

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
AMENDED COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES*
September 28, 2015
8:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Time: 8:12 p.m.

Salute to the Flag/Invocation

Councilman Razze

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

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

Proclamation

Pitman Police Department: Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day

Presentation

Youth Voice, a division of Kids Caring Foundation, showed a Power Point presentation of their plan to plant Promise Gardens in Ballard Park and Walton Park. The tulips are planted in the gardens by members of our youth community of Pitman who have made a promise to maintain a drug free lifestyle. One thousand bulbs will be planted in Ballard Park, and five hundred bulbs will be planted in Walton Park. These gardens will be planted during Red Ribbon Week in October this year, and will be maintained by members of Youth Voice.

Motion was made by Councilman Blass to permit Youth Voice to plant Promise Gardens in Ballard Park and in Walton Park.

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

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

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

Approval of Minutes

Work Session, and Formal Meeting, and Closed Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2015

Motion: Blass

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Abstain
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes
Council President Kelley: Abstain

Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Councilman Razze: Yes

Committee Reports

Councilman Austin – Councilman Austin reported that the membership of the Pitman Police Department attended a defensive driving course and a fire extinguisher training class last Friday.

Patrolman Ken Decker will attend a course entitled Drugs for Patrolmen at the Gloucester County Police Academy from October 19 through October 23.

Sgt. Owens conducted the annual Crossing Guard Training Session on September 24.

Councilman Austin thanked Sgt. Owens, the Pitman Police Department, and all the emergency response personnel who assisted with the Fall Craft Show. He also thanked S/O Osinski for coordinating Operation Take Back New Jersey this past Saturday. This program enables residents to turn in unused and out-of-date prescription medications for proper disposal.

Councilman Austin announced that Council has approved the purchase of Body Worn Cameras for the members of the Police Department. This program will be funded over a five year period.

The Environmental Commission did not meet last month. Their next meeting will be on October 21 in Borough Hall at 7:00 p.m.

The Fire Department and Office of Emergency Management have been very quiet. Last week, from the Fire Safety Office, Fire Marshals Pierson, Penuel, and Austin attended a class entitled The Origin of Calls at the Burlington County Fire Academy.

Councilman Blass – Councilman Blass reported that the Friends of the Library sold used books, photographs, which had been donated by Martie Mollenhauer, and some stuffed toys, at the Fall Craft Show. Altogether, over \$800.00 was raised to benefit the programs sponsored by the McCowan Memorial Library.

Reporting on the Summer Reading Program at the library, Councilman Blass stated that the theme was Every Hero Has a Story. One hundred thirty-four children registered, with forty-eight children reading at least one book, with a total of 1,152 books being read. Over the summer, there were forty-two children's programs, with an attendance of 754 children, and the two adult programs had an attendance of thirty-seven adults.

There is a new children's program set to begin at the library. This is a national program, and is called the 1000 Books Foundation Program. The program encourages caregivers to read one thousand books with their child before he or she attends kindergarten. When the caregiver registers their child they will be given a book bag with information about the program as well as a spiral note book to list the books that they read. Incentives are given for each one hundred books that are read along the way. When one thousand books have been read, the child's name will be hung in a place of honor in the Library.

The Museum Pass program sponsored by the McCowan Memorial Library this past summer was a success. Fifty-five free admission passes for various museums were given out to library patrons.

The Library received a \$200.00 donation from a ten year old boy after he found an envelope

containing a sizable amount of money. He turned it in to the Police Department, and after a certain amount of time with no one claiming it, it was returned to him. He donated some of the funds to the Police Department as well.

Councilman Razzo read the following report:

The Pitman Recreation Commission will meet this Thursday night in Borough Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Earlier today I attended the Joint Insurance Fund Executive Committee meeting. The one thing that stood out most to me was the approval of the release of just over 1.1 million of surplus funds from fund years 2009 to 2011. These funds will be returned to member municipalities in the form of a dividend. The Borough should receive our share of the money soon.

The Economic Development Committee met on September 17. The majority of the meeting was dedicated to our guest speaker Jerry Chambers from the Collingswood Business Improvement Committee. The EDC has been exploring the idea of a business improvement district for the down town district for some time. Collecting information and speaking with folks like Jerry, and even individuals at the state level, can develop proposals that Council may consider implementing.

To date, approximately \$20,000.00 has been raised for the Theatre Avenue Pocket Park Project. The EDC also hopes to have directional signs installed around town in the coming weeks to assist visitors to the borough find parking locations in our community.

Economic Development Committee member Jeff Sanders, who also serves as the Promotion Subcommittee Chairman, has previously passed out samples of the promotional packets that Clayton has put together, in an effort to get ideas for one of our own. Jeff is also working with the EDC Administrative Assistant Joan Stoltzfus who has been working with a videographer to put together a promotional video of our business district, and our community as a whole. Other topics discussed were the proposed Mexican restaurant, the zoning of the rooming houses along Broadway, a possible nano-brewery opening in the former Venice Restaurant, proposals for a new informational sign at the intersection of Holly and Broadway, and the Chamber's Escape Uptown Pitman attraction starting in October.

Also tonight, I am adding Resolution No. 158, 2015 appointing Gwyn Glass to the open Chamber Representative position on the EDC.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Councilman Pierpont on his receipt of the Gloucester County Military Service Award.

Councilman Pierpont read the following report:

I'd like to begin my report with a personal note of thanks to the Pitman Garden Club. The hanging baskets that you have painstakingly maintained throughout the spring and summer continue to look fantastic and are a visual asset to our Uptown area. This morning two people from Mullica Hill, I believe, stopped to take pictures of the basket hanging in front of my store and were amazed that it was a single basket, not two or more plants. Thank you.

The Water & Sewer Division personnel were busy this morning repairing a water main break on Lincoln Avenue. Photos of this repair, and the difficulties involved, are posted on the Borough Facebook page.

Last week Well #4 was taken off-line for annual maintenance with no issues reported. During the down time Well #3 was amped up to cover the load and performed well.

All hydrants were flushed as part of our bi-annual program

Our Highway Division employees continue their efforts to clear out the overgrowth along Montgomery Avenue. They also continue to re-paint the handicapped designated and no parking curb lines as well as pedestrian crosswalks. Re-stripping of Borough parking lots is next on the list of items needing refreshing.

The repairs to our street sweeper were complete and it was out in the Kenton Avenue area, along Broadway (before and after the Craft Fair) and on Alcyon Boulevard. Unfortunately, after sixteen hours on the job, a hydraulic leak developed and it had to be shut down again. The parts have been ordered. In the meantime, crews are out clearing storm drains with shovels and buckets.

The trash numbers for the period of September 14 through September 25 are as follows:

Eleven loads of trash collected totaling 121 tons

Ten loads of recycling collected totaling 42 tons

Five truckloads of brush were collected

Five truckloads of bulk trash were collected

Thirteen hours were spent grinding leaves and brush into mulch

The Public Works Department would like to remind residents that in-street leaf pick up does not start until October 19. Until then, if you must collect leaves, please put them in bags or containers for curbside pickup.

The Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce thanks everyone who shopped at the Fall Craft Fair. It was a beautiful day with over three hundred crafters attending. As always the Chamber would like to remind residents to Eat, Shop, Stay, and Stroll local.

Councilwoman Higbee read the following report:

Det. Sgt. Hunter Moore and Patrolman Ken Decker attended a workshop on September 23rd at the invitation of Administrator O'Donnell. The dinner and presentation were sponsored by the Gloucester County Municipal Alliance. The Municipal Alliance offers these programs in an effort to inform and educate groups on current topics relevant to drug and drug free activities.

I would like to give a shout out to Sgt. Owens who I caught today stopping traffic and saving a turtle down by Alcyon Lake, right by the "save the turtles" sign.

The Senior Luncheon sponsored by the Pitman Municipal Alliance under the direction of Administrator O'Donnell, will be held at Mannino's Restaurant on Broadway on October 26. I will have more information on the luncheon at our next Council meeting.

The next meeting of the Pitman Historic Preservation Commission will be held here at Borough Hall on October 8, at 7:00 p.m.

Clean Communities cleanups are scheduled for October 3 and October 7 by the Pitman Women's Club and the Boy Scouts.

A reminder to everyone that our next Council meeting will be on Tuesday, October 13, 2015.

Council President Kelley reported that the Combined Planning and Zoning Board held their monthly meeting on September 21, 2015. The only business discussed was the seven Historic

District applications for improvements. Their next meeting will be on October 7 at 7:00 p.m.

The Borough's Green Team held their monthly meeting on September 24. They continue to work on gathering information for the certification process.

Councilman Razzo added that the Friends of the Grove are hosting the Pitman Information Fair this Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at the VFW on Oakcrest Avenue. There will be a bus for anyone who is interested in attending if they are in need of transportation. The Fair is open to all residents. Please see the Friends of the Grove Facebook page for more information.

New Business

Ordinance No. 10, 2015 – An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 15, 2014 Establishing the Salaries and Wages For Employees of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, For the Year 2015 and Forward

Second Reading - Public Hearing

Motion: Higbee Second: Razzo

Motion to open to the public: Higbee Second: Razzo
Time 8:50 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close public portion: Higbee Second: Austin
Time 8:50 p.m.

Roll Call:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Councilman Austin: Yes | Councilman Blass: Yes |
| Councilwoman Higbee: Yes | Council President Kelley: Yes |
| Councilman Pierpont: Yes | Councilman Razzo: Yes |
| Mayor Johnson _____ | |

Resolution No. 150, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Release of Performance Guarantee Escrow Funds Provided by Joy Community Church, Submitted for a Project Affecting a Parcel Known as 309 Florence Avenue, Block 51, Lot 1, on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

Motion: Higbee Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Councilman Austin: Yes | Councilman Blass: Yes |
| Councilwoman Higbee: Yes | Council President Kelley: Yes |
| Councilman Pierpont: Yes | Councilman Razzo: Yes |
| Mayor Johnson _____ | |

Resolution No. 151, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Confirming the Report of the Tax Collector in the Matter of Yard Work – 223 W. Holly Avenue

Motion: Higbee Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Councilman Austin: Yes | Councilman Blass: Yes |
| Councilwoman Higbee: Yes | Council President Kelley: Yes |
| Councilman Pierpont: Yes | Councilman Razzo: Yes |

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 152, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Division of Local Aid for Municipal Aid 2016 for the Resurfacing of Hudson Avenue Section II

Motion: Pierpont
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

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

Resolution No. 153, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Division of Local Aid for Municipal Aid 2016 for the Resurfacing of Highland Terrace

Motion: Pierpont
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

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

Resolution No. 154, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Curfew Within the Borough of Pitman for the Celebration of Halloween

Motion: Austin
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

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

Resolution No. 155, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving the Donation of a 1997 Ford Crown Victoria Fire Car From the Borough of Pitman to the Mantua Township Fire District

Motion: Austin
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

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

Resolution No. 156, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Execution of an Amended Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Policemen's Benevolent Association, Local 122 for the period of January, 1 2015 to December 31, 2019

Motion: Austin
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes

Second: Blass
Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Council President Kelley: Yes
Councilman Razze: Yes

Resolution, No 157, 2015 Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Ed Powell as the Code Enforcement Officer for the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

Motion: Kelley

Second: Razze

Roll Call:

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

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

Resolution, No 158, 2015 Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Gwyn Glass as the Chamber of Commerce Representative to the Economic Development Committee of the Borough of Pitman to Fill the Unexpired Term of Daniel Cooke

Motion: Razze

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes
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: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes; Abstains to #30980
Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

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

Event Permit/Signage Applications

Applicant: Friends of the Grove

Event: Pitman Grove Fall Festival

Date: October 17, 2015

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Location: In and around the Grove Auditorium

Contact: Michelle LaPlante

Motion: Razze

Second: Pierpont

Roll Call:

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

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

Applicant: CROP Hunger Walk

Event & Signage: Fundraising Walk

Date: October 18, 2015

Time: 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Sunset Auditorium and Various Pitman, Glassboro, & County Roadways

Contact Person: Carol Schoepske

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Applicant: Pitman Fire Department

Event: Fire Prevention Display

Date: October 6, 2015

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Fire Co. #1; Commerce Avenue

Contact Person: Bruce Scott

Motion: Razze

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Applicant: Residents of McClelland Avenue

Event: Block Party

Date: October 10, 2015

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Location: McClelland Ave. between Oak and Poplar Aves.

Contact Person: Bronwym Lyman

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Applicant: Friends of the Grove

Event: Placing Bird Houses on Borough Owned Property

Date: Beginning October 3, 2015

Location: See Event Permit

Contact Person: Lorrie Marquis

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Permit was approved with the stipulation that the birdhouses were not to be nailed to any Borough-owned trees or buildings.

Applicant: Youth Voice Leadership Council

Event: Plant a Promise Project

Date: October 24-27, 2015

Time: TBD

Location: Ballard Park and Walton Park

Contact Person: Shari Hulitt

Motion: Kelley

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Abstain

Mayor Johnson _____

Bingo/Raffle Applications

Applicant: WCK Walls HSA

Event: Coach Bingo & “Year of Dining Raffle”

Date: November 13, 2015

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Location: Pitman High School

Contact Person: Jennie Mazzola

Motion: Razze

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Razze

Second: Blass

Time: 9:12 p.m.

Noah Burrows, 232 Lake Avenue – Mr. Burrows asked if chicken coops were permitted in the Borough, and if not, would Council consider amending the Code to allow them?

Borough Solicitor Duffield stated that Mr. Burrows may apply for a variance and go before the Planning and Zoning Board for approval. He also explained that the neighbors within 200 feet of the property would have to agree as well. Mr. Duffield advised that Mr. Burrows should speak to the Borough’s Zoning Officer for advice on how to proceed with the process.

Jim Fortney, 502 Carew Avenue – Mr. Fortney asked where the Promise (Tulip) Garden would be placed in Ballard Park. He was concerned that it would be in the same area as where the Christmas tree is set up during the holiday display.

Councilman Razze stated that it will be between the sidewalks in the area to the side and behind the library, but would be more forward than where the tree is set up.

Valerie Burger, 50 Elm Avenue – Ms. Burger asked for clarification on having to obtain the approval of neighbors in order to be able to have a chicken coop. She then asked if the ordinance prohibiting chickens applies to quail as well.

Borough Solicitor Duffield addressed the issue of quail, and Council President Kelley explained

the process of obtaining a variance and approval from the Combined Planning & Zoning Board.

Motion to close the public portion: Pierpont
Time: 9:21 p.m.

Second: Razze

Adjournment

Motion: Razze
Time: 9:21 p.m.

Second: Kelley

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator

*The Minutes of the Formal Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman held on September 28, 2015 have been amended to reflect the affirmative vote by Councilman Razze on the Raffle and Bingo Applications submitted by the W.C.K. Walls H.S.A. In the Minutes that were approved on October 13, the vote was recorded as an abstention.