

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 13, 2017**

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 2017, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 7, 2017.

Roll Call

Councilman Austin: Present

Councilwoman Higbee: Present

Councilman Razzo: Present

Mayor Johnson: Present

Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Councilman Blass: Present

Council President Pierpont: Present

Councilwoman Rudley: Present

Borough Solicitor Alice: Present

Committee Reports

Councilman Austin

Councilman Austin reported that he attended the McCowan Memorial Library Board of Trustees meeting on February 28. The Board discussed building maintenance and landscaping issues that are connected to the library. The library has been very active, with many visitors daily.

The Planning and Zoning Board has not met since Councilman Austin's last report. Their next meeting will be on March 20, at 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Blass

Councilman Blass reported that the Memorabilia Committee met on March 7, and decided that the Pitman Memorabilia Museum will be open on April 15 in conjunction with the Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Friends of the Grove. The Museum will also be open on April 28, Fourth Friday, from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

On March 9, Councilwoman Higbee attended the Historic Commission meeting in Councilman Blass' absence. One application was submitted, and approved. Councilman Blass thanked Councilwoman Higbee for attending the meeting.

Councilman Razzo

Councilman Razzo announced that parade applications will be available online and at Borough Hall on or about April 14. Applications will be accepted until June 16. The website for parade information and applications is www.pitmanparade.com.

Council President Pierpont read the following report:

In anticipation of tonight's storm I am happy to report that our Public Works Department has prepared, and is ready to respond to keep our roads safe and clear. Today crews were spreading a pretreat brine solution on our roads, particularly West Avenue, Edgemore Avenue, Waverly Avenue, Glenmere Avenue, Highland Terrace, Linden Avenue, N. Summit Avenue, Laurel Avenue, and a few others. Crews will begin to report at 2:00 a.m. and our part time employees will report at 8:00 a.m. to start clearing sidewalks and such. Ten trucks are equipped with plows and the salt trucks are loaded. All other Public Works tasks are suspended, so trash pick-up is pushed back one day. If you must be on the roads tomorrow, please be mindful of work crews and snowplows.

Our trash and recycling numbers for the period of February 27 through March 10 are as follows;

- Eleven loads of trash totaling 111 tons
- Nine loads of recycling totaling 36 tons
- Twelve loads of bulk trash

Councilwoman Higbee

Councilwoman Higbee reported that on March 9, she attended the Pitman Historic Commission meeting. There was one application for a web design business on South Broadway, which was approved.

Historic Commission members also decided on changes to the Application for Historic Approval that would clarify the requirements necessary, and to hopefully improve the application process.

Beth Walls, our Tax Collector, reports that for the month of February she has collected \$4,473,316.40 in tax payments.

Councilwoman Higbee announced that Pitman's 2017 municipal budget will be introduced tonight. This budget represents a 1.8 cent increase to the municipal tax rate, with one cent being equivalent to \$57,037.00. State aid remained stable at \$638,447.00. In addition to submitting the budget, members of Council voted to move forward with a bond ordinance in the amount of \$450,000 for Borough projects. Those projects are Hudson Avenue, Phase II, the Borough Hall parking lot, the repair of brick pavers along Broadway, and matching funds for the purchase of a new shuttle bus.

The Environmental Commission met on March 2, where the care of the wildflower buffer around Alcyon Lake was discussed, as well as the upcoming Earth Day celebration in Ballard Park. The Environmental Commission will meet again on April 6.

Councilwoman Rudley

Police Department: Patrolman Decker and Patrolman Pierson recently attended and graduated from the New Jersey Basic Crash Investigation 1 course on March 10. This class was two weeks in length and it's the first of a series of crash investigation classes.

The date for the 2017 Community Appreciation Day is Tuesday June 13. This event will be held at Alcyon Lake Park from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Roadway construction and repair will be ongoing throughout the Borough of Pitman. The Police Department asks that all motorists be patient and follow all detours.

With the pending snow forecast for this evening, overnight on-street parking has been suspended through Thursday, March 16.

The Senior Outreach Committee will meet at 6:00 p.m. on March 16, 2017 in the Conference Room in Borough Hall.

The Economic Development Committee will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room on March 16.

The Board of Fire Engineers will meet on March 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Approval of Minutes

Work Session, Formal Meeting, and Closed Formal Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2017

Motion: Higbee

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Budget Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2017

Motion: Higbee

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Abstain

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Work Session, Formal Meeting, and Closed Formal Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2017

Motion: Higbee

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

New Business

Ordinance No. 3, 2017 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank

First Reading

Motion: Higbee

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Motion to Introduce 2017 Municipal Budget Ordinance

First Reading (Second Reading and Public Hearing; April 10, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.)

Copies available for public inspection at the McCowan Memorial Library and at Borough Hall, during normal business hours.

Motion: Higbee

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 58, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving the Application of the 2016 Recycle Tonnage Grant for 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: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 59, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Confirming Mayoral Appointment of Joshua Hitchner as Environmental Commission Member and Shade Tree Commissioner for the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester

Motion: Higbee

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 60, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Designating the Third Week in March as National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW)

Motion: Higbee

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Payment of Bills

Motion: Higbee

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Abstains to #33476, Votes to approve all other bills

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Event Permit Applications/Signage/Use of Facilities

Applicant: Melissa Johnston

***Event: Baby Shower**

Location: Grove Auditorium

Date & Time: March 25, 2017; (12pm - 4pm)

Contact Person: Melissa Johnston

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

***Approved contingent upon submission of a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough of Pitman as Additional Insured.**

Applicant: Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce

***Event: Spring & Fall Craft Shows**

Date & Time: May 20, 2017 & Sept. 16, 2017 (9am – 4pm)

Location: Broadway, Pitman Ave., Ballard Ave. & Ballard Park

Contact Person: Lisa Morgey

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

***Approved contingent upon submission of a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough of Pitman as Additional Insured, including Ballard Avenue, Ballard Park, and Pitman Avenue in the location section of application, and changing question #2 from ‘No’ to ‘Yes’.**

Applicant: Keryl Hausmann

***Event: Memorial Service**

Date & Time: June 3, 2017; (9:30am – 1:00pm)

Location: Grove Auditorium

Contact Person: Keryl Hausmann

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

***Approved contingent upon submission of a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough of Pitman as Additional Insured.**

Applicant: Pitman United Methodist Church

Event: Summer Camp Meetings

Date & Time: June 25, 2017 – August 27, 2017 (7:30pm – 9:00pm)

Location: Grove Auditorium

Contact Person: Tom Bennett
Motion: Razze
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Abstain
Councilman Razze: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

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

Applicant: Amy Rudley
Event: Pitman Potter Festival

Date & Time: October 21, 2017; (8:00am – 8:00pm)
Location: Grove & Sunset Auditoriums, McBurney Field, and Ballard Park
Contact Person: Amy Rudley
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

Applicant: Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce
Event: Broadway Theatre Open House

Date & Time: April 9, 2017; (12:00pm – 7:00pm)
Location: Theatre Avenue
Contact Person: John Fitzpatrick
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

Raffle Application

Applicant: WCK Walls HSA
Event: Raffle

Date & Time: April 9, 2017 (12pm – 9pm)
Location: 43 S. Broadway
Contact Person: Jennifer Mundie
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: 8:42 p.m.

Second: Blass

Barry Owen, 508 Pitman Avenue – Mr. Owen stated that some residents are putting bulk trash out earlier than allowed by Borough ordinance. He said that to allow this is not good for the Borough, that it clutters the main streets and gives a poor impression to visitors of the Borough. He also said that the posted hours to drop off electronics for recycling at the Public Works yard is not convenient. He suggested possibly including limited hours on Saturdays.

Mr. Owen also stated that the two reserved parking spaces for library employees on Ballard Avenue are not needed. He said that the spaces are often not used, and having them sends a negative message about the Borough's safety.

Motion to close the public portion: Razze
Time: 8:45 p.m.

Second: Blass

Adjournment

Motion: Razze
Time: 8:47 p.m.

Second: Blass

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clark/Administrator