

BOROUGH OF PITMAN
WORK SESSION MINUTES
May 22, 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 and the 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
Clerk McCafferty: absent

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

Discussion

Motion to Open Discussion: Weng
Time: 7:03 p.m.

Second: James

School District Grant

Mayor Razze spoke about the School District Grant that could be used in a joint effort with the School District and the Borough for recreation facilities. The school was awarded that grant in the amount of \$75,000. The money will be used for a variety of projects including the resurfacing of the tennis courts, tree removal, irrigation behind memorial school and the installation of ramps at Memorial.

Mayor Razze spoke about the fireworks display. The display will be held on July 1st due to staffing issues with Schaeffer Pyrotechnics. We will need to discuss additional funding for this for next year.

Fun Run

Councilperson James just mentioned the event.

School District

Councilman Mazzola received an email from Superintendent Crispin regarding 3 distinct topics between the Borough and them. The most significant one is the water. Where we are flushing the hydrant on Waverly, two times a day, the water is collecting and sitting for days. Mr. Rodi looked at it and will temporarily adjust the flushing schedules. Mayor Razze asked if Mr. Rodi could check and see if there is another hydrant that could be used for flushing.

Councilman Mazzola continued with topic #2 which is about the sidewalks on Linden Ave and how incomplete the path is. The Supervisor of Public Works suggested some state grants which the school is looking into.

Councilman Mazzola concluded with topic #3 which is about repaving the teacher lot to help shift the grading. Superintendent Crispin was hoping to be added to an existing project the Borough had in the area, however there is none.

Councilman Weng started a discussion about enforcement issues in Municipal Court. With the back up in cases, any suggestions on how we can enforce the codes differently. Solicitor Vigilante talked about the fines being in daily increments and how the code enforcement officer has to continue to serve the violations and continue to

take them to court. Mayor Razze voiced his frustration with the court system currently. Solicitor Vigilante continued to say that the courts cannot issue a bench warrant due to the measures put in place in 2020 and that Mantua is working 3 days a week trying to catch up on cases. The suggestion was made to speak with the Prosecutor and try to get some of our cases to go to trial. Mayor Razze mentioned that this is not just a Pitman concern but that all of the Mayors in Gloucester County see the same problem.

Councilwoman Milward spoke about the Brown & Harmon Field. Little League reached out to say there are bees in the fields and they are having a hard time holding games and is looking for Borough help. Councilperson James spoke about this matter stating that this was brought up at the Park & Recreation meeting. The bees are pollinators and cannot be exterminated. Councilman Weng said he would bring this topic to the Environmental Commission.

Motion to close discussion: Weng
Time: 7:25p.m.

Second: Kelly

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Mazzola
Time: 7:25 p.m.

Second: Milward

Walt Madison, 152 West Ave, spoke about Memorial Field at the Dell, there is a large puddle at the entrance and was asking if it could be filled in. Mr. Madison continued to speak about the history of how the fireworks vendor was chosen.

Sandi Keller, 155 Fourth Ave, asked for clarity on the process of stagnant pools or high grass. Councilman Weng answered by stating a letter is issued by the Borough Code Enforcement Officer stating the issue and the time frame to correct the issue before getting the summons. If you call the Borough and speak with the Code Enforcement Officer and discuss needing more time in more cases than not, he will work with you to resolve the issue. However, if no communication is made, then a summons is issued with a court date. Ms. Keller then asked if a double check could be done before issuing a summons. Councilman Weng explained that the Code Enforcement Officer, the Zoning Officer and the Police all try and communicate to the homeowner to resolve the issue prior to the letter being sent.

Shane Ross, 100 Brookfield Ave, added to the conversation of families needing help with yard work or cleaning up their yard, let him know and he will try and get a team together to help.

Jim Fortney, 502 Carew Ave, spoke about the 4-way stop at Carew & Center. Chief McAteer will check into this.

Motion to close public portion: Milward
Time: 7:40 p.m.

Second: Mazzola

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Weng
Time: 7:40 p.m.

Second: James

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Abdill, Recording Secretary