

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 12, 2016**

**Call to Order**

Time: 8:05 p.m.

**Salute to the Flag/Moment of Silence**

Councilman Blass

**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 2016, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 3, 2016.

**Roll Call**

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

Councilman Blass: Present  
Council President Pierpont: Present  
Councilwoman Rudley: Present  
Borough Solicitor Alice: Present

**Approval of Minutes**

**Work Session and Formal Meeting Minutes of November 28, 2016**

Motion: Blass

Second: Higbee

Councilman Austin asked for one correction to the Work Session Minutes, saying that when Council was discussing the depth of the water at Alcyon Lake, he asked to compare the depth now to what was listed in the last report. He stressed that he did not want to expend additional funds to repeat the test; just a comparison of the measurements taken between then and now.

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Committee Reports**

**Councilman Austin**

Councilman Austin reported that he attended the Library Board of Trustees meeting on November 29. At that meeting, the Board thanked our Public Works Department for their quick action in responding to their leaking roof. The Board will also be reaching out to the Police Department for input on an active shooter policy for the library. The Board of Trustees will not meet in December.

Councilman Austin said that the Combined Planning and Zoning Board has had no changes since his last report. Their next meeting is scheduled for December 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Austin thanked everyone for the volunteerism in Pitman, and the diligent work from our employees. Also, on a personal note, he thanked the voters for the confidence that they have entrusted in him by re-electing him last November. On behalf of his family, he wished everyone a joyous and safe holiday.

Councilman Blass

Councilman Blass reported that he is still in contact with the Borough Engineer and the Historic Architect, working on ways that we can get funding to help complete the vision that he has for the Grove Auditorium.

Councilman Razzo read the following report:

Thank you to Councilwoman Higbee for attending the Environmental Commission meeting this month.

I would like to compliment the Friends of the Grove, especially Jeff Sanders, on a great concert on Saturday night. It was very well attended.

On Saturday afternoon I attended the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Frank Pfau Jr. He is a resident of the Pitman Manor, and served in World War II where he was sent to the Pacific Theater on the day that Japan surrendered. I spent time with his family and friends celebrating his birthday.

Merry Christmas to everyone!

Council President Pierpont read the following report:

Our Water and Sewer Department crew were out on Thursday evening repairing a water main leak on Sixth Avenue. The work was made more difficult because the equipment that was needed to perform the repair had to traverse the side yard at 126 Sixth Avenue to reach the site of the leak. The work was handled very professionally, and the property was restored to its original condition. Our crew was on site working on the repair until 10:30 p.m. Thursday evening.

The on-call Water and Sewer Department employee was also called out after hours on Sunday evening to attend to a sewer stoppage at a residence on Pitman Avenue. My point here is, when emergencies occur, our Public Works personnel respond and conduct themselves in a very polite and professional manner. It is something Mrs. O'Donnell, Ms. Domico, and I have stressed repeatedly, and I think it is now the standard.

All residents are reminded that if they have any afterhours emergencies with their water and/or sewer to please call the County Dispatcher at 589-3500 to report the problem. The County Dispatch Center has the names and phone numbers for our on-call Public Works professionals.

On-street leaf collection is scheduled to end December 16. All residents are reminded to put only leaves on the street, at the curb, for pickup. Any leaves needing disposal after December 16 must be placed in containers and placed at the curb as you would any other yard debris.

Our trash and recycling collection numbers for the period of November 28 - December 9 are as follows:

Thirteen loads of trash for a total of 135 tons

Six loads of recycling for a total of 32 tons

Nine loads of bulk trash

Sixty-nine loads of leaves, and delivering 325 yards of ground up leaves to Smith Orchards for disposal.

Councilwoman Higbee

Councilwoman Higbee reported that she attended the Environmental Commission meeting on December 1 in Councilman Razzo's absence. They discussed the lake buffers, dam safety, and sediment deposits in both Alcyon Lake and Glen Lake.

Councilwoman Higbee has arranged the Clean Communities assemblies for our three elementary schools. They will be in March and April of 2017. The company chosen this year is Quiet Riot. This is a group that is recommended by the State of New Jersey Clean Communities Program.

Councilwoman Higbee also attended part of the Friends of the Grove Holiday Concert on Saturday evening, and said that she saw some really terrific talent.

Our Welfare Director, Kim Jaworski, has informed me that for 2016 we had twenty-two angels on the Giving Tree for the children's party on December 18 in Borough Hall at 1:00 p.m. Also, twenty-two families and senior citizens will be helped with food baskets this holiday season that have been donated by Jannetti's and Pitman resident John Martin.

Our Tax Collector reports that she has collected \$4,187,589.54 in tax revenue during the month of November.

Councilwoman Higbee wished everyone a Merry Christmas!

Councilwoman Rudley

Councilwoman Rudley reported that the Pitman Police Department is participating in the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over National Holiday Mobilization" program, which will run from December 9 through January 1. Again, the Pitman Police Department has a zero tolerance policy for offenders...please help keep this holiday season safe!

Beginning this weekend, on December 16, an extended period of "suspended" overnight parking enforcement will begin for the holiday season. Overnight parking enforcement will commence again on January 3. This grace period is extended for the convenience and consideration of our residents and their guests.

The Pitman Police Department is accepting employment applications for certified SLEO Class II Police Officers until this Wednesday, December 14, at 3:00 p.m.

Beginning on January 1, 2017, the State of New Jersey is instituting a Criminal Justice Reform initiative geared toward a bail reform process. The new "system" of bail will be an extensive change. The officers of the Pitman Police Department have been going through several rounds of training and are prepared for the change. In addition, several different equipment improvements and updates have been made to facilitate and meet the requirements of the change(s).

The Pitman Police Department would like to thank Mayor and Council, along with the many residents, civic groups, and organizations that have made this holiday season so spirited and festive, particularly in the Uptown Business District. We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Fire Safety Office has reported that the fire pumps are still down at the Sony site; that makes them out of compliance. Contractors have been on-site to remedy this process. We are issuing daily summonses to them for these violations.

The Borough Fire Chief, Bruce Scott, was re-elected to the position of Borough Fire Chief.

The Economic Development Committee will meet this Thursday, December 15, in the conference room in Borough Hall. They continue their efforts to revitalize and further excite the uptown area. There are tentative plans for a very exciting Open House, in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce, to be held in the spring. The tentative date is April 9.

The Shop and Stroll Scavenger Hunt has gone live. It has been going on for a few weeks, and you can check it out on Facebook.

Councilwoman Rudley said that she attended the Friends of the Grove Concert, and labeled it a "wonderful experience".

Unfinished Business

**Ordinance No. 11, 2016 – An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Amending Chapter II (Administration), Article III, Entitled "Departments" of the Code of the Borough of Pitman**

Second Reading - Public Hearing

Motion: Rudley

Second: Higbee

Motion to open to the public: Razze

Second: Rudley

Time: 8:20 p.m.  
No public comment.  
Motion to close public hearing: Rudley  
Time: 8:20 p.m.

Second: Razze

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Ordinance No. 12, 2016 – An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Establishing the Borough of Pitman Senior Outreach Committee of the Borough of Pitman**

Second Reading - Public Hearing

Motion: Rudley

Second: Higbee

Motion to open to the public: Austin

Second: Razze

Time: 8:21p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close public hearing: Razze

Second: Austin

Time: 8:21p.m.

Councilwoman Higbee asked if this committee will have a budget in 2017.

Councilwoman Rudley replied that at this time she plans on having this committee without a budget, and it will be a committee fully staffed with volunteers. The agenda, or point, of this committee is to facilitate information that already available.

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Resolution No. 174, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Adopting the Mitigation Plan for Four New Jersey Counties**

Motion: Rudley

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: No  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes  
Mayor Johnson: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Resolution No. 176, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Accepting a Grant From the Gloucester County New Jersey Community Development Block Grant Program Through the Federally Funded Housing and Community Development Act of 1974**

Motion: Higbee

Second: Pierpont

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Resolution No. 177, 2016 - 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 the Performance of Board-up Services for 320 McKinley Avenue, Block 190 Lot 12 on the Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman, County if Gloucester, State of New Jersey**

Motion: Higbee  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes  
Mayor Johnson: \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Rudley  
Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Resolution No. 178, 2016 - 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 the Performance of Board-up Services for 520 Hudson Avenue, Block 209 Lot 6 on the Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman, County if Gloucester, State of New Jersey**

Motion: Higbee  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes  
Mayor Johnson: \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Rudley  
Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Resolution No. 179, 2016 - 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 the Performance of Board-up Services for 430 Snyder Avenue, Block 28 Lot 17 on the Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman, County if Gloucester, State of New Jersey**

Motion: Higbee  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes  
Mayor Johnson: \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Rudley  
Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Resolution No. 180, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Fred Rodi as Certified Public Works Manager for the Public Works Department of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey**

Motion: Pierpont  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes  
Mayor Johnson: \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Higbee  
Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Resolution No. 181, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Release of Performance Guarantee Submitted for a Project by the Pitman Church of the Nazarene Affecting the Parcel Known as 231 N. Broadway, Block 111 Lot 9 on the Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman, Gloucester County, NJ**

Motion: Austin  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes

Second: Blass  
Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes  
Mayor Johnson: \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Resolution No. 182, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Refund of Water and Sewer Overpayments**

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: No  
Councilwoman Higbee: No  
Councilman Razze: No  
Mayor Johnson: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: No

**Resolution No. 183, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Police Department Tow Licenses to George's Auto Body, B.A.R.E. Motors, and Tyler Mill Towing**

*Removed from the Agenda during the Work Session Meeting, and will added to the Agenda for the next Formal Meeting of Mayor and Council scheduled for December 27, 2016.*

**Resolution No. 184, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Confirming the Appointment of John Fitzpatrick as Representative for the Borough of Pitman to the Gloucester County Municipal Economic Development Council for 2017**

Motion: Rudley

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Abstain  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Resolution No. 185, 2016 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Refund of a \$100.00 Restoration of Service Fee to the Resident of 334 S. Broadway, Block 29 Lot 5 on the Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey**

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: No  
Councilwoman Higbee: No  
Councilman Razze: No  
Mayor Johnson: \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Blass: No  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: No

**Resolution No. 186, 2016 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Purchase of a 26kW Used Generator From Godwin Pumps Under Government Contract # GSA-GF-07F-9491G**

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Payment of Bills**

Motion: Higbee

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Event Permit Applications**

**Event:** The Light Run  
**Dates:** December 15, 2016  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
**Applicant:** Good Day for a Run, LLC  
**Contact Person:** Ken Culbertson  
**Motion:** Razze  
**Roll Call:**  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes  
Mayor Johnson: \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Blass  
  
Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

**Public Portion**

**Motion to open to the public:** Razze  
**Time:** 8:35 p.m.  
No public comment.  
**Motion to close the public portion:** Razze  
**Time:** 8:35 p.m.

Second: Austin  
  
Second: Austin

**Miscellaneous**

Mayor Johnson announced that the 2017 Reorganization Meeting of Mayor and Council will take place on January 7, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Johnson reported that the previous Friday night, Mannino’s Cucina Italiana hosted the Gloucester County Clerk’s Association Holiday Luncheon, and that same evening they also hosted the Mayor’s Association Christmas Dinner. He said it was a great testament to Pitman and the local volunteers that make these things happen in Pitman. It was a very proud moment for Mayor Johnson and Clerk O’Donnell to be a part of being able to welcome these organizations to experience what the Borough has to offer.

Councilwoman Rudley thanked the various groups who have taken part in the holiday activities along Broadway these past weekends. There have been dance groups, carolers, and musicians, who have braved all types of weather to provide entertainment and generate interest in what our uptown has to offer for residents and visitors.

**Adjournment**

**Motion:** Razze  
**Time:** 8:40 p.m.

Second: Austin

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O’Donnell  
Borough Clerk/Administrator