare Living Services, which was held on the deck of the Battleship New Jersey. I was with a group of developers and investors from around the region who were looking to invest in South Jersey. The topic of the panel discussion for the evening was Crowd Funding, which is the latest and greatest way to raise capital for projects. A lot of great ideas were shared at this event.

Earlier today I attended the TRICO Joint Insurance Fund meeting. There was a lot of business discussed, but the one main thing that jumped out at me was that they are looking at their largest dividend ever. Approximately \$1.125 million will be returned to the members of the fund.

Fireworks tickets are now available. We request a donation of \$3.00 per ticket to view the fireworks from within Alcyon Lake Park. We are limited to selling only 200 tickets. Tickets may be purchased at Borough Hall, Pitman Cards and Gifts, Investors Bank, and Main Street Investments. Also, I am hoping that I can count on members of Council on the Fourth of July to assist in any way.

Councilman Pierpont – Councilman Pierpont read the following report:

The Public Works Department is busy painting crosswalks and yellow curbs along Broadway, Pitman, and Ballard Avenues. Last week we utilized a work crew from the New Jersey Department of Corrections to get some of the crosswalks painted, and we will schedule more help as it becomes available.

The flowerbeds at the intersection of Broadway and Laurel Avenue, and Hazel and Montgomery Avenues were weeded and mulched.

The Highland Terrace paving project will be finished this week. Soft spots were repaired in the undercoat, and a finish coat of asphalt is next. This is a big improvement in the road surface and it also repaired the dip at the intersection of Columbia Avenue.

The abandoned property at 223 W. Holly Avenue was mowed by employees of our Public Works Department using our equipment and overtime man-hours.

The trash/bulk and recycling numbers for the period of June 8 - June 19 are as follows:

- Ten loads of trash collected for a total of 132.9 tons
- Ten loads of recycling collected for a total of 49.3 tons
- Nine loads of bulk trash were collected
- Nineteen loads of brush were collected

Forty yards of leaves were delivered to Smith Orchards for disposal
Ten loads of various mulch was delivered to Borough residents
A Borough dump truck was left at five different locations on various days for yard debris collection

Councilwoman Higbee – Councilwoman Higbee reported that an online reverse auction for electricity supply services for the Borough of Pitman will be held tomorrow at 11:00 a.m.

On June 11, the Historic Commission held their monthly meeting. Nine applications were submitted, and all were approved, some with minor changes to the original applications.

Council President Kelley – Council President Kelley reported that the Borough’s Code Enforcement Officer continues to cite properties in the Borough for poor lawn maintenance and other issues. If no action is taken by the homeowner, he may authorize the Borough’s Public Works Department to mow. A lien is then placed on the property in the amount of the labor that was paid to the workers who performed the service. This is an ongoing project, and will be reflected in some of the ordinances Council will be discussing this evening.

The Borough’s Green Team will meet this Thursday night. A guest speaker will discuss the creation of bike paths throughout town.

New Business

Ordinance No. 9, 2015 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Creating a New Chapter __ of the Code of the Borough of Pitman Entitled “Abandoned Real Property Registration”

First Reading

Motion: Kelley

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Absent

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 113, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Execution of a Shared Services Agreement With the County of Gloucester for Participation in a County-Wide Registration Program for Abandoned Properties

Motion: Kelley

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Absent

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 114, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Release of Maintenance Bond Provided by South State Inc. Relating to the "Lexington Avenue and Oakcrest Avenue Reconstruction" Project in the Borough of Pitman, Gloucester County, New Jersey

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Absent

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 115, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Release of Maintenance Guarantee Escrow Funds Provided by Michael J. Hannum Submitted for a Project Affecting a Parcel Known as 518 Carew Avenue, Block 176.10, Lot 7.03 on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Absent

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 116, 2015 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Release of Maintenance Guarantee Escrow Funds Provided by the First Presbyterian Church Submitted for a Project Affecting a Parcel Known as 7 Crafton Avenue, Block 93, Lot 1 on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Absent

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 117, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Promoting Dean Davidson From Part-Time Public Works Driver/Laborer to Full-Time Public Works Driver/Laborer

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Absent

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 118, 2015 - 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: Absent

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 119, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Requesting Permission for the Dedication by Rider for an Abandoned Property Registration and Maintenance Trust Fund

Motion: Kelley

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Absent

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 120, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Purchase of Electricity Supply Services (Lighting Meters) for Public Use on the Online Auction Services of EMEX, LLC-1

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Absent

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 121, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Purchase of Electricity Supply Services (GS Meters) for Public Use on the Online Auction Services of EMEX, LLC-1

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Absent

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 122, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Refund of Application Fee for a New Use Waiver for the Property Located at 24 Pitman Avenue, Block 74, Lot 12, in the Borough of Pitman, Gloucester County, New Jersey

Motion: Kelley

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

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

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

Resolution No. 123, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Eastern Irrigation & Pump Company the Contract to Replace the Irrigation Pump and Motor at Alcyon Lake Park in the Amount of \$9,424.00

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

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

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

Payment of Bills

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Absent
Councilman Blass: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Abstain to # 30536 & # 30555; Yes, to all other items
Council President Kelley: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Abstains to # 30557; Yes, to all other items
Councilman Razze: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Razze

Second: Blass

Time: 8:50 p.m.

Sandy Razze, 143 W. Jersey Avenue – Mrs. Razze pointed out to Mayor and Council that the large trucks that are being parked on Commerce Avenue are scarring the new asphalt on the roadway with their support stands. She suggested that the Borough should require them to place a length of plywood under the stands to prevent this from happening.

Motion to close the public portion: Razze

Second: Higbee

Time: 8:52 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion: Razze

Second: Higbee

Time: 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator

