

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2022**

**Call to Order**

Time: 8:00 p.m.

**Salute to the Flag/Moment of Silence**

Council President Fitzpatrick

**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 6, 2022, posted on the Borough Hall front door, and advertised on the Borough of Pitman website continuously since January 6, 2022.

**Roll Call**

Council President Fitzpatrick: Present  
Councilman Kelly: Absent  
Councilwoman Milward: Present  
Mayor Razze: Present  
Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Councilperson James: Present  
Councilman Mazzola: Present  
Councilman Weng: Present  
Borough Solicitor Vigilante: Present

**Proclamation**

Mayor Razze read a Proclamation from the Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion Committee recognizing September 15 through October 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month. Proclamation unanimously adopted by Council.

**Presentation**

Mayor Razze noted that the American Legion Dog of the Year is not in attendance. If the American Legion representative arrives, the Special Presentation will be added to the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Work Session, Closed Work Session, and Council Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2022.**

**Special Council Meeting Minutes, August 31, 2022.**

Councilwoman Milward noted the correction to the spelling of Ms. Stech's name in the Special Meeting Minutes of August 31, 2022.

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes  
Councilman Kelly: Absent  
Councilwoman Milward: Yes  
Mayor Razze \_\_\_\_\_

Councilperson James: Yes  
Councilman Mazzola: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Youth Advisory Council Report**

Youth Advisory Council Member Aiden James noted that the Drive-by Food Drive and the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday

event held in August were successful. Also, the revisions to the Alliance Grant have been approved by the Youth Council. The Council has been in contact with the Board of Education and is currently looking for an Advisor. The Council is advertising events on social media and is looking for volunteers for the Haunted Walk that is scheduled to take place on October 22 from 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Alcyon Lake Park.

### **Council Reports**

#### **Councilwoman Milward**

Yesterday, I had the opportunity to join our community in the Borough of Pitman's 9/11 ceremony. I want to thank our residents, police, fire, emergency management, Miss Pitman, the Pitman High School Music Department and Emily Evans for all of their hard work and thoughtful words of remembrance. I will forever remember the events that occurred on 9/11, for the rest of my life. Today, September 12, will always be etched into my mind. September 12<sup>th</sup> will forever be a day when all Americans came together, United as One.

#### **Pitman Police Department**

Chief McAteer and the entire Pitman Police Department would like to thank Mayor and Council for another successful 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. The department is thankful that the Borough annually recognizes and remembers such a tragic event.

On September 1- 2, Corporal Decker attended *Methods of Instruction* at the Gloucester County Police Academy. On September 8, Corporal Parker and Patrol Officer Baker attended *Mandatory State Recertification* at the Gloucester County Police Academy. The entire Pitman Police Department will be attending *POAC Autism Awareness for First Responders Training* on September 15. Both Fire Company No. 1 and Highland Chemical Engine Company members were also invited to attend. The training will be held in Borough Hall from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

It is with a heavy heart that Chief McAteer announces that K-9 Ranger will be officially retired on September 28. There will be a ceremony and recognition for Ranger and his partner, Corporal EJ Parker during Community Night on September 28 in Ballard Park. Ranger's retirement comes at the recommendation of his veterinary team and is due to some progressive and chronic knee and hip issues.

#### **Pitman Fire Department**

##### **Fire Company No. 1**

Pitman Fire Company No. 1 responded to twenty-six incidents, for eleven hours and twenty-six minutes of service. A total of 191 volunteer members responded providing a total of 2,183 hours and 7 minutes of "personnel hours" and accrued eleven hours of training over the course of five drill nights. The Fire Department remained busy throughout August with emergency responses which included a cover assignment in East Greenwich as part of the hazmat incident at the T-A Truck Stop.

The department started annual physicals. More dates will be scheduled in the near future for those who could not attend the last round of physicals. The Department also began FIT testing personnel at the Gloucester County Fire Academy. Ladder 2816 was out of service for a day while it had a spring repair completed. The repair was made with no other problems.

### Apparatus Responses

Squad 2811 - 12

Ladder 2816 - 12

Engine 2818 (Reserve Status) - 0

Utility 2817 - 3

Marine 28 - 0

The Pitman Fire Department is always looking for help. If there is any interest in volunteering, please stop by one of the fire stations for more information.

### **Highland Chemical Engine Company**

Highland Chemical Engine Company would like to thank everyone who came out and attended the Annual Highland Quality Carnival, a Pitman tradition since 1937. Your continued support is appreciated. Highland members were honored to participate in the 9/11 ceremony at Ballard Park and would like to thank Mayor and Council and the Borough of Pitman for honoring our 9/11 heroes and the people who lost their lives.

Highland is participating in the *Highway Safety* training, which teaches members how to safely perform firefighting duties on all roadways. For the month of August, Highland responded to twenty calls of service. Highland Chemical Engine Company is always looking for new volunteers to not only assist with fighting fires, but also as social members, who are non-firefighters that work to support their mission through non-firefighting activities. To join Highland, you can contact them by phone 856-589-0832, social media, and or just come to the station any Tuesday evening after 7:00 p.m.

### **Junior Firefighter Program**

The Pitman Fire Department Juniors Program met on August 15 and participated in *Water Safety* training at Alcyon Lake. Training covered how to utilize the marine unit, rescue poles, and rescue rope bags. Junior members also learned how to dress in water rescue gear. The Juniors Program will meet again on Monday, September 19 to finalize their CPR training. The Pitman Fire Department is always looking for members to participate in the Junior Program. The age to participate in the Junior Program is 14 to 17 years old. For more information, please reach out to [district28explorers@gmail.com](mailto:district28explorers@gmail.com) or through Pitman Fire Department Junior Firefighters on Facebook.

### **Senior Outreach Committee**

The Pitman Senior Outreach Committee members have been working hard to connect with our senior residents in town. We want to remind residents that our events are open to all Pitman Seniors who are looking for fellowship and to have a great time! Our next Senior Outreach event will be held on September 19 from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at VFW Post 6469, located at 142 Oakcrest Avenue. Games, prizes, music, and a light lunch will be served. We invite all Pitman Seniors to attend!

Senior Outreach will be participating in the Volunteer Fair on September 23 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in Uptown Pitman. Pitman residents will have the opportunity to speak with Senior Outreach members and see what the committee has planned for the remainder of 2022!

Senior Outreach will continue to meet on the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room in Borough Hall. If you are interested in staying up to date with our 2022 Senior Outreach events,

please contact Lucille Petrillo by phone (856) 357-2286, or email [lucelu16@yahoo.com](mailto:lucelu16@yahoo.com), or follow on Facebook, PitmanSeniorOutreach. I want to remind our residents that the Senior Bus schedule for September, can be found on the Borough of Pitman website, [www.pitman.org](http://www.pitman.org).

As always, you can reach me anytime at [courtney.milward@pitman.org](mailto:courtney.milward@pitman.org) or (856) 716-4249.

#### Councilman Weng

No report

#### Councilman Adam Mazzola

##### **Finance and Administration**

A shredding event will take place on October 15 at 2:00 p.m. at the Public Works lot on Elwood Avenue.

A bid opening to replace an area of carpeting in McCowan Memorial Library will take place on September 20 at 10:00 a.m. in Borough Hall.

The Borough's Safety Committee will meet tomorrow afternoon, September 13, in Borough Hall.

#### Council President Fitzpatrick

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

The former Sony property has been designated as an area in need of redevelopment, and Saxon Real Estate has been appointed as the developer. The property is under contract, and the plan, at this time, is to demolish the building and build three warehouses.

##### **Construction Office**

For the month of July, the Construction Office collected \$12,540.00 in fees. Thirty-three Certificates of Continued Occupancy were issued, and 105 inspections completed. Planning and Zoning Board fees collected totaled \$815.00, and \$470.00 was collected in Registrar fees.

##### **Clean Communities Grant**

All non-profit organizations are eligible to participate in the Clean Communities Grant Program. The application is available on the Borough website.

Council President Fitzpatrick expressed his appreciation to all who attend the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony.

#### Councilperson Vanessa James

Thank you to Mayor Raze, the Pitman Police Department, the Pitman Fire Department, and all the volunteers who contributed to last night's 9/11 ceremony. It was a very moving tribute.

##### **Parks and Recreation**

Our fall Recreation Programs are in full swing. For more information please check the Borough's website. [www.pitman.org](http://www.pitman.org)

##### **Pitman Youth Advisory Council**

Thank you to the Pitman Youth Advisory Council for teaming up with the Parks and Recreation

Department for our first annual Geocaching Challenge! Many Pitman residents were up to the challenge and we are looking forward to more geocaching in the future.

Our next project with PYAC will be a Haunted Trail at Alcyon Lake Park on Saturday, October 22, from 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Admission will be free with the donation of a canned good. If you would like to volunteer, please contact me at [vanessa.james@pitman.org](mailto:vanessa.james@pitman.org).

### **Town-wide Yard Sale**

Today is the last day to register for the Fall Town-wide Yard Sale on Saturday, September 24. We currently have over fifty yards participating.

### **Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce**

The Lori Poisker Memorial Pitman Fall Craft Show is this Saturday, September 17 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.! Please come out and show your support for our local business community.

### **McCowan Memorial Library**

During the month of August, 5,555 people visited McCowan Memorial Library and there were 210 internet users. There were twenty-three children’s programs with 457 people in attendance. For summer reading, there were sixty-one programs from June through August with an attendance of 1,104 children.

As always, I am available to answer any questions or concerns via email at [vanessa.james@pitman.org](mailto:vanessa.james@pitman.org) or by phone at (336) 407-8604. If you would like to meet in person, I hold unofficial office hours at Endgrain Coffee Bar on Sunday mornings from 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

### **Councilman Vince Kelly**

Absent – no report

Mayor Razze asked if there are any additions to Council Reports – none were reported.

Mayor Razze again thanked all those who came out and participated in the 9/11 event. He noted that a participant at the event expressed his disappointment that many municipalities no longer hold these events, and Mayor Razze agreed that the number of remembrance events has decreased over the years.

### **Unfinished Business**

**Ordinance No. 8, 2022 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman Amending Chapter 14, Section 14-1.3 Entitled “Inspection” of the Code of the Borough of Pitman to Include Lead Based Paint hazard Inspection Frequency Requirements Pursuance to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-437.16**

Motion: Fitzpatrick Second: James

Council President Fitzpatrick explained the purpose of this ordinance.

Motion to open to the public: Fitzpatrick Second: James

Time: 8:24 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close the public portion: Fitzpatrick Second: James

Time: 8:24 p.m.

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Absent

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Milward: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

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

**Ordinance No. 9, 2022 – Capital Ordinance Providing for Various Improvements to the Municipal Building, By and In the Borough of Pitman, in the County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey; Appropriating \$27,000 Therefor from the Capital Improvement Fund to Pay for the Cost Thereof**

Motion: Weng

Second: Mazzola

Council President Fitzpatrick explained the purpose of this ordinance.

Motion to open to the public: Weng

Second: Mazzola

Time: 8:25 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close the public portion: Weng

Second: Mazzola

Time: 8:25 p.m.

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Absent

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Milward: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

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

**New Business**

Mayor Razze asked if there is any reason to pull Resolution No. 180, 2022 from the Consent Agenda. Councilman Mazzola advised that the Resolution has been reworded to offer generic support to the pending legislation, and it does not have to be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

**Consent Agenda** – All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine by this Borough Council and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

**Resolution No. 166, 2022 – 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, Gloucester County Municipal Alliance Grant**

**Resolution No. 167, 2022 – 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, PSEG Foundation Sustainable Jersey Grant**

**Resolution No. 168, 2022 – 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, Click It or Ticket Grant**

**Resolution No. 169, 2022 – 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**

**Resolution No. 170, 2022 – 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**

**Resolution No. 171, 2022 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Release of Escrow Funds Provided By Barbara Groves Submitted for a Project Affecting a Parcel Known as 487 W. Holly Avenue, Block 186 Lot 14, on the Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman**

**Resolution No. 172, 2022 – 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 the Glen Lake Maintenance Trust Fund**

**Resolution No. 173, 2022 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Shea Murray as Member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for the Borough of Pitman, Filling a Vacant Unexpired Term**

**Resolution No. 174, 2022 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Thomas Zander as Member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for the Borough of Pitman, Filling a Vacant Unexpired Term**

**Resolution No. 175, 2022 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Rescinding Resolution No. 154, 2022 Approving and Hiring a Special Law Enforcement Officer Class II**

**Resolution No. 176, 2022 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Resolution No. 157, 2022 Appointing a Recording Secretary for the Various Meetings Held Within the Borough of Pitman**

**Resolution No. 177, 2022 – 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**

**Resolution No. 178, 2022 – 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 – 163 E. Holly Avenue**

**Resolution No. 179, 2022 – 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 Matthew S. Johnston Affecting the Parcel Known as 29 Magnolia**

**Avenue, Block 118 Lot 7.01 on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman**

**Resolution No. 180, 2022 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey In Support of New Jersey Bill S-3038 Easing the Restrictions on Limited Brewery License Holders**

Motion: James  
Roll Call:  
Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes  
Councilman Kelly: Absent  
Councilwoman Milward: Yes  
Mayor Razzo \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Fitzpatrick  
Councilperson James: Yes  
Councilman Mazzola: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Payment of Bills**

Approve payment of the bill list as presented  
Motion: Mazzola  
Roll Call:  
Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes  
Councilman Kelly: Absent  
Councilwoman Milward: Yes  
Mayor Razzo \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Weng  
Councilperson James: Yes  
Councilman Mazzola: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Event Permit Applications**

Event: Poplar Avenue Block Party  
Applicant: Kacey Crawford  
Date and Time: September 17, 2022; 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
Location: Poplar Avenue between W. Holly and McClelland  
Contact Person: Kacey Crawford  
Motion (Pending Certificate of Insurance): Milward  
Roll Call:  
Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes  
Councilman Kelly: Absent  
Councilwoman Milward: Yes  
Mayor Razzo \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Weng  
Councilperson James: Yes  
Councilman Mazzola: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

Event: Community Appreciation Day  
Applicant: Pitman Police Department  
Date and Time: September 28, 2022; 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Location: Ballard Park  
Contact Person: Sgt. Andrew Carson  
Motion: Milward  
Roll Call:  
Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes  
Councilman Kelly: Absent  
Councilwoman Milward: Yes  
Mayor Razzo \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Weng  
Councilperson James: Yes  
Councilman Mazzola: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes



**Raffle License Application**

Raffle: Off-Premises Draw

Applicant: WCK Walls HSA

Date and Time: October 28, 2022; 2:00 p.m.

Location: 320 Grant Avenue

Contact Person: Ashley Mason

Motion: Milward

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Absent

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Milward: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

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

Mayor Razze noted that a new member of the Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion Committee is in attendance. Mayor Razze swore in Shea Murray as a member of the Committee.

**Public Portion**

Motion to open to the public: Weng

Second: Milward

Time 8:36 p.m.

Ayes all.

**Michael Grillo, 155 West Avenue** – Mr. Grillo asked for clarification of the three warehouses proposed for the former Sony site. Council President Fitzpatrick explained that it is early in the process, but right now that is the developer’s plan. Mayor Razze provided further clarification on the redevelopment designation process and noted that it appears that action taken by Borough Council and the Planning/Zoning Board has resulted in movement toward use of the property. Mayor Razze noted that the proposed use will result in 300 jobs, which is approximately the number of jobs lost when Sony closed. Solicitor Vigilante noted that the warehouses are a permitted use on the property.

Mr. Grillo stated that he suffers from several medical conditions that his physician has advised would benefit from the use of cannabis. He asked Borough Council to rethink their position on the goal of keeping cannabis out of the Borough, and the unnecessary shaming on the use of cannabis.

Motion to close the public portion: Weng

Second: Milward

Time: 8:42 p.m.

**Miscellaneous**

Councilman Mazzola stated that there are three upcoming road projects that are going to require bonding to obtain funds in order to complete them. Councilman Mazzola and Administrator O’Donnell explained the three projects and the funding that is needed for each one.

1. Magnolia/Glenmere Avenue Project – The first phase of the project involves the installation of a water main from Woodbury-Glassboro Road, and along Glenmere Avenue to the intersection of Magnolia Avenue. Half road milling and paving of Glenmere Avenue will take place at the completion of the water main installation. It is hoped that this additional/larger water line from Glenmere will create a larger flow of water into the line along Magnolia and increase the pressure

enough to remove sediment in the line that is causing discoloration of the potable water being delivered to the residents of Magnolia Avenue.

A bid opening was held for this project on August 30, 2022 with the apparent low bidder presenting a bid in the amount of \$114,985.54. This amount and the projected fees for engineering, permitting, and inspections results in the sum of \$160,000.00 needed for the project.

2. Reconstruction of Centre Avenue Project – The Borough received a 2020 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program Grant for the Reconstruction of Centre Avenue in the amount of \$237,000.00. Bid results were tabulated on August 16, 2022 with the apparent low bidder for the Base Bid and Alternate #1 totaling \$370,145.62. Additional funding needed for this project which includes the difference between the grant award and the bid amount, combined with engineering, permitting and inspection fees is \$155,000.00.
3. Reconstruction of Lakeside Avenue Project – The Borough received a 2022 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program Grant for the reconstruction of Lakeside Avenue in the amount of \$265,000.00. The Engineer’s estimate for this project is \$381,214.00 with an additional \$40,000.00 projected for engineering, permitting, and inspections. Additional funding of \$160,000.00 will be needed for this project.

**Motion** by Councilman Mazzola to direct Borough CFO Steve Considine to prepare the bonding needed for the completion of all three projects.

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Absent

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Milward: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor Razzo asked everyone for prayers for the Fortney and Kelley families who are grieving the loss Margaret Fortney this past week.

Motion to adjourn: Weng

Second: Mazzola

Time: 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O’Donnell

Borough Clerk/Administrator