

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 26, 2016
8:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Time: 8:00 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: Absent
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 & Formal Meeting, & Closed Formal Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2016

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

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

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

Committee Reports

Councilman Austin

The Board of Trustees of the McCowan Memorial Library will meet on September 27. During the month of August, 7,678 individuals visited the library, 270 children attended story time, and the summer reading program had 554 people participate.

Councilman Austin said that he was unable to attend the last Planning and Zoning Board meeting on September 19, because he was attending training in New Mexico for the Fire Department. He thanked Council President Pierpont for attending the meeting in his absence. There were three applications submitted pertaining to homes in the Historic area; all three were approved. The next meeting of the Planning and Zoning Board will be on October 17, 2016.

Councilman Blass

Councilman Blass reported that he has received an update on the condition of the Grove Auditorium. From these preliminary reports, it is definite that it will need a new roof.

The Friends of the Grove dedicated their community garden this weekend. Councilman Blass thanked everyone who came out and helped clear and prepare the area for the garden.

Council President Pierpont read the following report:

We continue our search for a qualified applicant as Public Works Manager. The opening is advertised in the local papers and hopefully we will be interviewing soon.

Tonight, I am reading a resolution to appoint Ms. Donna Domico to that position to fill through the end of the year. The State of New Jersey allows us two years to fill the position with a Certified Public Works Manager. The class for certification is eighteen months long, so this appointment tonight will stop the clock as we continue our search.

Tonight, I will also read a resolution to appoint a back-up water operator. This is a requirement from the state and we currently do not have anyone employed with the required license.

Our leaf vacuum trucks and tub grinder for leaf disposal are ready to go. For more information about on- street leaf pick up please visit the Borough web site.

Last week our Public Works garage was inspected by the Environmental Joint Insurance Fund for labeling, storing and disposal of contaminating materials. Thank you, and congratulations to Mr. Armond Viola, our Borough mechanic, for achieving a 95% rating.

Our trash and recycling numbers for the period of August 22 through September 23 are as follows;

Twenty-four loads of trash collected for a total of 247.4 tons

Twenty-five loads of recycling collected for a total of 114.1 tons

Fifteen loads of bulk trash

Eight truckloads of brush and yard debris

Finally, any resident who would like an empty dump truck left in their driveway for yard clean up may call 589-1040 for arrangements. This is free to our residents and a great way to get large amounts and/or bulky yard debris disposed of quickly and easily.

Councilwoman Higbee

No Report

Councilwoman Rudley read the following report:

Police Department

The Fall Craft Fair was held on Saturday, September 17 without incident. Changes were made to enhance security, and moving forward, those changes, plus several others still to come, will be in place for each event being held. The Pitman Police Department thanks everyone for their patience and cooperation. Sgt. Zander is complimented on his actions to incorporate the changes, some at the last minute, and on supervising the Craft Fair for the Department.

The annual Memorial School Monarch Butterfly Parade was held last week. The Police Department was honored and proud to assist with traffic safety and the escort of the students. Everyone involved with this beautiful and unique event should be proud of their effort and especially that of the students.

The Police Department will be hosting the 1st Annual Food Truck Event and K9 Fundraiser, "Chowdown Uptown" on Saturday, November 5, from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. We hope to see everyone there!

Patrolman Eric Weist recently attended advanced training in Atlantic City for officer safety issues.

Broad of Fire Engineers

I want to take a moment to acknowledge two firefighters in Wilmington that were lost this week, and I want to remind everyone that we do have a volunteer fire force in Pitman, and that we are lucky to have them; they put their lives on the line for us.

New Business

Resolution No. 137, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Transfer of Real Estate Tax Overpayments

Motion: Higbee

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 138, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Contract for a Police Vehicle, 2017 Model Year Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicle for the Pitman Police Department to Winner Ford, Cherry Hill, New Jersey Pursuant to New Jersey State Contract #88728

Motion: Rudley

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 139, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Change Order #3-Final to the Contract With P & A Construction, Inc. for the Water Main, Sanitary Sewer, and Stormwater Line Replacement Project

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 140, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Donna Domico as Certified Public Works Manager for the Public Works Department of the Borough of Pitman

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 141, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Martin Finger as a Deputy Licensed Water Treatment Operator for the Borough of Pitman Water and Sewer Department

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 142, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing a Closed Meeting

The general nature of the subjects to be discussed shall be:

Personnel: Proposed Pay Rate Adjustment; Fire Safety Office Secretarial Staff / Borough Administrator

Action may be taken.

Motion: Higbee

Second: Rudley

Roll Call

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 143, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Submission of a Strategic Plan for the Pitman Municipal Alliance Grant for Fiscal Year July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018

Motion: Higbee

Second: Rudley

Roll Call

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Payment of Bills

Motion: Higbee

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Abstain #32677; Yes to all remaining items.

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Raffle/Bingo Applications

Applicant: W.C.K. Walls School HSA

Event: Coach Handbag Bingo

Date and Time: November 4, 2016; 7p.m.-10 p.m.

Location: 320 Grant Avenue, Pitman, NJ

Contact Person: Jenny Mazzola

Applicant: W.C.K. Walls School HSA

Event: Draw Raffle

Date and Time: November 4, 2016; 10 p.m.

Location: 320 Grant Avenue, Pitman, NJ

Contact Person: Jenny Mazzola

Motion: Higbee

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Austin
Time: 8:22 p.m.

Second: Blass

James Fortney, 502 Carew Avenue- Mr. Fortney thanked Councilman Austin and Councilman Razzo for allowing him to spend the day with them putting a fence up. He said that the Friends of the Grove should be complimented on what they are doing and what they are accomplishing.

Mr. Fortney also said that there was an article in the South Jersey Times written by David Spector who said that the banks are being bad neighbors for not maintaining vacant and abandoned homes. Mr. Fortney said that Mr. Spector is taking on the banks for what our neighborhoods look like due to the foreclosures. Mr. Fortney offered the article to anyone who wanted to read it.

Motion to close the public portion: Austin
Time: 8:24 p.m.

Second: Blass

Closed Meeting

Motion to enter into a closed meeting: Austin
Time: 8:24 p.m.

Second: Blass

Motion to return to an open meeting: Higbee
Time: 8:47 p.m.

Second: Blass

As a result of discussion in the Closed Meeting, the following action was taken upon returning to an Open Meeting.

Resolution No. 144, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding the Borough of Pitman Municipal Clerk/ Administrator a Salary Increase to the Amount of \$90,000.00 Annually, Effective Immediately

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

Second: Pierpont

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

Resolution No. 145, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding the Part-time Fire Safety Office Secretarial Assistant a Fifty Cent per Hour Increase For Additional Job Duties, Effective Immediately

Motion: Rudley
Roll Call
Councilman Austin: Abstain
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes
Councilman Razzo: Absent
Mayor Johnson _____

Second: Higbee

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

Resolution No. 146, 2016 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding the Fire Safety Office Secretary a Fifty Cent per Hour Increase For Additional Job Duties, Effective Immediately

Motion: Rudley
Roll Call
Councilman Austin: Abstain
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Second: Blass

Councilman Blass: Yes
Council President Pierpont: Abstain

Councilman Razze: Absent
Mayor Johnson _____

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Adjournment

Motion: Blass
Time: 9:53 p.m.

Second: Austin

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator