

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 22, 2021**

**Call to Order**

Time: 7:55 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: Absent  
Councilwoman Rudley: Present  
Mayor Razzo: Present  
Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Present  
Councilman Mazzola: Present  
Councilman Weng: Joined meeting at 8:25 p.m.  
Borough Solicitor Krachun: Present

**Approval of Minutes**

Work Session, and Council Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2021

Motion: Fitzpatrick

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman James: Absent  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Razzo \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Council Reports**

**Councilwoman Rudley**

**Environmental Commission**

The Environmental Commission has not met since our last meeting but will meet via Zoom for the monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 4. Please see the Borough's website for the Zoom link. The Recycling Subcommittee will meet on Wednesday, March 3, also via Zoom.

Someone has been breaking off the small trees planted by the Environmental Commission around town. If you have any information regarding this destruction of public property, please contact the Pitman Police Department.

**Senior Outreach Committee**

The Senior Outreach members remain engaged in finding new ways to reach our Pitman senior citizens. In the last month, they have reached out to local Senior Centers to see if anyone is offering any services that may benefit our Seniors, as well. Currently, Glassboro is offering Zumba via Zoom and our Seniors are welcome to participate.

We are working on compiling a list of local discounts for Seniors and will make that information available, as well as the very comprehensive national list compiled by the AARP, after our March meeting. If you are aware of a local "Senior Discount," please let me know so we can be sure that they are included on the list!

Please feel free to contact me if you ever need my assistance. I can be reached on my cell phone at 609-214-6342 or via e-mail at amy.rudley@pitman.org. In the meantime, stay safe and be well. Thank you.

#### Councilman Fitzpatrick

##### **Combined Planning and Zoning Board**

Last month the Zoning Officer issued four permits and inspected five properties for possible violations. We had a Zoom call about the former Sony property on February 11 with the owner of the property, his attorney, the Crispin Group, me, Mayor Razzo, Chairman Aspras and Administrator O'Donnell. The owner of the property was informed about the light rail and the liquor license for sale in Pitman. He said with COVID-19, his business has been crazy, and he needs more space for his production company. He may possibly begin filming shows in Pitman. He also said he would look at the plans again from the Crispin Group and get back to them.

#### Councilman Mazzola

I would like to extend a formal thank you to the Borough office personnel who have continued to work and support the residents of Pitman through the pandemic and now through one of our snowier winters in quite some time. These essential workers continue to keep our town running and I am thankful for their efforts and dedication.

#### **Administration:**

1. The Aid to Firefighters Grant Application has been submitted to FEMA.
2. The first publication of the *Notice to Bidders of the Plenary Retail Consumption License to be Sold by the Borough* was advertised on February 12. The second notice was advertised on February 19. A copy of the Notice can be obtained at Borough Hall and is available on the Borough's website. Qualification packages are due to the Borough Clerk on February 26 at 10:00 am. No Qualification packets will be accepted after that time, and submission of a packet is required from all prospective bidders.
3. The TRICO JIF has announced that for the foreseeable future, all training seminars will be held virtually. This includes:
  - Training for Safety and Wellness Coordinators on March 3.
  - The Elected Officials Training Program to be completed by Mayor Razzo and all members of Council by May 1.
  - Anti-harassment training for non-supervisory employees should be completed by June 1. Department Supervisors will be provided with the link to the course.
  - The first meeting of the Borough's Safety Committee will be held on March 3. The meeting forum will be determined as the date gets closer.
4. As the COVID guidelines for gatherings are relaxed, the Pitman Municipal Alliance looks forward to sponsoring some events for outreach to the community to promote awareness of the abuse of drugs and alcohol, as well as anti-bullying initiatives. The Alliance also sponsors events to provide alternative activities for at-risk individuals in the community. The Pitman Alliance is funded through the Gloucester County Municipal Alliance with funds granted by the New Jersey Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

Council President Blass

**Economic Development Committee**

The Economic Development Committee met via Zoom on February 18. Much of the discussion was directed at an examination of the group's purpose based on Borough ordinances and refocusing back on those expectations. Plans are in the works to meet with representatives of other committees to help streamline efforts at making Pitman work better for its businesses.

**Historic Preservation Commission**

The Historic Preservation Committee met via Zoom on February 11. Three applications were reviewed involving a roof, doors, and fence. All were approved. The application involving the doors really demonstrated the type of service the members try to provide. There were a few questions involving the doors, but the applicant was not present. Chairman Madison called the applicant and held the phone up for all to hear. This way the situation could be resolved and not have to wait until the next meeting in a month.

**Public Works**

I must once again thank our Public Works Department for their dedication and hard work during the latest winter storms. The crews spent approximately 120 hours dealing with winter weather.

Since our last meeting, the Highway Department

- Collected eleven loads of trash totaling 111.91 tons
- Collected twelve loads of recyclables totaling 47.87 tons
- Collected ten yards of brush
- Collected eight truckloads of bulk trash
- Spent five hours patching and repairing potholes and sink holes
- Delivered one new trash can and one recycling can to residents

The Water and Sewer Department

- Performed sixteen water and sewer mark out requests
- Plunged out five sewer stoppages
- Performed routine well work (painting, cleaning, etc.)
- Collected water samples for testing
- Read ten meters for real estate settlements
- Replaced one meter body
- Opened the water tower for AT&T antenna upgrades
- Performed one data logger report (both daily and hourly) from the flow report, prior to billing
- Checked a water leak inside a vacant house and determined it was from broken pipes

Councilman Weng

**Police Department**

The Pitman Police Department is in the process of preparing for recertification training for CPR. Special Officer/Medic Tom McEvoy will be setting up and assisting with this specialized training.

Chief McAteer has been accepted into a Certificate Program on Diversity & Inclusion at Cornell University. Classes will begin in the next few months.

**Unfinished Business**

**Ordinance No. 1, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Repealing and Replacing Chapter 26, Stormwater Management, of the**

**Code of the Borough of Pitman**

Second Reading - Final Adoption

Motion: Blass

Second: Mazzola

Motion to open to the public: Blass

Second: Mazzola

Time: 8:07 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close public portion: Blass

Second: Mazzola

Time: 8:07 p.m.

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Absent

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Absent

Mayor Razze \_\_\_\_\_

**New Business**

**Resolution No. 41, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Deletion of a Bus Stop, and the Addition of a Bus Stop on Broadway (Rt. 553 Alt.)**

Motion: Rudley

Second: Mazzola

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Absent

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Absent

Mayor Razze \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution No. 42, 2021 – 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 the Performance of Board-up Services for 102-104 Second Avenue, Block 11 Lot 7 on the Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman**

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Absent

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Absent

Mayor Razze \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution No. 43, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Refund of an Overcharge Amount for a Planning and Zoning Board Application; Signage Permit Collected by the Borough of Pitman Construction Office**

Motion: Fitzpatrick

Second: Mazzola

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Absent

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Absent

Mayor Razze \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution No. 44, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Execution of the 2021 TRICO JIF Safety Contract and Supporting the Implementation of Provisions Therein for the Workplace Practices of the Borough of Pitman**

Motion: Mazzola  
Roll Call:  
Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman James: Absent  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Razze \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Resolution No. 45, 2021 – 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:

**Real Estate Transactions**

Action may be taken upon returning to an open meeting.

Motion: Rudley  
Roll Call:  
Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman James: Absent  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Razze \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Payment of Bills**

Motion: Mazzola  
Roll Call:  
Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman James: Absent  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Razze \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Signage Application**

**Event:** Wellness Day to Support Mental Health (Event Permit application approved on 2/8/21)

**Date:** Saturday, May 22, 2021

**Time:** 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Sign Placement Dates:** April 24, 2021 – May 23, 2021

**Locations:** Sunset Auditorium, Ballard & other Borough parks

**Contact Person:** Emily Crowley

Motion: Rudley  
Roll Call:  
Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman James: Absent  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Razze \_\_\_\_\_

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

***Application was approved contingent upon the applicant agreeing to place only one sign in each location.***

**Public Portion**

Motion to open to the public: Mazzola  
Time: 8:20 p.m.

Second: Rudley

**Jim Pierpont, 23 Crafton Avenue** – Mr. Pierpont stated that there are ordinances in place against leaving portable basketball nets along the side of the roadways in Pitman. He suggested that removal of the nets when not in use should be enforced. Mr. Pierpont also stated that the Borough’s Economic Development Committee should be aware that the sale of marijuana for recreational use was approved today by Governor Murphy. He suggested that the Borough should get on board to fill a vacant property, such as the former Wawa site, or should have its’ own store. He shared that a municipality in Washington State runs its’ own dispensary and uses the funds to pay for education and recreational activities.

Motion to close the public portion: Blass  
Time: 8:25

Second: Rudley

8:25 p.m. – At this time Councilman Weng joined the meeting and read his Council Report. The report can be found above, on page three of these Minutes.

**Closed Meeting**

Motion to enter a closed meeting: Rudley  
Time: 8:27 p.m.

Second: Weng

Motion to return to an open meeting: Weng  
Time: 8:47 p.m.

Second: Rudley

No action was taken upon returning to an open meeting as a result of discussion in the closed meeting.

**Adjournment**

Motion: Blass  
Time: 8:48 p.m.

Second: Mazzola

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O’Donnell  
Borough Clerk/Administrator

