

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2021**

Call to Order

Time: 7:31 p.m.

Salute to the Flag/Invocation

Council President Blass

Open Public Meetings Act Statement - Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, I hereby announce that adequate notice of the time and date of this meeting was published in the South Jersey Times on January 7, 2021, posted on the Borough Hall front door, and advertised on the Borough of Pitman website continuously since January 7, 2021.

Roll Call

Council President Blass: Present
Councilwoman James: Present
Councilwoman Rudley: Present
Mayor Razze: Present
CFO Considine: Present

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Present
Councilman Mazzola: Present
Councilman Weng: Present
Borough Solicitor Krachun: Present
Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Approval of Minutes

Work Session as amended, Council Meeting, Closed Session Minutes of March 22, 2021

Motion: James

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

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

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

2021 Municipal Budget Introduction

Ordinance No. 2, 2021 – 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: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

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

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

Motion to Introduce 2021 Municipal Budget Ordinance

First Reading (Second Reading and Public Hearing; May 10, 2021 at 8:00 p.m.)

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

business hours.

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: No

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo _____

Council Reports

Councilman Adam Mazzola

Finance & Administration

At tonight's meeting Council will be submitting a budget that once again includes no municipal tax increase. With our residents continuing to face challenging circumstances due to the pandemic, keeping our taxes flat is a priority.

Work is scheduled to begin on the Adams, Seneca, and Glen Lake road restoration project at the end of April.

Bids were opened for the Tennis Court Rehabilitation Project and the Tuohy Avenue Project. The Tuohy Avenue Project will be awarded this evening by resolution. The Tennis Court Rehabilitation bids all came in over budget and will need to be revisited later.

The Borough was awarded a \$50,000.00 grant from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for ADA renovations to the Grove Auditorium. The Borough Engineer will be gathering information to begin the bidding process for that work.

A couple of reminders to Mayor & Council:

- Financial Disclosure Statements are due by April 30th. Administrator O'Donnell will be sending information this week via email. Completion of this statement is mandatory and is subject to a fine if it is not submitted.
- The TRICO JIF Elected Officials Training must be completed by May 1 for the Borough to receive a \$250.00 credit on the Borough's insurance premium for each person attending.

Board of Education

At the last Board of Education meeting the Superintendent of Schools notified the public that graduation ceremonies should be held outdoors on June 14 for Pitman High School Seniors, and on June 1 for the 8th grade moving up ceremony. These dates are a little earlier than on the published calendar because of unused snow days.

Clean Communities

As a reminder, Clean Communities projects are underway and if you are part of a non-profit organization in Pitman that would like to participate, please reach out to me.

Councilman Matt Weng

No report

Councilman John Fitzpatrick

Combined Planning and Zoning Board

The Combined Planning and Zoning Board has not met since the last meeting of Mayor and Council. The Board

will discuss the options afforded by the recently passed recreational marijuana legislation at their April meeting, and will make a recommendation to Borough Council.

Per the last report from the Code Enforcement Officer, there are twenty-five vacant homes in Pitman. The Construction Office collected \$7,518.00 in permit fees during the month of February, with sixty-two inspections performed in the same time frame.

Councilwoman Amy Rudley
Environmental Commission

The Environmental Commission met for its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, April 1.

The Earth Day Celebration is scheduled for this Saturday morning from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in Ballard Park. Please feel free to join us. If you would like to register, which would guarantee sufficient supplies for you, please find the Signup Genius link located on the Borough's Facebook page and website.

The Environmental Commission's Recycling Subcommittee is set to begin distribution of updated recycling information to Borough residents. In the meantime, strawberry containers and similar thin plastic containers are marked as a plastic #1, but they go in your trash, and not in your recycling tote.

Senior Outreach Committee

The Senior Outreach Committee will meet this Thursday via either telephone or Zoom at 5:00 p.m. If you'd like to join us, please email, or call me and I will make sure you are included.

Town Wide Yard Sale

The Spring Yard Sale is planned for June 5, 2021. If you would like to register and are having difficulty finding where to register, please call or email me. Registering for the Borough-wide yard sale allows you to hold a yard sale without the necessity of the Borough permit process. Additionally, it does not count toward your two yard sale per year limit.

Memorabilia Committee

The Memorabilia Committee met on Tuesday, April 6 at the Grove Auditorium. Discussion centered on the August 7, 2021 celebration in town of the 150th Anniversary of the first Camp Meeting. If you would like to become involved in the planning of this historic event, please contact me.

Miss Pitman Pageant

The Miss Pitman Pageant Committee is working to creatively put together a pageant this year. There are already several contestants, and they are looking for just a few more. Please contact the Pageant Committee at pitmanpageant@gmail.com if you are interested in participating. You can also contact them via their Facebook and Instagram pages.

Glassboro-Camden Rail Line

Since our last meeting, I have asked our TRICO JIF Liaison, Mayor Razze, to request a quote from the JIF regarding the insurance costs associated with a Quiet Zone designation. In turn, the JIF has requested a sample policy regarding the transfer of liability in a Quiet Zone. I have requested such a sample policy from the DRPA and await their response.

I have also contacted the Council President or Deputy Mayor for each of the towns along the River Line for feedback regarding their biggest issues (good and bad) from the River Line. I will report back with a summary of

their responses once I receive them. Palmyra was very quick to offer their help and to have their Public Safety Committee assemble some statistics for us. They did advise that someone else contacted them on behalf of the Borough of Pitman with questions. They did not yet elaborate, and I do not know who is doing this.

Should you ever want to reach me, please feel free to email me at amy.rudley@pitman.org or call my cell at 609-214-6342. Have a wonderful night and be safe.

Council President Paul Blass

Historic Preservation Commission

The Historic Preservation Commission met via Zoom on April 8. Five applications were reviewed, relating to a roof, windows, siding, and fencing. There was some discussion involving options, but all applications were unanimously approved.

Public Works

Since our last meeting, the Highway Department

- Collected eighteen loads of trash
- Collected nine loads of recyclables
- Collected twelve truckloads of bulk trash
- Collected 118 yards of brush
- Spent four hours grinding leaves and brush for mulch
- Spent three hours patching and repairing potholes and sink holes
- Ran the street sweeper for two hours
- Delivered fifty-three yards of mulch to residents
- Painted lines and curbs in Borough parking lots
- Fixed and cleaned the picnic benches that the uptown businesses are using in Ballard Park

Monthly totals for March:

- 303.68 tons of trash to Wheelabrator at a cost of \$23,337.81
- 59.27 tons of trash to the county landfill at a cost of \$4,573.87
- 93.92 tons of single stream recycling at a cost of \$5,929.47
- 2.87 tons of metal which earned the Borough \$488.30

Over the past two weeks, Mr. Rodi along with some help from Josh Hitchner and Dare Euler of the Environmental Commission, have been spot inspecting recycling cans. The feeling so far is that most residents are doing their best to correctly recycle. Pizza boxes, food containers, and plastic bags are the typical culprits being recycled that shouldn't be. Please remember that when there are plastic bags in the recycling, the Borough is fined \$50.00 per truck. Last month, for example, we were fined a total of \$750.00 over the cost of what the Borough pays in disposal fees. The mantra from Public Works is, "When in doubt, throw it out." Unfortunately, there are some people who do not care, or they choose to use the recycling bin as another trash can. They found cigarette butts, used tissues, plastic hangers, a fishing pole, Christmas lights, and electric wire in just a few of the recycling totes.

I had a resident notify me of the following:

"My neighbor two houses down cleaned leaves from their lawn and flower bed this weekend, putting a rather large pile of leaves in front of their house. Unfortunately, they also parked cars on the street adjacent to the leaf pile presenting a problem for leaf pick up.

The easy thing would be for the Public Works employee to drive past the leaf pile and circle back if time permitted, and if he remembered. However, the employee decided to tackle the problem right away. He positioned the vacuum in such a way to allow him to rake, yes rake, the entire pile of wet leaves into the vacuum. It took him a good twenty minutes or more to do this, but he accomplished the task in what I would call a very professional manner, leaving the street clean. My thanks to this employee for his efforts, and his actions speak to the professional work ethic and attitude of our staff at Public Works.”

Councilwoman Vanessa James

2021 Liaison: Parks & Recreation, Public Events, Library Board, Chamber of Commerce, Task Force on Diversity & Inclusion

Parks & Recreation

Thank you to everyone who attended the Egg Scramble on Saturday, March 27. We had over 150 kids participate! Also, thanks to our Parks & Recreation Director Andy Fox for his assistance, and a big thanks to all the volunteers who assisted with the event. I am very pleased to report that the Parks & Recreation Department is going forward with Youth Week this year which will take place during the first week of May. Stayed tuned for the list of events!

Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce will meet for their monthly meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m. Please continue to support our local business by shopping and dining locally.

Task Force on Diversity & Inclusion

The Task Force on Diversity & Inclusion will hold its monthly meeting via Zoom on Thursday, April 22. The link for the meeting can be found on the Borough’s website under the *Virtual Meetings* tab.

McCowan Memorial Library

During the month of March 3,152 people visited the McCowan Memorial Library and there were 151 internet users. There were two live children’s programs with a combined attendance of thirty people. There were twenty virtual programs with a reach of 3,544. There were five craft videos, and 115 craft kits distributed.

As always, I am available to answer any questions or concerns via email at vanessa.james@pitman.org or by phone at 336-407-8604.

New Business

Resolution No. 54, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Requesting Permission for the Dedication by Rider for Abandoned Property Maintenance Emergency Demolition Fund N.J.S.A. 40:48-2.5b

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Rudley

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. 55, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Refund of Recording Fees

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Razze _____

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 56, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Refund of Real Estate Taxes

Motion: Mazzola

Second: James

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. 57, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the 2021 Sustainable Jersey Grant Application

Motion: Blass

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. 58, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Contract for a 2021 Model Year Ford F350 XL 4X4 Pickup with Plow Package for the Pitman Public Works Department to Winner Ford, Cherry Hill, NJ Pursuant to New Jersey State Contract

Motion: Mazzola

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. 59, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding One (1) Plenary Retail Consumption License to Advance Pitman Investment Group, LLC

Motion: Mazzola

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. 60, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Contract for “FY 2020 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program Reconstruction of Tuohy Avenue” Project to Lexa Concrete, LLC (Mazzola)

Motion: Mazzola

Second: James

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. 61, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Waiving Application Fees Related to the Acquisition of a 200-Foot Property Owner List for the Chestnut Branch Stream Bank Stabilization Project in the Borough of Pitman

Motion: Mazzola

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. 62, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Designating April 17, 2021 as Earth Day and Arbor Day in the Borough of Pitman

Motion: Blass

Second: Rudley

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. 63, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending the Contract With Schaefer Fireworks, Inc. for a Fourth of July Fireworks Display to be Held on July 5, 2021 with a Rain Date of July 10, 2021

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. 64, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Accepting the Proposal Submitted by Federici & Akin, P.A., Jonathan Bryson, PE, CME, to Act as the Borough of Pitman, Gloucester County, New Jersey Representative for the Alcyon Lake Bank Stabilization/Restoration Project

Motion: Rudley

Second: Fitzpatrick

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. 65, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Accepting the Proposal Submitted by Federici & Akin, P.A., Jonathan Bryson, PE, CME, to Act as the Borough of Pitman, Gloucester County, New Jersey Representative for the 2020 CDBG “Installation of ADA Parking and Access Upgrades for the Grove Auditorium” Project

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 _____

Payment of Bills

Motion: Mazzola

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Abstains to # 40356 and # 16601; approves all other items on list

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze _____

Event Permit Applications

Event: Amendment and Signage Application

Event Permit Approved on February 8, 2021 for May 22, 2021

Wellness Day to Support Mental Health Community Outreach

Date: October 10, 2021

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Sunset Auditorium

Sponsor: Philly Metro Activism Network; Emily Crowley

Motion: James

Second: Mazzola

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze _____

Event Permit Application is approved contingent upon a Certificate of Liability Insurance being provided to the Borough of Pitman naming the Borough as Additional Insured.

Event: Comedy Show Series*

Date: April 24, May 8, May 15, May 21, 2021

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Sunset Auditorium

Sponsor: Pitman Revitalization Corp.; Benjamin Leis

Motion: James

Second: Mazzola

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Abstain

Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze _____
**Accepted as presented*

Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Event: Church Services

Date: March 14 – September 26, 2021
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Location: Sunset Auditorium
Sponsor: Joy Community Fellowship
Motion: James
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze _____

Second: Weng

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

Event: Live Music

Date: April – October; Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
Time: See Event Permit
Location: 9 S. Broadway, alcove, and front sidewalk
Sponsor: Crave Pitman, LLC
Motion: James
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze _____

Second: Weng

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

Event: Children’s Concert (Youth Week Event)

Date: May 5, 2021
Time: 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Location: Ballard Park
Sponsor: McCowan Memorial Library; Karen Richards
Motion: James
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

Event: Tree Planting

Date: April 24, 2021
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Location: Pitman Historical Museum
Sponsor: Pitman Environmental Commission; Josh Hitchner
Motion: James

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Razze _____

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Event: Live Music

Date: April 14, 2021 – October 3, 2021

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. (W, Th, Sun.) 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. (F, Sat.)

Location: Ballard Park (As designated in Resolution No. 49, 2021)

Sponsor: Merryman’s Pub; Bill Merryman

Motion: James

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Razze _____

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley said that the residents of First Avenue are glad for the change in location of the entertainment, but some are still worried about the noise level. Councilman Weng said that the volume of the sound should not be audible more than fifty feet from the property where it is coming from, and that the appropriate noise level is determined by the judgment/assessment of the Police Department.

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Mazzola

Second: Rudley

Time: 8:17 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close the public portion: James

Second: Weng

Time: 8:18 p.m.

Miscellaneous

Councilwoman Rudley asked members of Council if they knew who else had reached out to the towns located along the River Line for information on the commuter line. Councilman Fitzpatrick said that he had spoken to several municipalities and would be glad to share the information he had gathered with Councilwoman Rudley.

Adjournment

Motion: Blass

Second: James

Time: 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O’Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator

