

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 13, 2023  
8:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Time: 8:05 P.M.

**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 Vigilante: Present

Mayor Razze introduced County Commissioners Konawel and Jefferson to present to Emily Evans the 2022 Jr. Firefighter Award. Mayor Razze invited Public Safety Liaison Councilperson Milward, Emily and her family forward for the presentation.

Commissioner Konawel read the Proclamation and commended Ms. Evans on maintaining her busy academic and extracurricular schedules and achieving this Award.

Commissioner Jefferson congratulated Ms. Evans and acknowledged her as proof that young people can make a difference in their community.

Mayor Razze proceeded with the next Proclamation, recognizing February as Black History Month. Mayor Razze read aloud the Borough Proclamation, by way of the Borough Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Committee.

**Approval of Minutes**

Council Minutes from January 9, 2023, Work Session and Council Minutes from January 23, 2023

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**

**Councilperson Milward**

The Pitman Police Department has released the following statistics for the month of January 2023.

Motor Vehicle Stops: 181

Summons: 73

Written Warnings: 30

Parking Summons: 186  
Arrests: 9  
Motor Vehicle Crashes: 9  
Investigation Reports: 42  
Total Calls for Service in January: 1,591

Chief McAteer and I would like to congratulate, Patrol Officer Giulianna Iona on her graduation tomorrow from the Ocean County Police Academy. Patrol Officer Iona will begin her full-time schedule with the Pitman Police Department beginning on Friday. She is assigned to work along her Field Training Officer, Corporal EJ Parker for the next few months until she is released from the Field Training Program.

Highland Chemical Engine Company has remained busy during the month of January. They responded to 23 calls for service and conducted 5 mandatory training nights. This totaled 16 hours of calls and training. 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 7pm.

The Pitman Fire Department Juniors program continues to train the next generation of firefighters. Gary Ganiel III graduated from the cadet program to the Juniors program and is now able to respond to fire calls. Currently, the program will begin focusing on building construction training including learning the five types of construction. These five types differ, and it is important for the cadets and juniors to know how they may aid or hinder firefighting efforts.

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.

Pitman Senior Outreach has been working hard to connect with our Seniors in town! Today we hosted a Valentine's Day party. Everyone had a fantastic time! 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 March 20<sup>th</sup> from 11-2pm at VFW Post 6469, located at 142 Oakcrest Ave. Please join us for a Lucky Brunch! Games, Prizes, Music, and a lunch will be served. We invite all Pitman Seniors to attend!

Senior Outreach will continue to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:lucelu16@yahoo.com) or [follow-on Facebook PitmanSeniorOutreach](#). I want to remind our Residents that the Senior Bus schedule for February and some of March, 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. This concludes my report.

## **Councilman Weng**

The Environmental Commission met on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and is planning activities for 2023. The biggest Earth Day yet is scheduled for Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The focus will be on citizen science, including water tests, recycling information, a fossil display, and a giveaway of seeds and native saplings.

A Bio Blitz is scheduled for June and will probably take place at Alcyon Lake Park. Residents can get an app on their phone, and the app can be used to identify and catalogue local fauna and flora. This exercise contributes to environmental education, citizen science and fosters local stewardship in identifying non-native and invasive species.

The next meeting of the Environmental Commission will be held on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30pm.

The first meeting of the Borough Memorabilia Committee will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Museum.

### **Councilman Mazzola**

No report this month.

### **Council President Fitzpatrick**

The house at 349 Blvd Ave that was sold last year in a tax sale is in the process of being rehabbed. Of the 3 sold last year one was torn down, one is being fixed up and so far nothing has been done with the other property.

In 2022 the construction office processed 542 permits and 458 certificates; fees collected were \$5,982. Miscellaneous fees collected were \$410 in November.

The new owner of Bri Scot gave an update at the work session tonight on their plans for the property.

The next planning board meeting is 2/21 at 7 pm, all are welcome to attend.

Sustainable Pitman met on 1/26, their goals for 2023 are to continue to work on the Pitman bike path and to work toward silver certification from NJ.

The Chicken board met on 1/3, there have been 8 applications so far, 4 have been approved and the others are in the process of getting approved.

### **Councilwoman James**

#### **Council Report 2-13-23**

#### **Councilperson Vanessa E. James**

#### **Vanessa.James@Pitman.Org**

2022 Liaison: Parks & Recreation, Library Board, Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce & Committee on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

### **Parks & Recreation**

Current programs include travel basketball for 3rd-8th grade, in-house basketball for 2nd-4th grades, and 1st grade basketball. Indoor field hockey just ended and Middle School Basketball programs have 3-4 games left. Tee ball registrations are open. Middle School baseball and softball teams will be starting as well. We are also looking for Winter Pickle Ball to start up again soon. The Tennis Court resurfacing program is ready to be scheduled and they are looking at dates in early spring or late spring.

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

Thanks to everyone who participated in this past Saturday's Sweetest Night in Pitman. It was a wonderful event and the Uptown was packed!

### **McCowan Memorial Library**

For the month of January 2,145 people used the library and there were 54 internet users. There were 11 children's programs with 96 people in attendance. We note that the numbers are a little down this month because the library was closed to have new carpet installed.

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 9-9:30 a.m.

### **Councilman Kelly**

Historic Commission met on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Three applications were submitted, and all were approved.

For Public Works: Solid waste collected: 14 Loads (154.20 tons) to Wheelabrator, 19 loads (166.58 tons) to Gloucester County Landfill for a total of 320.78 tons at a total cost of \$31,941.45. 17 (76.08 tons) loads of single stream recycling was collected at a cost of \$6,905.85. There was also \$700.00 in bag fees. 1 load of metal was taken to Matteos for a profit of \$214.40. 125 cubic yards of mulch and brush was taken to various locations at a cost of \$1,152.00. E Waste recycling totaled 72 tons.

On another note, Public Works was notified by Landberg Construction Company that the start date for the Magnolia Avenue/Glenmere project has been pushed back to February 21. Mayor Razzo asked for the reason for the delay. Mr. Kelley advised he met with Fralinger Engineering, the Engineer on the project, and they advised that Landberg Construction has given no specific reason for the delay. Councilman Kelly advised that the delay is with the contractor, not the Engineer. Mr. Kelly advised there is a 45 day completion clause in the contract. Mayor Razzo asked Solicitor Vigilante to review the contract.

There were no additions to any Council reports.

### **New Business**

Council President Fitzpatrick presented the Consent Agenda.

**Consent Agenda** – All matters listed under 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. 45, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Procurement of Title Services for Carew Ave, Gloucester County Dinosaur Trail**

**Resolution No. 46, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving an "Outdoor Eating Facilities with BYO" permit for Merrymans Pub, 106 Broadway in the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey**

**Resolution No. 47, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving an "Outdoor Eating Facilities with BYO" permit for Crave Pitman, 9S-11S Broadway in the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey**

**Resolution No. 48, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving an “Outdoor Eating Facilities with BYO” permit for Sweet Lula’s, 28 South Broadway in the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey**

**Resolution No. 49, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving an “Outdoor Eating Facilities with BYO” permit for Coco’s Cocina, 32 South Broadway in the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey**

**Resolution No. 50, 2023 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Award of Competitive Contract for the Lease of Advertising Space**

Motion: Fitzpatrick  
Roll Call:  
Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes  
Councilman Kelly: Yes  
Councilwoman Milward: Yes  
Second: James  
Councilperson James: Yes  
Councilman Mazzola: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Payment of Bills** (Mazzola)

Motion: Mazzola  
Second: Weng

Roll Call:  
Council President Fitzpatrick: Abstain #53069, yes to the rest  
Councilperson James: Yes  
Councilman Kelly: Yes  
Councilman Mazzola: Abstain #'s 52996 through 53000 and #18788, yes to the rest  
Councilwoman Milward: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 51, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Authorizing 2022 Reserve Budget Transfers**

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

Mayor Razze advised that the Borough Administrator has recommended that the Event Permit Applications be approved as a group, similar to the Consent Agenda.

Councilwoman Milward read each permit by title.

**Event Permit Applications** (Milward)

**Event:** Soccer Association Monthly Meetings  
**Date and Time:** Starting March 6th  
**Location:** Borough Hall – Conference Room  
**Insurance Certificate provided:** Yes  
**Contact Person:** Melissa Farrell

**Event:** Bubbles for Autism  
Date and Time: April 2, 12-2pm  
Location: Pitman Fire Company #1  
Insurance Certificate provided: **NA**  
Contact Person: Joe Evans

**Event:** Craft Show  
Date and Time: May 20, 2023, 5am-5pm  
Location: Broadway  
Insurance Certificate provided: **Yes**  
Contact Person: Kara Knauss

|                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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     |

**Public Portion**

|                                    |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Motion to open to the public: Weng | Second: Mazzola |
| Time: 8:30 pm                      |                 |

Resident James Fortney, 502 Carew Avenue inquired on the purpose of Resolution 45, 2023. Solicitor Vigilante advised that is to authorize title searches on certain properties on Carew Avenue to verify ownership. Mr. Fortney asked for clarification on the bike path proposed for Carew Avenue. Council President Fitzpatrick and Solicitor Vigilante described the bike lane - it will be on one side of the street and it will be a "Share the Road" lane. Mr. Fortney advised that the Garden Club had a very successful meeting in February. The Club also assisted the Food Bank with the increase in collections on breakfast cereals. The hanging baskets, coco baskets and flowers have been ordered, and the Club will be serving breakfast for the Senior Outreach on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The Garden Club Tour is scheduled for June 24<sup>th</sup>. The Club is hoping to sell 150 tickets this year. With increased publicity, they are hoping to reach this goal.

Mayor Razze thanked the Garden Club for the fence and landscaping across the street, it looks very nice. Mr. Fortney advised that a native plant, a mini hydrangea, is going to be planted in that area.

Resident Bill Ritzler, 517 N Broadway, inquired on the design and administration of the Borough website. Mayor Razze advised that Councilperson James oversees the website. Ms. James advised that Andy Fox, Parks and Recreation Director, wears a second hat as the web master. The Clerk/Administrator also has rights. Mr. Ritzler pointed out that the website is not updated, some entries on the site are outdated and it is not aesthetically pleasing. Mr. Ritzler suggested that Borough Council take a look at the Glassboro website, which, in his opinion, is a better platform and more user friendly. Mr. Ritzler advised that at this time of the year, when the Borough is looking at the 2023 budget, it would be a good time to evaluate the website and perhaps allocate funds for an update.

Councilperson James thanked Mr. Ritzler for his comments, and his very good suggestions. She will take a look at the website to evaluate helpful changes. She agrees with his suggestions that on line, fillable forms and other similar options are helpful to Borough residents.

Mr. Ritzler also strongly urged Council to consider video casting Borough Council meetings.

There being no further public comment,  
Motion to close the public portion: Mazzola  
Time: 8:43pm

Second: Weng

**Miscellaneous**

Mayor Razzo read aloud a thank you card from retiring Borough Clerk Judy O'Donnell on her time of service in the Borough.

**Adjournment**

Motion: Weng  
Time: 8:46 pm

Second: Milward

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McCafferty, RMC  
Borough Clerk