

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 23, 2020**

Call to Order

Time: 7:57 p.m.

Salute to the Flag/Moment of Silence

Council President Blass

Open Public Meetings Act Statement - Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, I hereby announce that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by adopting a schedule of regular meetings for 2020, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times", and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 4, 2020.

Roll Call

Council President Blass: Present
Councilwoman James: Present
Councilwoman Rudley: Present
Mayor Razze: Present
Borough Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Present
Councilman Mazzola: Present
Councilman Weng: Present
Borough Solicitor Krachun: Present

Approval of Minutes

Work Session and Formal Meeting Minutes of November 9, 2020

Motion: Blass

Second: Fitzpatrick

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Council Reports

Councilman Mazzola

Public Property

The new tables and chairs that were purchased with remaining trust money have been delivered and installed on Theatre Avenue. Thank you to Administrator O'Donnell, Public Works employees, and Economic Development Chairwoman Shari Hulitt for their work on coordinating this upgrade. Planters have also been delivered to create a distinction at the back of the park and will be installed once we will be able to fill them with soil. The three trash receptacles are enroute and will be placed once they arrive.

Councilwoman James

Liaison: Finance & Audit, Personnel, Welfare Office, Library Board, Chamber of Commerce, Municipal Alliance, Task Force on Diversity & Inclusion

Finance Office

Our Tax Collector Beth Ruhl reports that the tax collection rate for 2020 is 97.28%, which is up from last year's

tax collection rate of 97.01%.

Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce

The last Chamber meeting was held on November 17, and Officers and Board Members were nominated and elected. Congratulations to Interim President Patrick Bradley, Treasurer Jenny Mazzola, Secretary Kara Knauss, and Board Members Emily Matthias, Lauren Canna, Benjamin Leis, Stacey Myers, and Keryl Hausman. Many thanks to Yvonne Jacobs, Gwyn Glass, Al Magonagle and Amanda Lampkin-Porto for their past service.

Pitman Bucks may be purchased this year on Small Business Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Broadway Bakery. Pitman Bucks spend the same as cash at most Pitman businesses and are perfect for teacher gifts, stocking stuffers, and the couple on your list who has everything. This year Pitman Bucks will be sold at face value with no Bonus Cash. They are available in \$50 increments and there is no limit to the amount you may purchase.

The Chamber is hosting a social distanced Santa in Ballard Park starting this Saturday evening. Santa will be visiting Ballard Park from November 28 through December 19 every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Please wear a mask if you plan on visiting Santa.

Stay tuned for some additional Chamber sponsored holiday fun coming soon, and please remember to shop local this holiday season!

McCowan Memorial Library

During the month of October, 2,771 people visited McCowan Memorial Library and there were 98 internet users. There were fourteen children’s programs with 149 people in attendance. The Library Board of Trustees will meet on Tuesday, November 24 in Borough Hall Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.

Task Force on Diversity & Inclusion

There will be no public meeting of the Task Force this month due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Council President Blass

Economic Development Committee

The Economic Development Committee met on November 19. The group was updated on a video campaign for small business Saturday. The group approved the purchase of new banners for the posts uptown.

Sustainable Pitman

Sustainable Pitman (formerly “The Green Team”) hosted a special presentation on November 18 titled “Calming Holiday Stress in the COVID-19 Era.” Therapist Sile Keane provided helpful hints in dealing with stress.

Public Works

This is a short work week for Public Works employees because of the Thanksgiving holiday. They will do their best collecting leaves and will try to cover the whole town this week. Two trucks were out on Saturday trying to keep up with the demand and volume.

Since our last meeting, the Highway Division of Public Works

- Collected ten loads of trash totaling 134.53 tons
- Collected ten loads of recyclables totaling 39.32 tons
- Collected seventy-four yards of brush
- Collected 2,523 yards of leaves

Worked nine hours patching and repairing potholes and sink holes
Worked eighteen hours grinding leaves and brush for mulch
Ran the street sweeper for four hours

The Water and Sewer Department

Performed seventeen water and sewer mark out requests
Plunged out eight sewer stoppages
Jetted one sewer main
Took water samples
Read seven meters for real estate settlements
Re-read one meter for billing questions
Replaced one-meter body
Upgraded two-meter heads

Councilman Weng

No report

Councilwoman Rudley

Parks and Recreation

Director Fox attended three hours of training for the new website and we expect to go live very shortly!
Recreation will meet on December 3 at its usual time, 6:30 p.m. I anticipate that this meeting will be via Zoom.

Senior Outreach Committee

The Committee members met via conference call on Thursday night and discussed adding some content to the Borough website to provide useful links and referrals for Senior Citizens. We hope to become a better information resource for Seniors, despite not being able to hold any events at this time.

Environmental Commission

The Environmental Commission will meet on December 3 at its usual time, 7:30 p.m.

I wish all our Pitman residents and their families a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving. You are always welcome to reach out to me with any questions or concerns at 609-214-6342, or via e-mail at amy.rudley@pitman.org.

Councilman Fitzpatrick read the following report:

Combined Planning and Zoning Board

The Planning and Zoning Board adopted the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan into the Master Plan at the last meeting on November 16, 2020.

The Planning and Zoning Board has been approached about a backyard chicken pilot program. I have done research and visited some coops. It will be discussed at the next Planning Board meeting.

The Planning Board approved the site plan and variance for 57 S. Broadway and 102 Pitman Avenue.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for December 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will most likely be a Zoom meeting. Administrator O'Donnell and I interviewed a candidate this morning for the Plumbing Inspector position for the Borough. We will interview another one tomorrow afternoon.

New Business

Resolution No. 163, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Appointment of Stephen Considine as Qualified Purchasing Agent for the Borough of Pitman

Motion: James
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____

Second: Blass
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 164, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Refund of Real Estate Taxes – Wells Fargo Real Estate Tax Service

Motion: James
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____

Second: Weng
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 165, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Refund of Real Estate Taxes – CoreLogic Tax Service, LLC

Motion: James
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____

Second: Blass
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 166, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Release of Premium Bid Money

Motion: James
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____

Second: Weng
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 167, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Contract for the Lakeview Pump Station to Supply and Install Two (2) Fairbanks NIJHIUS Four Inch Bittogether Pumps for the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester

Motion: Blass
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Second: James
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Resolution No. 168, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Extension of the Waiver of Application and Fee Requirement for Outdoor Display of Merchandise Under Chapter 35, Zoning, Section 38, Outdoor Display of Merchandise, of the Code of the Borough of Pitman

Motion: Mazzola
Second: Rudley
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 169, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Resolution No. 90, 2020, Authorizing Merryman’s Pub’s Use of Municipal Sidewalk and Parking Lot for the Serving of Food and Alcohol in Compliance with Their Retail Consumption License and in Accordance with Executive Order No. 2020-150

Motion: Mazzola
Second: Weng
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 170, 2020 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Resolution No. 92, 2020, Authorizing Kelly Green Brewery, Human Village Brewery, and Stage Right Wine Bar to Use Municipal Sidewalk in Compliance with Executive Order No. 2020-150

Motion: Mazzola
Second: Blass
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Payment of Bills

Motion: James
Second: Weng
Roll Call:
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilman Fitzpatrick: Abstains to # 39822 and #16444; votes to approve payment of all other bills
Councilwoman James: Yes
Councilman Mazzola: Abstains to # 39773, #39781, and #16436; votes to approve payment of all other bills
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes
Mayor Razze: _____

Event Permit & Facility Use Agreement

Event: Running Event

Sponsor: Good Day for a Run

Contact Person: Ken Culbertson

Date: January 1, 2021

Motion: Rudley

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo: _____

Event approved contingent upon submission of a Certificate of Liability Insurance Naming the Borough of Pitman as Additional Insured.

Event: Candlelight Shopping Night & Fire Pits and Family Photo Fun

Sponsor: GPCC

Dates: See Event Permit Application

Location: Theatre Avenue Pocket Park

Contact Person: Jenny Mazzola

Motion: Rudley

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Abstain

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo: _____

Event approved contingent upon submission of a Certificate of Liability Insurance Naming the Borough of Pitman as Additional Insured, and after consultation with the Fire Marshal and approval of the fire pits.

Event: Zumba Class

Sponsor: Personal Touch Group Fitness

Dates: December 2, 2020 – March 15, 2021 (Monday and Wednesday)

Time: 5:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

Location: Grove Auditorium

Contact Person: Joyceann Mazzucco

Motion: Rudley

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razzo: _____

Discussion among members of Council included the necessity of having three sides of the Grove Auditorium open to comply with the COVID-19 restrictions on public gatherings and having to move the benches to make room for the class participants. Members of Council suggested the use of the Sunset Auditorium instead. The event was approved contingent upon submission of a Certificate of Liability Insurance Naming the Borough of Pitman as Additional Insured and the completion of a Facilities Use Form for either the Sunset or Grove Auditorium.

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Weng
Time: 8:26 p.m.

Second: Mazzola

Steve Roth, 15 Mansfield Avenue – Mr. Roth mentioned a recent rainstorm event where Alcyon Lake flooded the adjacent park. He asked what will be done in the future to keep that from happening again.

Councilwoman Rudley agreed, and mentioned that the type of flooding that occurred causes erosion to neighboring creeks and that members of the Environmental Commission have expressed concern and have had some discussion on this as well.

Mayor Razze said that presently the dam is being used as a spillway. In the past, when the dam was lowered to help drain the lake, it caused severe flooding downstream.

Motion to close the public portion: Weng
Time: 8:30 p.m.

Second: Fitzpatrick

Miscellaneous

Administrator O'Donnell stated that following the bid for advertising space on the Welcome to Pitman sign, three spaces are still available. She asked Council to approve another Request for Proposals for bids to be solicited for only the available positions on the sign.

Motion: Weng

Second: James

Voice vote:

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Fitzpatrick: Yes

Councilwoman James: Yes

Councilman Mazzola: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Razze: _____

Adjournment

Motion: Rudley

Second: Weng

Time: 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator

