

BOROUGH OF PITMAN
WORK SESSION MINUTES
JANUARY 9, 2023
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order

Time: 7:00 p.m.

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 on December 5, 2022, posted on the Borough Hall front door, and advertised on the Borough of Pitman website continuously since December 5, 2022.

Roll Call

Council President Fitzpatrick: absent
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

Discussion

Motion to Open Discussion: Councilman Weng
Time: 7:02 p.m.

Second: Councilperson James

Utility Credit Request

Councilman Kelly explained that the resident at 154-156 South Broadway (Block 25 Lot 9) is requesting a credit to his water bill. Public Works turned off his water and the office never made his account inactive. During the 4th quarter of 2021 thru the 3rd quarter of 2022 the minimum amount was billed.

Councilman Kelly made a motion to have the account at 154-156 South Broadway (Block 25 Lot 9) credited, seconded by Councilman Weng.

Roll Call:

Council President Fitzpatrick: absent
Councilman Kelly: yes
Councilwoman Milward: yes
Mayor Razze:

Councilperson James: yes
Councilman Mazzola: yes
Councilman Weng: yes

A resolution to memorialize this action will be done at the January 23, 2023 regular meeting.

Holly Glen HOA Utility Reimbursement

Borough Solicitor Vigilante reported on the Holy Glen HOA request for reimbursement from the municipality for electricity and snow removal. Her office had reached out to the HOA and she is waiting for an update. After a discussion regarding the amount the HOA is requesting, the suggestion was made to ask Public Works for the cost it would take them to snowplow that location if the Borough were to do it; along with getting the cost that Atlantic City Electric charges for street lighting.

NJDEP

Solicitor Vigilante reported this is a required amendment to our Flood Ordinance - Chapter 29. It will repeal and replace the existing chapter 29 required by FEMA and DEP. The current flood plan administrator is the Public Works Manager and the Council needs to decide to keep this administrator or change it. The ordinance can be discussed in the next work session, but the DEP needs to approve it

before we can introduce it. The DEP needs to have the draft before February 2, 2023 and we need to adopt it by May 2, 2023. A discussion will be held again about this at our next work session on January 23, 2023. The optional provisions mentioned in this ordinance are a higher standard than DEP recommends, however none of it can be changed per the DEP.

PZ Ordinance Update

Nick Aspras Pitman Planning Zoning Board Chairman reported on the Accessory Use standards within the Accessory Building code. He referred to Tim Kernan's memo dated October 13, 2022, the last paragraph. He addressed Councilperson James question from a previous meeting regarding the R-3 Zone. Chairman Aspras explained the high density zone is meant for COAH housing. Councilperson James corrected Chairman Aspras and said her question was regarding sheds and setbacks in the grove. Chairperson Aspras explained the Grove setback is 5 ft and since the Grove is in the historic district it is matching the existing setbacks. The old height was 20 ft and it is now being proposed to 16 ft; the size of the lot was floating and the Planning Zoning Board has decided to add a "not to exceed 750 sq ft". to the code. No action was taken. The Council will introduce the ordinance at the next meeting on January 23, 2023.

Miscellaneous

Councilwoman Milward discussed making a 15 minute parking spot in front of Rose Bud Florist. She will follow up with the Chief to add to the parking ordinance.

Councilwoman Milward updated council - She is currently working with the Chief and Public Works regarding the Presbyterian Church on Wildwood. The church used to have a daycare and half of the sidewalk is yellowed out so no one can park there. The majority of their parking spaces are accessible. However, since there is no more daycare, the church would like to get a few parking spots in that area. The Chief went out and assessed the area. He believes there could be 2 to 3 spots created. Councilwoman Milward will continue to update Council.

Councilperson James reported on the activities that will be happening on January 16, 2023, Martin Luther King Day of Service. A signup genius has been established and is available on the website and Facebook page. Listed below are the activities and times:

12 - 1 p.m. - Clean Up Uptown Pitman (Meet in front of Borough Hall)

10 a.m. - 12 p.m. (2 hour time slot) - Help sort & organize donations (Fig Leaf Thrift - First Baptist Church of Pitman)

1 p.m. to 7 p.m. (2 hour time slots) - Assist with Meal Preparation & Distribution (Lighthouse Community Center - First Baptist Church of Pitman)

Motion to close discussion: Councilwoman Milward
Time: 7:23 p.m.

Second: Councilman Weng

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Weng
Time: 7:23 p.m.

Second: Councilperson James

Stephanie Vantwuyver, 135 Colonial Ave – Ms. Vantwuyver is here to discuss the hard water issues happening on Colonial Ave and in her house. There are hard water stains on her appliances and clothes, and they are currently filtering their drinking water. Ms. Vantwuyver read off comments made by her neighbors. Does the Council have a timeline for when this problem will be fixed? Councilman Kelly and Mayor Razzo answered saying there is an infrastructure problem and went into detail about the process on fixing the problem. Councilman Kelly also stated he will talk to Public Works about auto flushing.

Sandy Keller, 139 W. Holly Ave. – Ms. Keller discussed in regards to the parking spots, the Borough may be able to gain some more parking spots on Northeast Ave., around the grove. She suggested to change the 2 way street into a one way street. Ms. Keller continued to say, usually when people park on that street, specifically for the shows, there is parking for 4-5 cars along Sunrise Park. If it were a one way street, there is a possibility to get 8 parking spots. Mayor Razzo spoke that if the parking ordinance is being amended, can we add this to it? Councilwoman Milward will speak with the Chief to add this to the ordinance. Mayor Razzo suggested to increase the parking after the demo of the property was complete. It was suggested that the Council amended the ordinance first before painting the lines.

Michael Grillo, 155 West Ave. – Mr. Grillo spoke about the sheds in the Grove. In his opinion about 85% of them don't conform with the 5ft easement guidelines. Mr. Grillo suggested that the Planning Zoning Board revisit the 5ft setback and possibly give some leeway to the residents in the area.

Motion to close public portion: Councilman Mazzola Second: Councilman Weng
Time: 7:37 p.m.

Miscellaneous – none

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Councilwoman Milward Second: Councilman Mazzola
Time: 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McCafferty, RMC
Borough Clerk