

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
July 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 Vigilante: Present

Approval of Minutes

Work Minutes and Council Minutes from July 10, 2023

Motion: Milward

Second: Mazzola

Roll Call:

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

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

Special Presentation – Swearing in of Officers

Chief McAteer stated he is very happy to have this official swearing in of these two Officers. Chief McAteer stated that all of the men and women of the Pitman Police Department exhibit the type of commitment, dedication and devotion to the community that these 2 Officers exhibit and congratulated both Officers.

Mayor Razze swore in Lt. Jonathan Streater.

Lt. Streater thanked his family, Chief McAteer and the Pitman Police Department, and Mayor and Borough Council for their support of him and the entire Department.

Mayor Razze swore in Detective Sergeant Nick Barbetto.

Detective Sergeant Barbetto thanked his wife and the Pitman Police Department for their support.

Mayor Razze advised there would be a very brief recess to allow those who will not be staying for the remainder of the meeting to exit.

Council Reports

Councilwoman Milward – no report.

Councilman Weng – no report.

Councilman Mazzola

Finance & Administration:

The Clerk's office would like to welcome Carol Camacho to the role of Deputy Clerk effective today. Carol comes to Borough Hall from way across the street at McCowan Library where she worked for 20 years. Carol is a welcome addition to the office!

Also, the search is ongoing for a new CFO and anyone interested can see the job posting for details.

Board of Education:

This past meeting saw the approval of a contract for teachers, ensuring that the school year will start with a contract in place. It was also discussed and consensus approval that the Pitman Elementary School mascot will be the "Pitman Cubs" helping to unify the Walls and Kindle students who will then grow into Panthers!

Council President Fitzpatrick

In June the Zoning Officer reviewed 18 permits and investigated 4 properties for possible zoning violations. The Planning Board met on July 17th and approved 2 site plan waivers; the next meeting is August 21st at 7 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Sustainable Pitman will be present at the Pop-up park this Thursday, July 27th, they will have electric vehicles, Public Works Director Fred Rodi and other energy saving ideas.

Councilwoman James

Parks & Recreation

This Wednesday (7/26) night make sure to check out our second Open Mic Night at Sunset Auditorium from 7-9 p.m. Please bring a chair.

Guidelines for participants

- 2-3 songs depending on sign-ups
- Have your instrument tuned
- No inappropriate lyrics

Sign-ups begin at 6:30 p.m.

Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce

Pop-Up Parks are back this Thursday from 6-8 p.m. at Ballard Park and will run every Thursday through August 17th. Pop-Up Parks will include Live Music, Visalli's Farm Market, Catering by Thyme, and Characters by Over The Top Party Planning.

This Friday from 5pm-8pm, is the Fourth Friday celebration in Uptown Pitman. The Summer Swelter Beer Garden on Theatre Avenue will feature Icarus Brewing. Ballard Park will feature Big Papa Jai's BBQ truck, live music by Johnny Slide and family friendly entertainment that is free for all, including face painting, balloon art, temporary tattoos, selfie stations, and more!

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

The Borough Historic Preservation Committee met on July 13th. Three applications were reviewed and all were approved.

The Borough Economic Development Committee met on July 20th. Discussion included the Best of Gloucester County voting (deadline to vote is July 29), recognizing local businesses for years they have operated in the Borough, vacant storefronts in town and the best use for those locations and streamlining the Borough ordinance for film projects in the Borough.

Public Works - For the period 7/11 – 7/21

- 11 loads of trash collected (136.03 tons)
- 7 Loads of recyclables collected (30.85 tons)
- 129 yards of brush collected
- 15 hours spent cleaning the tops of storm drains
- 20 hours patching and repairing potholes and sink holes
- Ran the street sweeper for 30 hours
- Approximately 80 curbside inspections of recycling containers were done
- cleaned up a downed tree on Wildwood Ave

Public Works Manager Fred Rodi went to the library to talk to children about Storm Drains and gave out toy balls. Fred also participated in Clean Communities activities at the Dell and Theatre Ave.

Water Department for the period 07/10/-/07/21

- Did 34 water & sewer mark out requests
- plunged out 3 sewer stoppages
- Read 10 meters for settlement
- re-read 2 meters for billing questions
- Replaced 1 meter body
- upgraded 7 meter heads
- Turned water off & on at various locations
- Repaired the storm drain and sink hole on Esplanade Ave.
- Repaired water leaks on Woodlyne and N Brentwood
- Replaced water services on Cedar Ave.

Steve Bernat participated with Fred Rodi at the Library letting kids participate in “touch a truck” showing them our water Vector Truck.

Public Works Secretary Bonnie along with the ladies of the finance office were able to do the water bills completely in house saving the Borough \$4,200 per year.

Recycling report for the month of June

- 19 loads of single stream recycling collected (71.24 tons) at a cost of \$5,282.29.
- Bag fees of \$750.00
- Two loads of metal were delivered to Matteos for a profit of \$561.00.
- Mulch and brush (258 square yards) hauled to various locations at a cost of \$2,322.00
- .81 tons of e-waste collected

Motion to open to the public: Milward
Ayes all. Second: Weng

There being no public comment on Ordinance No 06, 2023,

Motion to close to the public: Milward
Ayes all. Second: Weng

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 06, 2023: Milward Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: Yes	Councilperson James: Yes
Councilman Kelly: Yes	Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilwoman Milward: Yes	Councilman Weng: Yes

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. 105, 2023 - Resolution Of The Mayor And Council Of The Borough Of Pitman, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey Authorizing A Closed Meeting

Resolution No. 106, 2023 - Resolution Of The Mayor And Council Of The Borough Of Pitman, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey Approving A 3% Salary Increase For All Current Non-Contractual Employees Of The Borough Of Pitman, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey

Resolution No. 107, 2023 - Resolution Of The Mayor And Council Of The Borough Of Pitman, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey, Extending The Grace Period For Third Quarter 2023 Taxes

Resolution No. 108, 2023 - Resolution Of Support From The Mayor And Council Of The Borough Of Pitman, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey Authorizing The 2023 RTC Trail Grants Application

Resolution No. 109, 2023 - Authorizing The Cancellation And / Or Refund Of Taxes Due To The Property Owner Meeting The Requirements Of A 100% Disabled Veteran As Set Forth In N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30 And Is Exempt From Paying Property Taxes

Motion: Fitzpatrick Second: James

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: Abstain from P.O. #84005000, yes to the rest

Councilwoman Milward: Yes

Councilman Weng: Abstain from P.O. #84861000, yes to the rest

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Milward

Second: Weng

Ayes all.

Time: 8:27 P.M.

Resident Guy Groff, 504 Hudson Avenue expressed his concerns with traffic and congestion on Albert Avenue, which is a one-way street. Mr. Groff is particularly concerned with traffic at dismissal time at Memorial School due to Albert Avenue being a one way street. He has discussed his concerns with Chief McAteer and would like to see something come to eliminate the problem.

Walt Madison, 152 West Avenue would like to recognize Fred Rodi and the Public Works Department for their responsiveness in any situation. In his opinion, the Department is the unsung heroes of the Borough.

There being no further public comment:

Motion to close the public portion: Mazzola

Second: Milward

Ayes all.

Time: 8:35 P.M.

Mayor Razze explained the collapse of Esplanade Avenue and commended the Borough Water Department on the rapid response to the situation.

Closed Session

Motion to go into Closed Session: Fitzpatrick

Second: James

Ayes all.

Time: 8:35 P.M.

Motion to re-open Regular Meeting: Kelly

Second: Weng

Ayes all

Time: 9: 01 P.M.

Miscellaneous

Mayor Razze noted that September 11th of this year falls on a Monday that would be a Council meeting. He feels the 911 Ceremony is important and would like members of Council to consider changing the start time of the event to 5:30p.m., to accommodate holding the meeting and attending the 911 ceremony.

Adjournment

Motion: Weng

Second: Mazzola

Time: 9:04 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McCafferty, Borough Clerk