

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 15, 2019**

Call to Order

Time: 8:06 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 2019, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 5, 2019.

Roll Call

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

Council President Blass: Present
Councilman Razzo: Present
Councilman Weng: Present
Borough Solicitor Krachun: Present

Approval of Minutes

Work Session, Closed Work Session, Formal Meeting, and Closed Formal Meeting Minutes of Sept. 23, 2019

Motion: Blass

Second: Razzo

Roll Call:

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

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

Council Reports

Councilman Austin

Councilman Austin stated that he attended the McCowan Memorial Library Board of Trustees meeting in September. The main event being planned at this time is the library's Scarecrow Contest which is in full swing uptown. During the month of September, 5863 people visited the library and 419 children attended the various children's programs.

In response to Mayor Johnson's question, Councilman Austin said that he will ask the library to get in touch with anyone whose scarecrow was damaged or destroyed as a result of the car accident on Broadway on October 18.

Council President Blass

Month of September 2019 Public Works Statistics

Solid Waste Collection:

Twenty loads to Wheelabrator totaling 219.74 tons @ \$85.27 per ton, for a cost of \$ 19,396.47
Seven loads to Gloucester County Landfill totaling 78.39 tons @ \$88.52 per ton, for a cost of \$ 6,939.09
Total weight: 298.13 tons Total cost: \$ 26,335.5

Recycling Report:

Twenty-one loads of Single Stream Recycling totaling 79.31 tons at a cost of \$8,133.14
Two loads of metal to Sims Metal totaling 1.69 tons
Mulch and brush hauled out to various places totaling 179 cubic yards
Mulch delivered to residents 4 cubic yards

E-Waste recycled 0.12 tons. Payment received \$12.60

Work should be starting this week on the Woodland Avenue and McClelland Avenue repaving project.

Council President Blass said that he would like to take this opportunity to public thank Chief McAteer and the Pitman Police Department, along with the other associated agencies, that quickly addressed and solved the possible threat against Pitman High School on October 4th. When school resumed that morning, he said that he had students wonder if it was safe. He said that he assured them that the police would not have opened the schools if there was any possibility that the threat was not resolved.

Councilman Razze read the following report:

Recreation met last week as did the Environmental Commission and unfortunately, the Environmental Commission did not have a quorum. Therefore, no business could be conducted, but they did talk about the clean up that is going to take place over at McBurney Field. For those who are aware, in the past there was a small garden planted behind the bleachers, and now that small garden is a wildlife rescue. This will be cleaned up and trees will be planted along Lincoln Avenue.

Basketball registration is now open. Open Gym will be available for our recreation program basketball players at the end of the month. Right now it's open to the high school players and is held at the Pitman Middle School.

I wanted to say thank you to our Public Works, Fire, and Police Departments who responded to the situation at the Veterans Memorial. Our Public Works employees were asked to clean up some things that go well beyond just cleaning up trash. We appreciate the time that they put in. Regarding the Memorial, we are currently trying to get this fixed. We notified our insurance company and they did have someone out there already.

Santa Parade registration will remain open until November 15. If you know of any sports teams that have a chance at winning a championship, and would want to be in the parade, please have them register just in case.

Councilman Pierpont read the following report:

I scheduled a meeting with the technician to install a camera at the War Memorial, but this was cancelled because of the motor vehicle accident. I will meet with this individual soon. There is some money left in the line item for the War Memorial in Ballard Park. This will pay for the camera to be installed.

The Pitman Memorabilia Museum will have new carpet installed at a cost of \$2,500.00. The entire first and second floor will be re-carpeted.

The War Memorial repair work is going to begin soon. I would like to see this completed by November 11. There is a lot of work that has to be done, so please stay away for now.

Councilman Weng

No Report

Councilwoman Rudley read the following report:

Congratulations to Sgt. Andrew Carson and Cpl. Marshall Pierson for having attended, and graduate, from the two week Supervision School held at the Gloucester County Police Academy, between September 23 and October 4.

The Pitman Police Department will be participating in the Operation Take Back Program on October 26 from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Borough Hall lobby. Residents are welcome to stop by the lobby and turn in any unused or expired prescription medications.

The Economic Development Committee and the Senior Outreach Program will both meet this Thursday in Borough Hall. The Senior Outreach will meet at 6:00 p.m., and the EDC will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

In addition to all the departments that have been thanked for their great work on Friday morning following the motor vehicle accident, I want to send out a particular thanks to the Mayor and the Fire Police for their work on that very early Friday morning. It is very much appreciated.

Councilman Razze

Councilman Razze thanked Borough Claims Coordinator Nancy Yurick for her quick response in contacting our insurance company and coordinating the necessary paperwork and contractors needed to begin the repairs to Ballard Park and the surrounding brick wall following the motor vehicle accident which occurred on October 11.

New Business

Ordinance No. 22, 2019 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Completion of Various Capital Improvements and the Acquisition of Various Pieces of Equipment In and For the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey; Appropriating the Sum of \$75,000 Therefor; Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey in the Aggregate Principal Amount of up to \$71,000 Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection With The Foregoing

Introduction

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: No

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Ordinance No. 23, 2019 – An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 10, 2018 Establishing the Salaries and Wages For Employees of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, for the Year 2019 and Forward

Introduction

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Abstain

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 172, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Accepting the Corrective Action Plan as Submitted by the Borough’s Chief Financial Officer for Year 2018

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 173, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87; 2019 Clean Communities Grant Program

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Abstain

Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Councilman Razze: Abstain
Councilman Weng; Yes

Resolution No. 174, 2019 – 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 100% Disabled Veteran as Set Forth in N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30 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 Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 175, 2019 – 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 and Associated Activities Related to Halloween

Motion: Rudley

Second: Weng

Comment:

Chief McAteer – If it matters, Halloween is on a Thursday. We have concerns about Friday and Saturday. As a Police Department we do have a concern that possibly could extend the curfew. We would love to see it into Friday and Saturday.

Councilwoman Rudley – My only concern is that Saturday night is another event in town and we are encouraging people to come out. This event ends at 9 p.m. I could say the 30th and 31st, 8 p.m. and November 1 and 2, 9 p.m.

Councilman Razze – But it says for all Halloween activities, not related to school, church or community sponsor events.

Chief McAteer – To effectively blanket it, the time extension should be good.

Councilwoman Rudley – Amending Resolution to be 8 p.m. on Oct 30th and 31st and November 1, and November 2, until 9 p.m.

Roll Call:

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

Council President Blass: Yes
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 176, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Reassigning Stephen Bernat, Jr. as Full Time Utility Person for the Borough of Pitman Department of Public Works, Water and Sewer Division

Motion: Blass

Second: Razze

Roll Call:

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

Council President Blass: Yes
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 177, 2019 – 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 Property Maintenance – 81 Circle Avenue

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

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

Resolution No. 178, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Resolution No. 157, 2019 of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester

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

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

Resolution No. 179, 2019 – 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 Chow Down Uptown Food Truck Event to be Held in Pitman on November 2, 2019

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

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

Resolution No. 180, 2019 – 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 at said meeting will be:
Collective Bargaining Negotiations: Borough of Pitman - PBA

Action was taken on Resolution No. 180, 2019 and Resolution No. 181, 2019- in the Work Session Meeting.

Resolution No. 182, 2019 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Acceptance and Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement With the New Jersey State Policemen’s Benevolent Association PBA Local 122 Pitman Police Department

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

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

Payment of Bills

Motion: Austin
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

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

Mayor Johnson _____

Event Permit/Signage Applications

Event: Annual Santa Parade

Sponsor: Pitman Parade Committee

Contact Person: Michael Razze

Date & Time: Saturday, November 30, 2019; 5 pm

Rain Date: Monday, December 2, 2019; 7 pm

Location: Broadway and Ballard Park

Motion: Blass

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Second: Austin

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Razze: Abstain

Councilman Weng: Yes

Event: Purple Ribbons for Epilepsy Awareness, Signage, & LED Sign for purpose of ribbons

Contact Person: Sarah Jacobs

Date & Time: November 1 - November 30

Location: Ornamental lamp posts along Broadway

Motion: Razze

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Second: Blass

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Event: One Mile Race & Signage

Sponsor: Good Day For a Run, LLC

Contact Person: Ken Culbertson

Date & Time: January 1, 2020; 10am

Location: See attached map

Motion: Razze

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Second: Blass

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Approval is contingent upon providing a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough of Pitman as Additional Insured.

Event: Beer Garden & New Member Recruitment Signage

Sponsor: Highland Chemical Engine Company

Contact Person: Bob Shirley

Date & Time: November 2, 2019; 4 pm – 10 pm

Location: Theatre Avenue

Motion: Razze

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Abstain

Councilman Pierpont: Abstain

Second: Blass

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Councilman Weng: Yes

Raffle License Applications

Off Premises Raffle

Sponsor: Highland Chemical Engine Company
Contact Person: Robert Shirley
Date & Time: December 23, 2019; 8pm
Location: 109 E. Woodland Avenue
Motion: Razze
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Abstain
Councilman Pierpont: Abstain
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Second: Blass

Council President Blass: Yes
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Off Premises Raffle

Sponsor: HSA Elwood Kindle Elementary
Contact Person: Gina Campbell
Date & Time: December 6, 2019; 2:30 pm
Location: 21 Washington Ave.
Motion: Razze
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Second: Blass

Council President Blass: Yes
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Public Portion

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

Second: Blass

Walt Madison, 152 West Avenue – Mr. Madison said that he would like to have a meeting with the Police Department and Public Works to establish policies in regard to Theatre Avenue. There is a show beginning on November 2, and there is generally a lot of trash to be collected when the set is broken down when the show closes. He would like to have a plan in place for where the trash should be placed and how it will be collected.

Councilman Pierpont said that he would like some input from the Economic Development Committee and the Chamber of Commerce on their plans for the pocket park on Theatre Avenue. He mentioned that the Police Department’s Food Truck Event is also on November 2 and a beer garden will be held in the pocket park using generators for power. These generators could pose a problem for access to Theatre Avenue. He agreed that a plan should be in place.

Mr. Madison thanked the contractor for helping to seal up the windows of the Broadway Theatre that opened up into a well on the side of Theatre Avenue.

Daniel McAteer, 462 West Avenue – Chief McAteer thanked resident Paul Vallaster for the speed in which a lamp post on Broadway was replaced. It had been knocked down due to a motor vehicle accident. He said that Atlantic City Electric is about two years behind in replacing the old fiberglass ones with new aluminum ones, and Mr. Vallaster was very instrumental in accelerating the replacement.

Chief McAteer also mentioned that when the new Event Permit was added to the Borough website last year, it did not upload correctly. He said that an updated form will be prepared and posted to the website.

Finally, and in regard to Resolution No. 173, 2019, approved earlier in this meeting, Chief McAteer stated that the Borough is very lucky to have seven members of Council have to discuss the idea of what they would have to do if they all had to abstain from voting due to their involvement in so many activities and organizations in the Borough. Chief McAteer thanked members of Council for their time volunteering for the community.

Mayor Johnson thanked the employees of the Public Works Department and the younger volunteers from the Fire Department for their assistance in the aftermath of the motor vehicle crash on October 11.

Motion to close the public portion: Razze
Time: 8:55 p.m.

Second: Blass

Adjournment

Motion: Razze
Time: 8:55 p.m.

Second: Blass

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator