

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 22, 2020**

Call to Order

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Salute to the Flag/Moment of Silence

Mayor Razzo

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 2020, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 4, 2020.

Roll Call

Council President Blass: Present
Councilwoman James: Present
Councilwoman Rudley: Present
Mayor Razzo: Present
Borough Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Present
Councilman Mazzola: Present
Councilman Weng: Present
Borough Solicitor Krachun: Present

Approval of Minutes

Formal Cyber Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2020

Motion: Rudley

Second: Mazzola

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razzo: _____

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Council Reports

Councilwoman James reported that the McCowan Memorial Library re-opened last week for curbside checkout. Councilwoman James encouraged those who miss taking books out from the library to take advantage of this new service.

Council President Blass provided the following work activity for the Public Works Divisions:

Streets and Roads

Recycling report for May 2020:

- Twenty-one loads of single stream recycling totaling 89.68 tons, at a cost of \$7,887.87
- One load of metal to Sims Metal totaling 2.98 tons, receiving \$350.70
- Mulch, leaves and/or brush hauled out to various locations, totaling 66 cubic yards

Solid Waste

Sixteen loads to Wheelabrator totaling 195.43 tons; at \$74.50 per ton, cost for Borough, \$15,145.27

Twelve loads to Gloucester County Landfill totaling 122.79 tons; at \$82.00 per ton, cost for Borough,
\$9,516.27
Total tonnage: 318.22 tons
Total cost: \$24,662.13

Ten hours grinding leaves and brush for mulch
Collected four hundred twelve yards of brush
Collected eighteen yards of leaves

Water and Sewer

Plunged out twelve sewer stoppages
Jetted two sewer mains
Obtained water samples
Read nineteen meters for real estate settlements
Re-read two meters for billing questions
Replaced one meter body
Ran data logger reports for four properties:
 16 Webb Avenue
 30 Fourth Avenue
 419 Wildwood Avenue
 520 Pitman Avenue
Inspected newly installed extra meters at 385 Edsam Avenue, 289 Edsam Avenue, and 410 Snyder Avenue

Councilman Fitzpatrick reported that he attended a virtual Zoom meeting with Jon Crispin and his team regarding the former Sony property, located at 400 Woodbury Road. The group is still interested in developing the property.

The Pedestrian Bicycle Plan was presented to the Zoning Board using Zoom for the meeting. All went well.

The subcommittee for the Master Plan is working on prioritizing items within the Master Plan. The members have not met since March due to the Covid-19 stay-at-home order, so they hope to meet again very soon. Also, Combined Planning and Zoning Board Chairman, Nick Aspras, would like to review the Borough's COAH obligation with Borough Planner Tim Kernan, and form a Borough plan for affordable housing.

Councilman Mazzola reported that the Borough has been working with the local restaurants and various facilities in town helping to facilitate outside dining, which was recently approved by Governor Murphy, and allowing the use of public property to provide them with larger areas for tables and chairs.

Councilman Mazzola attended the final meeting of the school year for the Pitman Board of Education. Discussion centered on the plans for the 2020-2021 school year.

Councilman Weng read the following report:

The Pitman Police Department continues to work under the guidelines that were set forth by Chief McAteer and Deputy Chief Zander; the Emergency Action Plan 2020-2021. They intend to start rolling back some of the emergency action plans that were put in place for COVID-19, beginning on July 6, 2020. A few of the new guidelines put in place at the start of the year will remain in place.

The Police Department recorded 5,813 incident reports, 372 investigation reports were completed, and 100 arrests were made.

As we start to gradually enter back into a sense of normalcy, I would like to pass on a compliment to the entire Police Department and Pitman Fire Company #1. They have done an amazing job, not only in difficult times, but in unprecedented circumstances.

Councilwoman Rudley read the following report:

I am pleased to be back meeting in person today, for the first time in three months. I have been actively working with my committees during this period of time. The Recreation and Environmental Commissions have been meeting via Zoom, while Senior Outreach has held a few check-in meetings via telephone, and once via Zoom.

The Environmental Commission met with Parks Director Andy Fox in April at Alcyon Lake Park to canvas some changes in the park and to assess the impact that the Disc Golf course is having on the native species within the park, as well as to troubleshoot what can be done to minimize damage, and control the disc golf community from making their own alterations. We reached a good plan for communication and signage to help alleviate both.

The Environmental Commission also has some great news – Pitman is once again the recipient of Tree City USA designation for 2019 from the Arbor Day Foundation.

The Recreation Commission has dealt with the unfortunate cancellation of the Summer Playground program, as well as managing some of the Borough-run programs. Recreation Director Fox sent a survey to the T-ball registrants to look for interest in a possible t-ball skills jamboree, due to the cancellation of the season. The majority of those who signed up had no interest in the jamboree and, accordingly, t-ball is cancelled. The Summer Tennis program is taking place with limited students and the sessions quickly filled up.

Our parks have remained open for passive use throughout the entire period of this virus. The playground equipment and picnic areas remain closed at this time. The tennis courts were reopened about two weeks ago pursuant to guidance from the State. The basketball rims at Shertel Park will be hung this week. Basketball is considered to be a high contact sport, and only non-contact, non-competitive drills and practice are allowed. If games develop on the courts prior to the Governor allowing them, we may have to remove the rims again. I recognize that other towns and possibly the schools have not removed their rims. While I understand the comparison, we can only control our own basketball courts and our Parks Department makes choices based upon guidance from Counsel and the Mayor, guidance from the State and County, as well as our Police Department.

Senior Outreach accepted recommendations for senior citizen residents who could use a care package, and also accepted care packages from donors to be delivered to the seniors. All seniors who ride the shuttle bus received a care package, as did all residents who were “nominated” through e-mail or a Facebook post. Thanks to everyone who delivered and assembled packages!

Finally, I was happy to cover the Economic Development Committee meeting the other night for Council President Blass who was attending a virtual graduation with his family. I was pleased, but not at all surprised, to see all of the great efforts they have taken to help support our business community in their return to “normal”.

Mayor Razze thanked all essential Borough employees who worked each day during the past twelve weeks of the stay-at-home order. He expressed his appreciation of their sacrifice and dedication to keeping Borough services ongoing during this time.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance No. 7, 2020 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Completion of Various Improvements to Alcyon Lake Park In and For the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey; Appropriating the Sum of \$500,000 Therefor; Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds of Bond Anticipation Notes of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey in the Aggregate Principal Amount of up to \$500,000 Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection With the Foregoing

Second Reading – Public Hearing

Motion: James

Second: Blass

Motion to open to the public: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Time: 8:21 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close public hearing: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Time: 8:21 p.m.

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

New Business

Ordinance No. 8, 2020 – Refunding Bond Ordinance Providing for the Refunding of the Borough’s Outstanding Callable General Obligation Bonds, Series 2009, Dated December 22, 2009; Authorizing the Issuance of up to \$4,900,000 of General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, to Finance the Costs Thereof; Making Certain Determinations and Covenants in Connection Therewith; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection With the Foregoing

First Reading – Final Adoption/Public Hearing July 13, 2020

Motion: James

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 95, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Refund of Real Estate Taxes – Lereta, LLC

Motion: James

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 96, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Refund of Real Estate Taxes – Wells Fargo

Motion: James

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 97, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Refund of Real Estate Taxes – CoreLogic, LLC

Motion: James

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 98, 2020 – 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; 2020 Clean Communities Program

Motion: James

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 99, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Form of Maintenance Guarantee Submitted for Approval for a Project by Katherine Andrews Affecting the Parcel Known as 300 Grandview Avenue, Block 88, Lot 4 on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman

Motion: James

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 100, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Claire Yeager as a Member of the Borough of Pitman Environmental Commission

Motion: Rudley

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 101, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Waiving Yard Sale Permit Fees for Local Residents as Related to the Town Wide Yard Sale on September 26, 2020

Motion: Rudley
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____

Second: Mazzola
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 102, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Refund of a Zoning Permit Application Fee Collected by the Borough of Pitman Construction Office

Motion: Fitzpatrick
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____

Second: Blass
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 103, 2020 – 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:
Contract Negotiations: Borough of Pitman and AFSCME NJ Council 63
Employee Use of Accumulated Sick and Vacation Days

Action may be taken upon returning to an open meeting.
Motion: Blass
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____

Second: Fitzpatrick
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 104, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Resolution No. 90, 2020 Authorizing Merryman’s Pub Use of Municipal Sidewalk and Parking Lot for the Serving of Food and Alcohol in Compliance With Their Retail Consumption License, and in Accordance With Executive Order No. 2020-150

Motion: Mazzola
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____

Second: Rudley
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Payment of Bills

Motion: James
Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razzo: _____

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Event Permit

Event: McCowan Memorial Library Summer Reading Program

Dates: 7/16, 7/23, 7/30, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/25

Time: 10:30 a.m. or 2:00 p.m.

Contact Person: Karen Richards

Location: Ballard Park

Attendance: Approximately 50 adults and children

Motion: Rudley

Second: Mazzola

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo: _____

**Approval is contingent upon conformance with the restrictions set in place by Governor Murphy as they pertain to the COVID-19 Pandemic guidelines at the time of the event.*

Event: Concert Style Musical

Date: June 27, 2020

Time: 5-8 p.m. or 6-9 p.m.

Contact Person: Jennifer Grasso

Location: Sunset Auditorium

Attendance: Approximately 20 for the production + audience of 30 or more

**This Event Permit Application was withdrawn from the agenda prior to this meeting. No action was taken by Council.*

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: James

Second: Blass

Time: 8:30 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close the public portion: Fitzpatrick

Second: Blass

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Closed Meeting

Motion to enter into a Closed Meeting: Blass

Second: James

Time: 8:31 p.m.

Motion to return to an Open Meeting: Rudley

Second: Weng

Time: 8:56 p.m.

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

open meeting.

Resolution No. 105, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending the Acceptance and Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Borough of Pitman and AFSCME NJ Council 63 and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Amended January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2024 Collective Bargaining Agreement

Motion: Blass

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo: _____

Resolution No. 106, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing and Permitting Borough of Pitman Public Works Secretary Joanne Seher the Use of Sick Time in Anticipation of Retirement From Employment With the Borough of Pitman, Gloucester County, New Jersey

Motion: Blass

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo: _____

Miscellaneous

Mayor Razzo suggested that at the Work Session meeting on July 13, 2020, sufficient time should be allotted for the discussion of departmental purchases using capital funding.

Adjournment

Motion: Weng

Second: Mazzola

Time: 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator