

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 24, 2023
8:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Time: 8:05 pm

Salute to the Flag/Invocation

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 and Courier Post, posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, and advertised on the Borough of Pitman website.

Roll Call

Council President Fitzpatrick: Present
Councilman Kelly: Present
Councilwoman Milward: Present
Mayor Razze: Present
Borough Clerk McCafferty: Present

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

Approval of Minutes

Work Session and Council Minutes from April 10, 2023

Motion: Kelly

Second: James

Roll call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Kelly: Yes
Councilwoman Milward: Yes

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

2023 Municipal Budget Introduction

Councilman Mazzola presented the following Ordinance:

Ordinance No. 2, 2023 – 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/Title Only

Public Hearing: May 22, 2023 at 8pm

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Kelly: Yes
Councilwoman Milward: Yes

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

Motion to Introduce 2023 Municipal Budget Ordinance

Councilman Mazzola presented the following Ordinance:

First Reading (Second Reading and Public Hearing; May 22, 2023 at 8:00 p.m.)

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

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Roll call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Kelly: Yes
Councilwoman Milward: Yes

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

Councilman Mazzola presented the following Resolutions:

Resolution No. 79, 2023 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving the Annual Self-Examination of the 2023 Municipal Budget

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Roll call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Kelly: Yes
Councilwoman Milward: Yes

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

Resolution No. 80, 2023 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the 2023 Municipal Budget to be Read by Title Only

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Roll call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Kelly: Yes
Councilwoman Milward: Yes

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

Council Reports

Councilwoman Milward

On April 19th, Deputy Chief Zander and Patrol Officer Stefanopoulous met with the School Safety Team for the Borough of Pitman School District. The meeting was very productive and a wide range of School Safety issues were covered. On April 20th, Chief McAteer, Deputy Chief Zander, Sergeant Streater, Sergeant Carson, Corporal Pierson, Corporal Parker and Corporal Decker attended virtual Training on Evolving Policing.

Highland Chemical Engine Company would like to thank everyone who stopped by the firehouse on April 22nd for their Chicken BBQ. Your support is greatly appreciated! I know my dinner was delicious!

The Pitman Fire Departments are always looking for new volunteers to join! If interested in learning more, please stop by one of the Pitman Fire Departments!

Pitman Senior Outreach has been working hard to connect with our Seniors 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 May 15th from 11-2pm at VFW Post 6469, located at 142 Oakcrest Ave! Games, Prizes, Music, and a light lunch will be served. We invite all Pitman Seniors to attend! On April 21st, the Pitman Senior Outreach Committee organized a trip to Winterthur. Attendees had a wonderful time touring the museums and gardens.

Senior Outreach will continue to meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6pm in the Conference room in Borough Hall. If you are interested in staying up to date with our 2023 Senior Outreach events, please contact Lucille Petrillo by phone (856) 357-2286, or email lucelu16@yahoo.com, or follow-on [Facebook](#)

[PitmanSeniorOutreach](#). I want to remind our Residents that the Senior Bus schedule for April, can be found on the Borough of Pitman website (www.pitman.org).

As always, you can reach me anytime at courtney.milward@pitman.org or 856-716-4249. This concludes my report.

Councilman Weng

Earth Day on April 22 was a huge success with many activities. Using the Hollywood Dell was a perfect location. There was a good turnout, and through the partnership with Rowan University, a variety of activities were held. The Public Works Department assisted in the event, and native plant trees were distributed. Hopefully the Hollywood Dell will be the location for future Earth Day events.

Councilman Mazzola

No report

Council President Fitzpatrick

No report

Councilperson James

Parks & Recreation

Youth Week this year will be held starting on April 30th through May 5th!

Activities include:

- Sunday, 4/30 - Youth Council at 7 pm
- Monday, 5/1 - Middle & High School Speedball Tournament starting at 5 pm
- Tuesday, 5/2 - Pop-Up Park at Ballard Park at 6 pm featuring the Pitman High School and Pitman Middle School Music Departments, Balloons, Face Painting, our Scavenger Hunt Kick Off and MORE!
- Wednesday, 5/3 - Ballard Park Entertainment for pre-school age kids at 3:30 p.m.
- Thursday, 5/4 - Youth Week Track & Field at 4 pm; Family Quizzo at 7 p.m. at PHS
- Friday, 5/5 - Career Day

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. If you would like to meet in person, I hold unofficial office hours at Endgrain Coffee Bar on Sunday mornings from 9-9:30 a.m.

Councilman Kelly

Councilman Kelly extended his thanks to Mr. Fortney and the Garden Club for their participation in the Borough Earth Day events. Councilman Kelly also thanked Fred and Bonnie from the Public Works Department for setting up the table and participating in the event. It was a great success.

The Economic Development Committee met with Gloucester County Commissioner Deputy Director Heather Simmons on April 20. The discussion centered on economic opportunities for Pitman, including loans available for businesses in Town. EDC discussed finalizing the window claim design to recognize businesses for the number of years they have been in business. EDC will be setting up a tent at the craft fair on May 20.

The Historic Preservation Commission met on April 20. Five applications were reviewed and all were approved.

Recycling report for March – 25 loads (69.99 tons) of recycling were collected at a cost of \$6,133.80. There was \$1,100.00 in bag fees. 6 loads (4.65 tons) of metal were taken to Matteos for a profit of \$987.87. 216.2 cubic yards of brush was collected and taken to various locations at a cost of \$1,944.00 and ewaste collected was .92 tons.

For the Highway Department:

For the period April 10 – April 21: 14 loads (157.57 tons) of trash was collected, 10 loads (35.5 tons) of recycling collected.

The Community shredding event will be held this Saturday at the Borough Garage from 8 am to noon.

“As temperatures rise, keep your bills low” – the water department can provide data logs to monitor water usage and determine if there are any leaks. Water turn off for extended periods is available to property owners who may be out of town.

Spring leaf collection:

The spring leaf collection schedule is as follows:

For those properties that have Monday trash pickup, leaf pick up is Tuesday.

For those with trash pickup on Tuesday, leaf collection is Monday.

Wednesday trash pickup, leaf pickup is Thursday.

Thursday trash pickup, leaf collection is Wednesday.

This schedule is for the period April 17 through May 19.

Mayor Razze reiterated the leaf schedule and stressed the importance of adhering to the schedule. Stormwater regulations in the State have changed, and if leaves are put out on the wrong day, the Public Works Department will be forced to put a crew together to collect the leaves because the leaves cannot be left to wash in to the storm drains.

With regard to the EDC meeting, Mayor Razze noted that in addition to Commissioner Simmons, Mayor Bianco, the head of Economic Development for the County was also in attendance and discussed the South Jersey Film Office. Mayor Razze and EDC Chairman Owen attended a meeting on this subject and because of the generous film tax credits in New Jersey, this is an exciting opportunity. The Borough will be logging assets in to the system and Borough Council will be working on various ordinances and resolutions needed for this industry. It was noted that the Grove is a unique location, and may fit in to a production. For every \$1.00 invested in these projects, \$4.00 - \$7.00 is injected in to the local economy. The ordinances and resolutions will need to be in place because of the quick turnaround time that is needed on these projects.

New Business

Councilman Mazzola presented the following resolutions:

Resolution No. 81, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Entry of a Municipal Lien on Block 218, Lot 1

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Roll call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Milward: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 82, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Amending R-225-22 to Correct the Assignment of Tax Sale Certificate No. 304003 (Municipal) and No. 14-00007 from Matan Schmucl to Ram SJ Propco 1 LLC

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Roll call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Milward: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Payment of Bills (Mazzola)

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Roll call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Milward: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Event Permit Applications

Councilwoman Milward presented the following event permits:

Event: Monthly Meetings

Organization: The Pitman Writer's Guild

Date and Time: Fourth Tuesday of the month except for 6/27 through November; 6:30-9pm

Location: Borough Hall (Council Chambers & Conference Room)

Insurance Certificate provided: **YES**

Contact Person: Jason James

Event: Color Run Fundraiser

Organization: Kindle School HSA

Date and Time: May 12, 2023; 6:30-8pm

Location: Kindle School

Insurance Certificate provided: **YES**

Contact Person: Jamie Miller

(Application was filled out because of road closures)

Councilwoman Milward presented the following signage applications:

Application for signage: Yoga Classes

Organization: Private
Size of signs: Sandwich Board or Standard Lawn Signs
Location: Sunset Auditorium
Dates: see above event permit (sign will travel with applicant and not left out)
Zoning approval: **YES**
Contact Person: Meghan Loomis

Application for signage: Soccer Registration

Organization: Pitman Soccer Association
Size of signs: 24x36
Location: Ballard Park, Alcyon Park, Dell Field, Lamb's Rd Field
Dates: 4/24-5/24/23
Zoning approval: **YES**
Contact Person: Joseph Conklin

Motion: Milward

Second: Weng

Roll call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Milward: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze _____

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Milward

Second: Weng

Time: 8:27 pm

Resident Jim Fortney, 502 Carew Avenue addressed Council on behalf of the Garden Club. Mr. Fortney recapped the recent activities of the Pitman Garden Club:

This past Saturday, the Garden Club put 60 + plants out at the water park. Tomorrow night, two cubic yards of mulch was spread at First Avenue, and this morning 1 ton of creek gravel was spread in front of the library. The list goes on, including participating in the Senior Outreach luncheon.

Mr. Fortney inquired on the process to repair broken sprinkler heads. Councilperson James advised that would be the Borough's responsibility. Mr. Fortney noted several are not working properly. Councilman Kelly asked how many and the locations. Mr. Fortney and Councilman Kelly will meet to determine the location of the needed repairs.

Mr. Fortney advised that the planters on the sidewalks should be removed. The planters are not being maintained properly. Mayor Razze advised that there has been a discussion at the EDC meetings with Mr. Owen on the planters and the watering of the planters has become an issue. Mr. Fortney advised that the Garden Club waters the planters every morning but the Club cannot continue to do this. Rotary will help with the plantings but not the watering. Mr. Fortney advised that the businesses should take some responsibility for the planters.

Mr. Fortney also noted that on First Avenue, the planters at Merrymans are being used as ashtrays and that should be addressed.

Motion to close the public portion: Mazzola
Time: 8:34 pm

Second: Weng

Miscellaneous

Nothing to report

Adjournment

Motion: Mazzola
Time: 8:35 pm

Second: Fitzpatrick

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McCafferty, RMC
Borough Clerk