

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
May 22, 2023  
8:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Time: 8:00 pm

Mayor Razze noted that Clerk/Administrator Sandi McCafferty was not in attendance due to the recent passing of her Father. The Mayor offered condolences to the McCafferty family on behalf of the Borough.

**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: Absent  
Councilman Kelly: Present  
Councilwoman Milward: Present  
Mayor Razze: Present  
Borough Clerk McCafferty: Absent

Councilperson James: Present  
Councilman Mazzola: Present  
Councilman Weng: Present  
Borough Solicitor Vigilante: Present  
Recording Secretary Abdill: Present

**Council Reports**

**Councilwoman Milward**

Thank you Mayor,

Last night, the Miss Pitman Pageant Committee held their 2023 Miss Pitman Pageant briefing at Ballard Park. Pageant contestants, sponsors, parents, and committee members gathered to discuss upcoming events and to enjoy Ice Cream from Alaura Kitchen. It was wonderful meeting all of the contestants! I look forward to seeing them all on stage! Don't forget to Save the date for the 2023 Miss Pitman Pageant, which will be held on July 3 at the Pitman High School Auditorium!

On May 8th and May 9th Patrol Officer Peter Stefanopoulos attended Calibre Press Leadership training. From May 8th through May 12th Sergeant Jon Streater and Corporal Marshall Pierson attended OEM Training, specifically, Planning Emergency Operations and Science of Disaster. As of May 1st, Patrol Officer Tyler Hagan has been put into the Detective Division as an Investigator. The Pitman Police Department would like to thank everyone that showed them support and love over the last few weeks in relation to the murder of Deptford Police Officer Bobby Shisler.

Pitman Fire Company Number One has remained busy through May. From May 1<sup>st</sup> through May 21<sup>st</sup>, the company has responded to 21 incidents and has met for three training nights totaling approximately 6 hours of training. On May 18th the company participated in the "every 15 minutes" drill at the Pitman High School. This drill consisted of a mock car accident with people trapped in a vehicle. The Fire Department extricated two victims from a vehicle. The Companies worked with Pitman Police Department and Gloucester County EMS. We hope the demonstration had a positive impact on the students who observed the drill. 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.

The Highland Chemical Engine Company for the month of April responded to 16 calls for service and participated in 4 training nights. Total members for training and calls are 144 with 15 hours combined.

On Thursday May 18th , Highland joined Fire Company #1, along with the Junior Firefighters in a staged DUI accident in front of Pitman High School. This was done in coordination with SADD, to show the dangers of driving under the influence. Highland would like to thank the student victims, Pitman High School SADD Club, Pitman Police Department, Pitman Police SRO's, and Gloucester County EMS for their time and L J Wurst Towing for the donated vehicle. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with Highland, feel free to stop by any Tuesday night at 7pm.

The Pitman Junior Firefighter Program is currently training on saw safety and roof ventilation techniques. They just concluded their training on radio communications and search and rescue techniques. The Juniors program dedicate themselves to teaching the future of the fire service. The Junior Firefighter program is always looking for new members between the ages of 14-18. If you are interested in becoming a part of the Pitman Junior Firefighter program, they meet the first and third Monday of each month.

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 June 19<sup>th</sup> 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! Due to Senior Prom, Senior Outreach will meet this Thursday 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.

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 was awarded a \$1,500.00 grant from ANJEC, the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions. The funds will be used for cleanup at Alcyon Lake and invasive species removal.

The Bio Blitz will take place on June 10 from 7:00 am to noon. Information on this event is on the Borough website.

Mayor Razze noted that Planning Board member Slenkamp had mentioned plantings at the Lake. Mayor Razze would like to make sure that any plantings are not done in the buffer area.

### **Councilman Mazzola**

To start I would like to echo your words, Mayor, and express my sincerest condolences to Sandi and her family.

### **Board of Education:**

The latest Board of Education meeting was held on May 17th and featured recognitions for Kindle students and staff. I wanted to highlight 2 of those awards. Mrs. Jacobo was recognized as the Staff Spotlight for her work with the ESL program, including her time spent visiting the families' homes to help

them beyond the classroom. In her presentation, Mrs. Jacobo specifically mentioned McCowan Library's children's librarian - who she referred to as unparalleled - for all of her help with the ESL children, Parks and Rec for their offerings, and the Pitman Police Department, acknowledging their efforts to engage with her students and their families to help them all feel more comfortable and safer here in Pitman.

As Mrs. Mason finished her spotlights, she told the story of a student who enrolled at Kindle School 2-3 months ago from Peru not speaking or understanding any English. A 3rd grader, Stephanie, whose family works with Ms. Jacobo in her ESL program, immediately stepped up and not only befriended this new student but became a translator and a mentor for her. She is helping her new friend navigate school and walks her home and has been teaching her how to get around Pitman. Stephanie has gone above and beyond to help a fellow student in need, and in the process sets an example of what it means to be kind and caring.

Congratulations to Mrs. Jacobo for building a program that fosters community in a way that shows in and out of the classroom. We are lucky to have her in our district and in our community.

### **Councilperson James**

#### **Town Wide Yard Sale**

Today is the last day to register for the Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, June 3rd if you would like your address to be included on the map. Please email me and I will send you the link to sign-up. Councilperson James noted that if you don't make the deadline to sign up, you can still have a yard sale, but you will not be on the list or the map.

Link: <https://forms.gle/sqattGf2Vv4hQ6SH6>

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

On behalf of the Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce, we would love to thank every vendor, volunteer, visitor, and every Pitman business, Borough department, and non-profit organization for making The 2023 Lori Poisker Memorial Craft Show a mighty success!! Even in the face of uncertainty concerning Saturday's weather forecast, everyone stayed so positive. Then, the first ever Craft Show to take place on a Sunday arrived Uptown smoothly, seamlessly. We are truly a community of brilliant humans who work hard and well and joyfully together!

The Chamber recognizes and deeply appreciates the time and care taken by Kara Knauss, who organized and thoughtfully guided the event and its people through a successful weekend!

Special thanks to the Pitman Police Department for keeping us safe, and our rock star volunteers for keeping us steady—especially during load-in and clean up! Public Works made our streets gorgeous and tidy in the weeks leading up to and during the show! Parks and Recreation tended to Ballard Park so it was beautiful and inviting! Our sponsors were so generous! The overwhelmingly glowing reviews flowing in from our vendors belong to each and every one of you!

It was a memorable and historic day, because Pitman shines with the magic of the people who love living, working, and serving here! We can't wait to see everyone back for the Fall!

### **McCowan Memorial Library**

For the month of April 4,263 people visited the library and there were 132 internet users. There were 22 children's programs with 268 people in attendance.

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**

The Historic Preservation Commission met on May 11. Three applications were reviewed, and all were approved. The Commission spoke with the new owners of the Kelly Green building about their plans for the location.

The Economic Development Committee met on May 18. Discussed last Sunday's craft fair and the Best in County program. There was a discussion on window decals to recognize business' years they have been established in the Borough and a discussion on empty business fronts in town.

For the Highway Department for the period May 9 to May 19 – Trash – 10 loads collected (137.87 tons). Recyclables 7 loads (31.18 tons). Brush and leaves – collected 110 yards of brush and 30 yards of leaves. Replaced 4 street signs, spent 15 hours patching/repairing sink holes, ran the street sweeper for 16 hours and painted the curb lines on Broadway.

The Department attended the craft fair and collected the trash from the fair. The Department helped the School District remove the old white trailer from the High School and power washed the museum. The Department will be handing out new recycling stickers to be placed on containers.

For the Water/Sewer Department for the period May 8 – May 19 - Did 19 water/sewer mark outs, plunged 1 stoppage, upgraded 10 meters and replaced 4 meter bodies. Turned water on/off at various locations, replaced water service at Vassar Avenue and started the Lakeside Avenue water main project. Drained and cleaned the Summit Tower.

Mayor Razze asked if there are additions to any reports – Councilman Weng noted, that as liaison to the Memorabilia Committee, he would like to introduce some special guests. Mrs. Sho and some young volunteers are in attendance to tell Council about some upcoming events.

Max addressed Council – he is one of the young volunteers at the Museum. Katherine Sho introduced herself and invited Council to a play the young volunteers will be performing, Pitman's Magical Schoolhouse, on June 5 at the Grove Auditorium. Admission is free and all are invited to attend.

## **Old Business**

**Ordinance No. 02, 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 (Mazzola)**

Second Reading

Motion to open the Public Hearing: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Ayes all.



**New Business**

Councilwoman Milward 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. 85, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the Repaving of Boundary Road from Domenic Road to Alcyon Boulevard**

**Resolution No. 86, 2023 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council, of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Awarding a Contract to Schaefer Fireworks For a Independence Day Fireworks Display**

Motion: Milward

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Milward: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Event Permit Applications** (Milward)

**Event:** Planting

Organization: Pitman Environmental Commission

Date and Time: June 3, 2023, 9am-12pm

Location: Alcyon Lake

Insurance Certificate provided: **NA**

Contact Person: Joshua Hitchner

**Event:** Pitman HS All Sports Banquet

Organization: Pitman HS

Date and Time: June 8, 2023, 4-10pm

Location: Alcyon Park

Insurance Certificate provided: **NA**

Contact Person: Stephanie Tartaglia

Motion: Milward

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Councilperson James: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Milward: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Event:** Hallowed Grounds Coffee Co.  
Organization:  
Date and Time: June 3, 2023, 9am-5pm  
Location: Sunset Auditorium parking lot  
Insurance Certificate provided: **NO**  
Contact Person: Matt Gargano  
Motion: Milward, pending proof of insurance

Second: Weng

Roll Call:  
Councilperson James: Yes  
Councilman Mazzola: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes  
Councilwoman Milward: Yes

**Event:** Fun Run & Costume Contest  
Organization:  
Date and Time: June 10, 2023, 8-9am  
Location: sidewalks through town (see application)  
Insurance Certificate provided: **NO**  
Contact Person: Vanessa James  
(has not been reviewed by PD)

Councilwoman Milward noted that proof of insurance has been provided, but the Police Department has not yet reviewed the application.

Motion: Milward (pending Police Department review) Second: Weng

Roll Call:  
Councilperson James: Abstain  
Councilman Mazzola: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes  
Councilwoman Milward: Yes

**Payment of Bills**

Motion: Mazzola

Second: Weng

Roll Call:  
Councilperson James: Yes  
Councilman Mazzola: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

Councilman Kelly: Yes  
Councilwoman Milward: Yes

**Public Portion**

Motion to open to the public: James  
Ayes all.  
Time: 8:22 pm

Second: Kelly

Walt Madison, 152 West Avenue, noted that hearing Councilman Kelly note that the Kelly Green building was the first theatre in Pitman reminded him that it was also where Charles Slack started Wyanoke Group.

Motion to close the public portion: Milward  
Ayes all.  
Time: 8:23 pm

Second: Weng

**Miscellaneous**

Mayor Razze noted that Memorial Day service will start at 10:45 at Grove Auditorium

**Adjournment**

Motion: Weng

Second: Mazzola

Ayes all.

Time: 8:25 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Abdill  
Recording Secretary