

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

Call to Order

Time: 8:05 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 Razzo: Present
Clerk O'Donnell: Present

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

Special Presentation

Mayor Razzo presented a prize check to the newly crowned Miss Pitman, Emma Rentzel.

Approval of Minutes

Work Session and Council Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2021

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

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

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

Council Reports

Councilwoman Amy E. Rudley

Miss Pitman Pageant

The Miss Pitman Pageant was a wonderful event. Congratulations too all the participants, including Miss Pitman 2021 Emma Rentzel, First Runner Up Evelyn "Grace" Hulitt, and Miss Congeniality Ashlyne Quinn.

Environmental Commission

The Environmental Commission has not met since our last Council meeting, however, an enormous group of volunteers to plant Milkweed and Black Eyed Susan's at Alcyon Lake Park met in the area immediately below the overlook. A project which could have easily taken three hours took only one due

to the great response. Getting water to this area and ensuring care while the plants root is going to be incredibly important.

Public Property

Administrator O'Donnell and I had a very fruitful meeting with former Councilman Pierpont on behalf of the VFW regarding the possibility of using their property for various Borough purposes. The members of the VFW want to become a resource for the community in accordance with their mission statement. Additionally, there was some discussion of a possible partnership or even acquisition of the property by the Borough in the future.

Senior Outreach Committee

The Senior Outreach Committee has not met since our last Council meeting. Our next regular meeting date would be this coming Thursday, July 15. If a few of the members are available, we will meet. However, with vacations it is possible it will be cancelled. If you were interested in attending and want to be advised if it is cancelled, please let me know.

Finally, thank you to Mayor Razze and the Parade Committee for the fabulous job with the Fourth of July Parade and Fireworks. The Fourth of July festivities were great this year and especially appreciated.

Should anyone need to reach me, please feel free to call my cell at 609-214-6342 or by e-mail at amy.rudley@pitman.org. Have a safe and wonderful night.

Councilman Matthew Weng

Pitman Police Department

The Fourth of July festivities went off without a hitch from a Police Department perspective. The PPD would like to congratulate and thank Mayor & Council, the Parade Committee, Parks & Recreation, and everyone else involved with the festivities, for a job well done.

The Pitman Fishing League partnership with Parks & Recreation has been very rewarding and successful. The PPD has received much positive feedback for their participation in the event. There is still one more night of fishing, but we thank Councilwoman James and Recreation Director Fox for including the Police Department in this event.

Council President Paul Blass

Historic Preservation Commission

The Historic Preservation Commission did not meet because there were no applications.

Public Works

Monthly totals for June:

245.28 tons of trash to Wheelabrator at a cost of \$18,849.75
142.94 tons of trash to the county landfill at a cost of \$11,030.68

Recycling totals for June:

88.86 tons of single stream recycling at a cost of \$1,989.19
4.14 tons of metal to Sims Metal
0.8 tons of e-waste recycled
88 cubic yards of mulch and brush hauled to various locations for disposal

14 cubic yards of mulch delivered to residents

Public Works employees have been exceptionally busy the past few days. Since last Friday there have been several water leaks including on Lambs Road, Roosevelt Avenue, Michaels Lane, and East Holly Avenue.

Public Works employees responded to a leak in the roof of the library and today a crew removed graffiti that had been painted over the weekend.

We would like to remind everyone to, if possible, please mulch their lawn clippings. If grass must be collected, please put it into the black trash tote. Brush or twigs can be piled or put in an open container for collection. We are trying to solve two problems: (1) because of possible residual pesticides, grass should not be put into the mulch and (2) grass can jam the grinder. This week the grinder jammed, and we are awaiting its repair.

Councilwoman Vanessa E. James

2021 Liaison: Parks & Recreation, Public Events, Library Board, Great Pitman Chamber of Commerce

Pitman Fourth of July

Thanks to all the volunteers and Borough employees for a wonderful Independence Day Celebration!

Parks & Recreation

Micro-Mini Soccer Registration is now live on the Borough Website under the Parks & Recreation tab. https://www.pitman.org/departments/parks_recreation/programs/fall.php

Glen Lake Issues

Our Parks and Recreation Department received a reply from the New Jersey Department of Environment Protection regarding the dead fish at Glen Lake in June. The DEP believes that the most likely cause of death was low dissolved oxygen in the lake. We have not received any further reports of fish dying. If there are additional deaths reported, the Office of Fish & Wildlife Health & Forensics would investigate further to determine a possible cause.

Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce

Pop-Up Park Thursdays continue this week at Ballard Park from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Laurel Market Pitman is open every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Sunset Auditorium. The next GPCC meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 20 at 7:00 p.m. Location to be determined.

McCowan Memorial Library

During the month of May 2021, 3,049 people visited McCowan Memorial Library and there were 97 internet users. There were 16 live children's programs with a combined attendance of 260 people. There were two virtual programs with a reach of 235.

During the month of June 2021, 3,356 people visited McCowan Memorial Library and there were 111 internet users. There were 20 live children's programs with a combined attendance of 231 people. There were three virtual programs with a reach of 445.

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.

Councilman John Fitzpatrick

Combined Planning and Zoning Board

The Combined Planning and Zoning Board has not met since our last Council meeting. The next Planning and Zoning Board meeting is scheduled for July 19 at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend. During the month of May fees collected for Planning and Zoning Board applications totaled \$690.00.

Mayor Razze, Administrator O'Donnell, P/Z Board Chairman Aspras and I had a Zoom meeting on July 1, 2021, with Tony Argento, owner of the former Sony Property, Gina Argento, and his attorney Anthony Fong. We are keeping lines of communication open with them to try to get the property more utilized going forward.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance No. 5, 2021 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Ordinance No. 1, 2021 Repealing and Replacing Chapter 26, Stormwater Management of the Code of the Borough of Pitman

Public Hearing - Final Adoption

Motion: Blass

Second: James

Motion to open to the public: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Time: 8:17 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close public portion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Time: 8:17 p.m.

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

New Business

Ordinance No. 7, 2021 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Readopting and Amending Ordinance No. 26, 2011 Providing for the Implementation in the Borough of Pitman of the “Five Year Tax Exemption and Abatement Law” Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:21-1 ET SEQ.

First Reading – Second Reading and Public Hearing: July 26, 2021

Motion: Blass

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Abstain

Councilman Weng: Absent

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 95, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Release of Premium Bond Money

Motion: Blass

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 96, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Payment No. 2 to the Contract With Paving Plus, LLC for the FY 2019 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program Grant Resurfacing of Glen Lake Avenue, Seneca Avenue, and Adams Avenue Project

Motion: Blass

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 97, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Execution of a Contract Renewing Membership in the Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland Counties Municipal Joint Insurance Fund

Motion: Blass

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 98, 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 Property Maintenance – 202 Embury Avenue

Motion: Blass

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 99, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Release of the Maintenance Guarantee Provided by Jose Ruiz for a Project Affecting a Parcel Known as 65 Woodlynne Avenue, Block 134 Lot 17 on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

Motion: Blass

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo: _____

Resolution No. 100, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing a Refund of Water and Sewer Charges to 508 Canterbury Avenue, Block 208 Lot 11

Motion: Blass

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo: _____

Resolution No. 101, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving an Extension for a BYOB Outdoor Seating to Milkweed Market at 134 S. Broadway

Motion: Blass

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo: _____

Payment of Bills

Motion: Blass

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo: _____

Event Permit Applications

Event: Yoga Class with Vendors

Date and Time: August 17, 2021; 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Sunset Auditorium

Sponsor: Meghan Loomis

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Abstain

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo: _____

Approved pending the submission of a signed Facilities Use Agreement

Event: Back the Blue, Back to School Event

Date and Time: August 19, 2021; 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: McBurney Field

Sponsor: Courtney Milward

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Raze: _____

Event: Meet the New Neighbors Picnic Block Party

Date and Time: August 21, 2021; All day

Location: Lexington Avenue, between Broadway & Oakcrest

Sponsor: Carol Fox

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Raze: _____

Event: Music Show

Date and Time: August 21, 2021; 5:00 p.m.

Location: Sunset Auditorium

Sponsor: Guinevere Phillip

Postponed until the meeting of July 26, 2021

Event: Food Truck Festival

Date and Time: November 6, 2021; 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Broadway, Pitman, and Ballard Avenues

Sponsor: Pitman Police Department; Cpl. Parker, Sgt. Leach

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Raze: _____

Raffle License Applications

Organization: Knights of Columbus #6247; Our Lady Queen of Peace Council

Date and Time: December 2, 2021, 8:00 p.m.

Location: 161 Pitman Avenue

Types of Raffles: Off Premises: 50/50

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Rudley

Second: Weng

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Courtney Milward, 129 Woodlyne Avenue - Ms. Milward asked the Borough Solicitor which towns he contacted for his research on ordinances pertaining to guidelines for hanging banners. Mr. Krachun replied that he informally reached out to Woodbury and Glassboro because they both put their own banners up, and he asked generally about the policies of Westville Grove and West Deptford.

Ms. Milward asked Councilman Weng which Committee would have permission to hang banners on the light posts, and Councilman Weng replied that any Committee, Commission, or group created by the Borough would have to fill out an application which can be found on the Borough's website.

Jim Fortney, 502 Carew Avenue – Mr. Fortney stated that in his opinion not much thought went into the creation of the Backyard Chicken Pilot Program and that he does not agree with it. He said that chickens are noisy and asked what constitutes suitable fencing. He said that without proper fencing it will be hard to keep the chickens in the yard. Councilman Fitzpatrick said that a suitable fence would be one that can contain the chickens within their area and that the chickens are only permitted to run free if someone over the age of 18 years is present.

Mr. Fortney distributed literature to Mayor and Council and reviewed the facts on the proper disposal of chicken manure, saying that it is “a headache”. He also said that the presence of chickens brings predators to the area such as hawks, eagles, skunks, weasels, and fox.

Councilman Fitzpatrick reminded Mr. Fortney that the Backyard Chicken Program is a pilot program, and that anyone who wants to have chickens must complete a class and have a predator proof enclosure.

Amanda Melchiorre, 502 Florence Avenue – Ms. Melchiorre asked what the guidelines are for signs and banners. Mayor Razze said that at this time there are no guidelines, that there has been a process in the past of using Event Permits for signs and banners. Councilwoman Rudley said that there will be discussion among members of Council to create guidelines.

Barry Owen, 508 Pitman Avenue - Mr. Owen said that he appreciates the great job that is done by Public Works. He suggested that a letter go out to residents stating that an estimated bill is being sent when they are unable to get a meter reading at the time of billing.

Mr. Owen stated that before the Santa Parade in December Council should amend the ordinance or regulations that determine what amount vendors are charged for a Vendor Permit. He said that as a long-time parade participant he has seen where the vendors are often in the way of the marchers and that he

