

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

**Call to Order**

Time: 8:00 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: Absent  
Mayor Razze: Present  
Borough Clerk McCafferty: Present

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Work Session and Closed Session Minutes from February 27, 2023

Motion Kelly

Second Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes  
Councilman Kelly: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

Councilperson James: Abstain  
Councilman Mazzola: Yes

**Proclamation of Women's History Month**

Mayor Razze read the Proclamation declaring March as Women's History Month and noting the many contributions of Women throughout history.

**Council Reports**

**Councilman Weng**

The Environmental Commission met on March 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss events for Earth Day, which will take place on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Eco Scavenger Hunt and Bio Blitz will be held on June 10<sup>th</sup> and include various activities. The Memorabilia Committee met last week but did not have a quorum, so the Committee will meet again next week to schedule Museum dates for 2023.

Councilman Weng covered the DEI meeting for Councilperson James. The DEI spoke about how well the talk went with Sylvia Richardson and how they would like to hold some panel discussions in the future based on the various things that the DEI looks at. The DEI plans to conduct a survey of the various Borough boards and committees to look at the demographics of those boards to be sure that the Borough hears the voices of everyone in the Borough.

## **Councilman Mazzola**

### **Board of Education:**

Congratulations to the cast, crew, directors, and volunteers on their stellar production of "The Little Mermaid" this past weekend. It was a packed house for all four shows. I personally found the shows to be electrifying.

A survey is currently being conducted to gather information that is to be used by the Strategic Planning committee to develop the district's goals and objectives. The link can be found on the Pitman Public Schools Facebook page. It is 26 questions and will close March 24th. Anecdotally it took me about 10 minutes to complete.

Several of the planning and discussion meetings have been cancelled due to news that the state aid cut has been larger than originally thought. Communication will be forthcoming as schedules are set. As of now the Grade Level Configuration meeting that was to occur tonight will next meet on Tuesday April 4th.

Mayor Razzo stated that to add to Councilman Mazzola's report, it is worth noting that the State aid cut to the School District is incredibly significant – an over 1.4 million dollar decrease for this year, on top of the 1.2 million decrease from last year. Mayor Razzo encouraged all resident to attend the upcoming BOE meetings and get involved in the discussions. These cuts are devastating to a small school district.

## **Council President Fitzpatrick**

Miscellaneous construction fees collected were \$545.00. The next Planning Board meeting is March 20th, and all are invited to attend.

## **Councilperson James**

### **Parks & Recreation**

On March 2, 2023, the Recreation Commission voted to remove the overlook at Alcyon Lake Park as it is currently a safety hazard. The Commission hopes to rebuild the overlook in the future. The Commission also voted to remove the playground at Shertel Park and replace it with an age appropriate structure and/or activity center geared toward younger children. The current structure is in disrepair and would be prohibitively expensive to replace due to its age.

Parks & Rec will be hosting its annual Egg Scramble on Saturday, April 1st starting at 8:30 a.m. at Shertel Park. Advanced Registration is required and will be posted later this week.

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

The Chamber will host its first Uptown Women in Business Workshop on Monday, March 20th at Personal Touch Group Fitness at 6:00pm. Open to all Pitman business owners.

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**

For the Public Works Department

- 26 loads (270.6 tons) of solid waste was transported to WheelABrator at a cost of \$22,632.97.
- 16 loads (67.35 tons) of recycling was collected at a cost of \$5,246.57 and there were bag fees of \$600.00.
- 85 cubic yards of mulch and brush were collected at a cost of \$765.00.

For the Water/Sewer Department

- 16 sewer/water markouts were done,
- plunged 5 sewer stoppages,
- worked on a drainage issue on Fourth Avenue and
- replaced water service on Woodbury Glassboro Road, which will be an ongoing project for the next 2 months.

The Glenmere/Magnolia Avenue project is complete except for the backfilling. The contractor is waiting for the dirt to settle before backfilling.

The Public Works Department will hold the rabies clinic on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Razze noted that despite the best efforts of the Borough, including the work of the Environmental Commission, plastic bags in the recycling is still an issue. Mayor Razze advised he saw the Public Works Department handle a recycling container that was full of plastic bags. Councilman Kelly advised that you cannot get plastic bags at stores anymore, but the problem is the plastic trash bags and other plastic wrapping. When in doubt, throw it out.

Councilman Weng advised that he was just handed this report from Police Chief McAteer:

### **Director Milward,**

The following is my report for the Council meeting being held this evening (Monday), March 13, 2023. Please let me know if you need any clarification or have any questions. Thank you.

- Our thoughts and prayers are extended to Officer Shisler and his family. Officer Shisler was shot on Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup> during an interaction with an armed individual and required life-saving surgery. Chief McAteer and DC Zander would like to thank all the officers who assisted with the incident:
  - Sgt. Carson
  - Cpl. Pierson
  - Cpl. Parker
  - PO Iona
  - PO Musick
  - Det. Barbetta

- Chief McAteer, DC Zander, and PO Stefanopoulos met with the School Safety Team for the Borough of School District on Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. The meeting was very productive, and a wide range of School Safety issues were covered.

**New Business**

Councilperson James 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. 61, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Refund of Real Estate Taxes**

**Resolution No. 62, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Refund of Recording Fees**

**Resolution No. 63, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Appointing Clinton Carter III as Part-Time Fire Safety Inspector**

**Resolution No. 64, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Appointing Eron Kranz as Part-Time Fire Safety Inspector**

**Resolution No. 65, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Authorizing a Closed Meeting**

Motion: James

Second: Kelly

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 66, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Accepting the Proposal Submitted by Fralinger Engineering for the 2023 NJDOT Reconstruction of Vassar Avenue, Roosevelt Avenue and McKinley Avenue**

Motion: James

Second: Kelly

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 67, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Awarding a Contract to Nickolaus Construction Co. for the Repair of the Tennis Courts at Shertel Park**

Motion: James

Second: Kelly

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: 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: Abstain from P.O. 840004000, Yes to the rest.

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Event Permit Applications** (Fitzpatrick for Milward)

Councilman Weng asked that the permit application for the Eco Scavenger Hunt be pulled from the list; there has been a time change for the event. They will resubmit.

**Event:** Easter Sunrise Service

Organization: First Baptist Church of Pitman

Date and Time: April 9, 2023 - 6:30am - 7:30am

Location: Betty Park

Insurance Certificate provided: **Yes**

Contact Person: Randy VanOsten

**Event:** 2023 Earth Day Celebration

Organization: Pitman Environmental Commission

Date and Time: April 22, 2023 10am-12pm

Location: Betty Park, Hollywood Dell

Insurance Certificate provided: **NA**

Contact Person: Robert Holwitt

**Event:** Sunday Evening Church Services

Organization: Pitman Camp Meeting

Date and Time: July 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 & August 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Location: Grove Auditorium

Insurance Certificate provided: **Yes**

Contact Person: Thomas Bennett

Motion: Fitzpatrick

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Raffle License Applications** (Fitzpatrick for Milward)

**Type: Off-Premises Raffle**

Date: May 15, 2023

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: 320 Grant Avenue

Sponsor: W C K Walls HSA

Contact Person: Ashley Mason

Motion: Fitzpatrick

Second: James

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Public Portion**

Motion to open to the public: Weng

Second Mazzola

Time: 8:18 PM

Resident Mike Grillo, 145 West Avenue, thanked the Borough Public Works Department for their quick and professional service with the turn off and turn on of water service at his home.

Councilman Weng and Councilman Kelly echoed Mr. Grillo's compliments for the Public Works Department.

Mayor Razzo noted that he recently received an email complimenting the front office staff of the Borough on their professional conduct.

Motion to close the public portion: Weng

Second: Mazzola

Time: 8:20 PM

**Miscellaneous**

Mayor Razzo noted that at this evening's work session meeting, the Police Department was given permission to obtain a new canine officer. The fundraising for the dog will be begin.

Motion to go in to closed session to discuss matters related to contract negotiations and personnel.

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Motion to reopen meeting to the public  
Motion: Mazzola

Second: James

As a result of discussion in the closed meeting the following action was taken by Council.

**Resolution No. 68, 2023 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Initiating the Hiring Process for Up to 3 Class 2 Public Officers.**

Motion: James

Second: Kelly

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Adjournment**

Motion: Weng

Second: Mazzola

Time: 9:06pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McCafferty, RMC  
Borough Clerk