

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 14, 2021**

Call to Order

Time: 8:10 p.m.

Salute to the Flag/Invocation

Mayor Razze

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: Absent

Councilwoman James: Present

Councilwoman Rudley: Present

Mayor Razze: Present

Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Present

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilman Weng: Present

Borough Solicitor Krachun: Present

Approval of Minutes

Work Session, Council Meeting and Closed Council Meeting Minutes of May 24, 2021

Motion: Weng

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Absent

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Council Reports

Councilman Fitzpatrick

No report

Councilwoman James

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

Parks & Recreation

Summer programs for the Parks & Recreation Department are now live on the Borough Website under the Parks & Recreation tab.

https://www.pitman.org/departments/parks_recreation/programs/summer.php

You may also register for the 2021 Freedom Four Miler on the Borough's website. In-person and virtual running options are available! The race is scheduled for Monday, July 5, 2021. Sign-up here! <https://runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Pitman/PitmanFreedomFourMilerRun>

Glen Lake Issues

On or about June 1, 2021, a concerned resident contacted me about numerous dead fish in Glen Lake. Our Parks & Recreation Department employees removed the fish and notified the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. The Parks & Recreation Department is continuing to monitor the situation and to reach out to the NJ DEP for a response. We will keep Mayor & Council advised of the situation as it evolves.

Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce

The June meeting of the GPCC will take place tomorrow, June 15, via Zoom. Pop-Up Park Thursday's start 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.

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

Council President Blass

Public Works

Monthly totals for May:

Solid Waste:

133.41 tons of trash to Wheelabrator at a cost of \$10,252.55

192.21 tons of trash to Gloucester County Landfill at a cost of \$14,832.85

Recycling:

78.14 tons of single stream recycling at a cost of \$3,451.31

1.66 tons of metal to Sims Metal; the Borough received \$355.30

1.23 tons of E-waste recycled; the Borough received \$28.88

180 cubic yards of mulch and brush hauled to various places

46 cubic yards of mulch delivered to residents

Councilman Weng

Pitman Police Department

The entire Pitman Police Department recently completed Active Shooter Training. The training was held at Walls School on the evenings of June 1 and June 2.

Director Weng and Chief McAteer are very happy to announce that the Police Department was recently notified that it has been awarded \$44,836.00 in a reimbursement grant from the State of New Jersey for twenty-two Body Worn Cameras that had been previously purchased. The grant will be paid out over a period of several years.

The Pitman Police Department continues to progress in the New Jersey State Accreditation process. The Accreditation Officer, Sgt. Andrew Carson, recently participated in a tutorial and training session held at the Woodbury Police Department. These sessions allow the PPD to stay current with the requirements for accreditation.

Councilwoman Rudley

Environmental Commission

The Environmental Commission met for its usual meeting on Thursday, June 3, 2021. They discussed ongoing projects, such as a butterfly garden at Alcyon Park, as well as a possible nature camp for local children to take place one week this summer.

Senior Outreach Committee

The Senior Outreach Committee has not met since our last Council meeting on May 24, 2021 . We will not be holding our regularly scheduled June meeting due to the scheduled June 24, 2021, Pop-up Park for Seniors event. This will be a hybrid event of the Senior Outreach Fair, prior years’ Senior Pop-up Parks, and generally a chance for our Seniors to get to see one another after such a long year! Please share this information with any Senior Citizen residents of Pitman that we will be in Ballard Park from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on June 24 with entertainment, snacks, and activities for our Seniors.

Miss Pitman Pageant

The Miss Pitman Pageant is scheduled to take place on Friday, July 2. The location is to be determined, as we are hopeful that we can use the Pitman High School Auditorium due to the recent relaxation of COVID restrictions in the State. If we are unable to use the PHS Auditorium, the backup location will be Sunset Auditorium and an Event Permit will be presented at the next Council meeting.

Public Property

Councilwoman James will be addressing the recent death of several fish at Glen Lake, in her role as Council Liaison to Parks and Recreation. I am hopeful that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection can give us some guidance as we explore how to prevent future deaths of this type.

Memorabilia Commission

The Memorabilia Commission met for its regular meeting on June 1, 2021 and discussed the ongoing plans for the 150th Anniversary Celebration of the first Pitman Camp Meeting. The celebration will be held on August 7, 2021. All hands are on deck for this event.

Please feel free to reach out to me anytime with any questions or comments on my cell at 609-214-6342 or my e-mail at amy.rudley@pitman.org. Stay safe.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance No. 3, 2021 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing an Agreement for Tax Exemption with Steven and Tiffany Weis For a Property Commonly Known as 140 West Avenue and Identified on the Municipal Tax Map as Block 188 Lot 13

Second Reading - Public Hearing

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Motion to open to the public: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Time: 8:19 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close public portion: James
Time: 8:19 p.m.

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

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

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

Ordinance No. 4, 2021 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 5, Animal Control, of the Code Book of the Borough of Pitman to Add a Section to be Entitled, Backyard Chicken Pilot Program

Second Reading - Public Hearing

Motion: Fitzpatrick

Second: James

Motion to open to the public: Fitzpatrick
Time: 8:21 p.m.

Second: James

No public comment.

Motion to close public portion: Fitzpatrick
Time: 8:21 p.m.

Second: James

The vote for final adoption was tabled until the Formal Meeting on June 28, 2021, at 8:00 p.m.

Resolution No. 80, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Payment No. 1 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: Rudley

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

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

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

Resolution No. 81, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing an Application to the County of Gloucester for Participation in the 2021 Community Development Block Grant Program

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

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

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

Resolution No. 82, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Participation with the State of New Jersey Federal Grant Program Administered by the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety

Motion: Weng

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Absent

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 83, 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 – 185 Northwest Avenue

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Absent

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 84, 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 – 759 N. Broadway

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Absent

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 85, 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:

Personnel Employment – Change in Classification

Action may be taken upon returning to an open meeting.

Motion: Weng

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Absent

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 86, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey to Approve a Grant Application and to Execute a Grant Contract with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Reconstruction of Lakeside

Avenue in its Entirety Project

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Absent

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 87, 2021 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Execution of a Shared Service Agreement with the County of Gloucester to Provide Entertainment at Sunset Auditorium.

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Absent

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Payment of Bills

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Absent

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Abstains to # 50144, votes to approve all other items on payment list

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Event Permit Applications

Event: 40th Annual Pitman Freedom 4 Miler

Date and Time: July 5, 2021; 8:45 a.m.

Location: Set route through Pitman

Sponsor: Pitman Recreation Department; Andy Fox

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Absent

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Event: Plant a Butterfly Garden

Date and Time: July 10, 2021; 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: Alcyon Lake Park

Sponsor: Pitman Environmental Commission; Bob Holwitt

Motion: James

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Absent

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Abstain

Mayor Razze: _____

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Weng

Second: Fitzpatrick

Time: 8:31 p.m.

Robert Cornely, 16 Kenton Avenue – Mr. Cornely, speaking of the Pride flags along Broadway, said that they create division in the community, and that the group that hung them are using the Downtown to selectively advertise a political message. Mr. Cornely said that he is not against people displaying the Pride flags on their own property but is against using public property to project a selective message. He said that a more unifying message should be promoted by the Borough.

Patrick Rumaker, 41 Simpson Avenue – Mr. Rumaker said that he applauds the Rainbow flags along Broadway, and thanked Council for approving them in a bipartisan fashion. He stated that members of the LGBTQ community have lived in Pitman since it was founded but were silent about who they were. He said that the flags celebrate freedom and send a message that shows that Pitman likes everybody.

Jim Fortney, 502 Carew Avenue – Mr. Fortney said that with the lifting of the Governor’s Executive Order on gatherings, the tables and chairs along Broadway for outside dining should be removed from public property and should not be along First Avenue or in front of Borough Hall.

Mayor Razze said that he is in favor of the tables remaining until October 3, 2021, the date that Council approved for the extension of outdoor dining on public property.

Mr. Fortney said that the tables are the wrong size and does not understand why they are in front of Borough Hall.

Mayor Razze replied that the extension of outside seating approved by Council did not specify the size, shape, or the number of tables. He hopes that the tables don’t go away in the Downtown because Pitman has been packed every night and all the tables are filled with customers.

Jim Fortney stated that having the Miss Pitman Pageant at Sunset Auditorium is “a disgrace”.

Mayor Razze replied that he believes that the Miss Pitman Committee members would agree. Mrs. Susan Crispin, Director of the Pageant, is in communication with the School Board Superintendent, Dr. Patrick McAleer, and he has all but assured her that it will be held at the Pitman High School.

Eileen Salmon, 25 Cedar Avenue – Ms. Salmon asked the parameters for deciding who is permitted to display something in the Downtown area. She asked if Council decides who can hang flags Downtown regardless of the message.

Mayor Razze described the process of submitting an Event Permit for permission from Council.

No action was taken by Council as a result of discussion in the Closed Meeting upon returning to an Open Meeting.

Miscellaneous

Mayor Razze asked Councilwoman James if the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force is prepared to present their findings to Council at the June 28, 2021, Formal Meeting.

Councilwoman James said that she will check with Lauren Canna, the Chairwoman of the group, and notify Mayor Razze of their progress.

Adjournment

Motion: Rudley

Second: Weng

Time: 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator