

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 22, 2018**

**Call to Order**

Time: 8:10 p.m.

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

Council President 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 2018, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 6, 2018.

**Roll Call**

Councilman Austin: Present  
Councilman Pierpont: Present  
Councilwoman Rudley: Present  
Mayor Johnson: Present  
Borough Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Council President Blass: Present  
Councilman Razzo: Absent  
Councilman Weng: Present  
Borough Solicitor Scaffidi: Present

**Approval of Minutes**

Work Session, Formal Meeting, & Closed Formal Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2018  
Motion: Blass  
Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: Absent  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Council Reports**

**Councilman Austin**

**McCowan Memorial Library**

During the month of September, the McCowan Memorial Library had 6,043 visitors and 435 children attended Storytime. The next Library Board of Trustees meeting will be tomorrow, October 23, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the library, and everyone is welcome to attend.

The Friends of the Library Scarecrow Contest is up and running, and there are numerous scarecrows along Broadway.

**Council President Blass**

**Public Property**

Council President Blass reported that he and Clerk O'Donnell met with the Borough Engineer at the Grove Auditorium last week and were assured that the auditorium could be used for the Potter Festival the following weekend. The clean-up went well, and the building was used as planned.

Completion of the roof replacement project has been delayed due to the rain, but it is anticipated that completion of the roof and the internal renovations should be within the next two weeks, weather permitting.

### **Councilman Pierpont**

#### Public Works

Fall leaf clean-up continues. The on-street leaf collection started and will continue for the coming weeks. Please place leaves, and only leaves, at the curb for pick-up. Any other yard debris comingled with your leaves will force the truck to pass over your pile.

The Borough-wide replacement of water meters is ongoing. The old water meter heads will be recycled, which will increase our recycling tonnage, which in turn should increase our recycling grant monies.

Speaking of recycling, the Borough also now recycles fabric. That's right, any old unused fabric, or the old natty t-shirts and out of date cargo shorts and "jorts" may be taken to Public Works for recycling. So when you're cleaning out the closet and find items that may be too worn to donate to your favorite charity, please recycle them.

### **Councilman Weng**

Councilman Weng reported that last Monday he attended the Combined Planning and Zoning Board meeting where several applications were approved. Additionally, there was discussion about a proposed use variance for a home on Longmere Avenue. Opposition to the project was voiced by a large number of the neighbors in the area and as a result, the application was withdrawn by the property owners for the bed and breakfast/student housing that was planned there.

The Planning and Zoning Board had a discussion about a short term rental ordinance and our Borough Planner Tim Kernan is doing some research on how other towns have dealt with this issue, especially Glassboro. Councilman Weng said that he will report back to Council on this at our next meeting.

### **Councilwoman Rudley**

#### Police Department

On behalf of the Pitman Police Department, Councilwoman Rudley congratulated all those who were involved in the PPF2 event held this past weekend, for an outstanding job. A special thanks was extended to Mrs. Vanessa James who kept the department informed and worked closely with the department throughout.

Chief McAteer and Captain Zander were honored to attend the Senior Luncheon, which was held last week on October 17. Councilwoman Rudley thanked Borough Administrator Judy O'Donnell for always including the Pitman Police Department and for preparing and hosting this special event.

There was a recent intruder scare at the Pitman Middle School that caused some grave concern for students, teachers, and parents. The PPD was able to quickly react to this potential threat and declare it all clear, due in large part to the presence and action of the School Resource Officer, and other officers, along with the oversight and leadership of Captain Zander. The PPD would like to remind everyone, if you see something unusual or suspicious, please report it immediately.

The Police Department would like to thank all of the volunteers of the Pitman Fire Department for their dedication and service to the Borough of Pitman. It seems that they have been very busy of late. Also extended is a special thanks to the Pitman Fire Police who have assisted the PPD with several events of late, and

throughout the year.

The PPD would like to thank Fire Official Ryan Pierson for including the PPD in the Fire Safety Week Open House on October 16. Corporal Marshall Pierson, Patrolwoman Dominique Khoury and Patrolman Nick Brown were present, and represented the department at that event.

Economic Development Committee

The EDC is actively planning for our winter activities, including the Winter Village which we hope to expand to two dates this year. There is an event permit application on tonight’s agenda submitted by the Chamber of Commerce, who have also graciously offered to once again cover the insurance and other fees related to hosting such an event.

The Haunted Tales of Pitman Ghost Tours resume this week, with tours beginning on the half hour and hour from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Monday, as well as an additional hour on Saturday, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

The EDC met for its usual monthly meeting on Thursday evening.

Senior Outreach

The Senior Outreach Committee met on its usual day last Thursday, and made plans to move forward with a winter trip. They are considering a trip to Cape May, or a trip to see a local holiday choral group, and have dinner together.

Board of Fire Engineers

The Fire Companies, in cooperation with the Borough’s Fire Safety Office, have held their annual Fire Prevention Night. The crowds were great, and Councilwoman Rudley said that she was happy to attend the event as well as the Board of Fire Engineers meeting, which was held in the basement of the Highland Chemical Engine Company station that same night.

**Mayor Johnson**

Mayor Johnson thanked Capt. Zander and the members of the Police Department who maintained order when protesters came out to picket against a well-known political commentator who was appearing at the Broadway Theatre. Everyone remained calm and the protest was carried out in a peaceful manner.

New Business

**Ordinance No. 14, 2018 – An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing an Agreement for Tax Exemption With Daniel and Jennifer Tyler for a Property Commonly Known as 22 Bellevue Avenue and Identified on the Municipal Tax Map as Block 30 Lot 11.01**

Second Reading – Public Hearing

Motion: Austin Second: Blass

Motion to open to the public: Blass Second: Austin

Time: 8:20 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close public comment: Blass Second: Austin

Time: 8:20 p.m.

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 186, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving the Implementation of a Deferred Compensation Plan for the Employees of the Borough of Pitman, Gloucester County, New Jersey**

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 187, 2018 – 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 Miscellaneous Special Charges**

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 188, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Cancellation and/or Refund of Taxes Due to the Property Owner Meeting the Requirements of a Surviving Spouse of a Disabled Veteran as Set Forth in N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30B and is Exempt From Paying Property Taxes**

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 189, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Payment #3 to Journey Contracting Company Inc., in the Amount of \$55,047.50 for the Grove Auditorium Roof Replacement Project**

Motion: Blass

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution No. 190, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Doris Cioffi to Fill the Open Position of Class IV, Alternate 4 Member of the Combined Planning and Zoning Board of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey**

Motion: Weng

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution No. 191, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing the Law Firm of Brown and Connery, LLP as Conflict Labor Counsel for the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey for 2018**

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution No. 192, 2018 – 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 subject to be discussed shall be:*

**Personnel: New Inspector Hires for Borough Construction Office**

*Action may be taken upon returning to an open meeting.*

Motion: Weng

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment of Bills**

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Abstains to #36326, votes to approve all other items on the list.

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Event Permit Applications**

**Event: Ghost Tours**

Applicant: Pitman EDC  
Contact Person: Amy Rudley  
Date & Time: October 25, 26, 27, 2018: 7pm - 9pm  
October 29, 2018: 6pm – 9pm  
Location: Grove Auditorium & sidewalks  
Motion: Blass

Second: Pierpont

*Councilwoman Rudley made a correction on the times for the tours: Thursday, Friday and Monday will be 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Saturday will be from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.*

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Abstain  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: Absent  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Event: Winter Village** (Holiday Crafts)

Applicant: Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce  
Contact Person: Vanessa James  
Date & Time: December 1, 2018: 5pm – 9pm  
December 8, 2018: 5pm – 9pm

Location: Holly & Broadway parking lot and Ballard Park (If raining, Sunset Auditorium)

Motion: Blass

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: No  
Councilwoman Rudley: Abstain  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: Absent  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Event Permit Addendum**

**Event: Clams & Beer at the Chowdown Uptown K9 Fundraiser**

Applicant: Highland Chemical Engine Company  
Contact Person: Jeff Penuel/Bob Shirley  
Date & Time: November 3, 2018: 4pm – 10pm  
Location: Theatre Avenue

Motion: Blass

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Abstain  
Councilman Pierpont: Abstain  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: Absent  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 193, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Acknowledging and Authorizing the Highland Chemical Engine Company to Proceed With the Application of a Social Affairs Permit and Authorizing the Chief of Police and Borough Clerk to Sign the Approval of Said Social Affairs Permit Application Relating to the Chowdown Uptown Event to be Held in Pitman on November 3, 2018**

Motion: Blass

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Abstain  
Councilman Pierpont: Abstain  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: Absent  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Public Portion**

Motion to open to the public: Blass  
Time: 8:35 p.m.

Second: Rudley

**Vanessa James, 91 Circle Avenue** – Ms. James expressed her thanks to Mayor and Council, Recreation Director Fox, the employees of the Public Works Department, and the Police Department for all the help with the ‘festival which shall not be named’, (Potter Festival) that took place this past Saturday.

**Mickey Smith, President of the Pitman Mews Condominium Association, 4401 Locust Avenue** - Mr. Smith said that in regard to the proposed fence around the Fazzio property located between Locust and Elwood Avenues, he is in favor of putting the fence up around three sides of the property, and that the Locust Avenue side should be moved out close to Locust Avenue to help block out the noise that comes from the vehicles that park on the lot.

Motion to close the public portion: Blass  
Time: 8:37 p.m.

Second: Austin

**Miscellaneous**

**Councilman Austin**

Councilman Austin recalled that in a Work Session meeting a couple of weeks ago, it was discussed that a cell phone carrier wanted to put a generator on the property of the water tower on Laurel Avenue. This generator would power the cell antenna on the tower in the event of an electrical outage. Councilman Austin stated that in reviewing the plans with Clerk O’Donnell, he noted that the generator gives out a 75 decibel noise level when it’s on load. Councilman Austin said that he is not sure of the location of where the generator will be placed, but he believes it may be on the corner of West and Laurel Avenues. He said that generators can be equipped with what is known as a ‘quiet package’ which will bring down the decibel level from 75 to 65. He suggested that should Council agree to allow the installation of the generator, the quiet package should be required out of respect for the residents in that area who will be exposed to the noise, and the noise of other generators that may be installed in the future. He said that this particular generator can run for up to 240 hours.

**Closed Meeting**

Motion to enter into a Closed Meeting: Weng  
Time: 8:47 p.m.

Second: Rudley

Motion to return to an Open Meeting: Weng  
Time: 9:10 p.m.

Second: Rudley

As a result of discussion in the Closed Meeting, the following action was taken by Council upon returning to an open meeting.

**Resolution No. 194, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving the Appointment of Augustine F. Morganti Jr. as Construction**

**Official, Building Sub code Official, and Building Inspector for the Borough of Pitman**

Motion: Weng  
Second: Rudley  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_  
Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: Absent  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 195, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving the Appointment of Harry May as Plumbing Sub code Official for the Borough of Pitman**

Motion: Weng  
Second: Blass  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Abstain  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_  
Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: Absent  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 196, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving the Appointment of Jennifer Barrientos-Morris as Fire Sub code Official and Fire Inspector for the Borough of Pitman**

Motion: Weng  
Second: Rudley  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Abstain  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_  
Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: Absent  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Adjournment**

Motion: Blass  
Second: Rudley  
Time: 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell  
Borough Clerk/Administrator



