

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 26, 2018**

Call to Order

Time: 8:04 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 2018, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 6, 2018.

Roll Call

Councilman Austin: Present
Councilman Pierpont: Absent
Councilwoman Rudley: Present
Mayor Johnson: Absent

Council President Blass: Present
Councilman Razze: Present
Councilman Weng: Present
Borough Solicitor Scaffidi: Present

Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Approval of Minutes

Work Session & Formal Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2018

Motion: Austin

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Absent
Councilman Razze: Abstain to Work Session; approves Formal Meeting Minutes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Council Reports

Councilman Austin read the following report:

McCowan Memorial Library

During the month of January, 4431 people visited the library, and 303 children attended story time. The next Library Board of Trustees meeting is on February 27. All are welcome.

Finance

On February 21, Council held a budget meeting. The budget is complete, and is being reviewed. We have worked extremely hard and hopefully we will have good news for the town in a few weeks. If things go as planned, there will be no increase to your municipal tax.

Councilman Blass

No report

Councilman Razzo read the following report:

Earlier this evening I attended a meeting of the Joint Insurance Fund and I was able to bring back a check, which I gave to Mrs. O'Donnell for reimbursement of some of the grant expenditures.

I also had the opportunity to attend the Board of Education meeting where several topics were discussed. The annual HIB report was given, and the Pitman Middle School was discussed and identified as a school in need of improvement. There were certain criteria that were evaluated with the schools needing to meet certain levels in the assessment. The area of concern at the Middle School was in attendance. As a result of being identified for improvement, they were able to obtain a grant of \$29,000.00 from the State of New Jersey to use toward whatever they deem to be appropriate.

The Board talked about their budget development and their special budget meeting will be held on March 27 at the Pitman High School. Their regular meeting will be on March 21.

Councilman Weng read the following report:

On Tuesday, February 20, I attended a meeting of the Combined Planning and Zoning Board. At that meeting the Historic Commission referred five applications to the Board, and all were approved.

The Board also discussed the status of the former Sony property and ways to encourage a more productive use of that property. They voted to request Mayor and Council to approve and allocate funds for the Borough Planner to study the effects of designating the area as a property in need of redevelopment.

Councilwoman Rudley

Councilwoman Rudley reported that the Pitman Police Department has been participating in the February Reading Challenge along with the students at Memorial School. The students challenged the Police Department to a "read off" and the results will be announced March 1.

The entire Police Department will be receiving health and wellness training from Debbie Shiffer from the TRICO JIF this Tuesday night. The emphasis of the training will be on the dangers of diabetes.

The Economic Development Committee met on February 22, and Councilwoman Rudley described the meeting as very ambitious and aggressive pertaining to new projects. She shared a compliment from a member of the public, who was in attendance, who said that for a Board this large, he has never seen a group work so well together towards the same common goal.

Councilwoman Rudley concluded by saying that plans are well underway for the Borough's first History Fair.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance No. 2, 2018 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter VII, Entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" of the Code of the Borough of Pitman

Second Reading – Public Hearing

Motion: Rudley

Second: Weng

Councilwoman Rudley stated that consideration was given to the suggestion of a member of Council to have no restrictions to parking on Snyder Avenue. The conclusion was that to allow this would not solve the parking problems being experienced by the residents. By issuing the Grove parking stickers to residents, the ban on parking trailers and commercial vehicles would take effect. Signage will be installed along the east side of Snyder Avenue in the near future. Councilman Austin expressed his belief that the parking on Snyder Avenue should be open to everyone. He suggested that a look should be taken at the amount of cars in the Borough that cannot fit into their driveway, overhanging into the roadway at night.

Motion to open to the public: Razze
Time: 8:25 p.m.

Second: Austin

Jeff Smith, 338 Snyder Avenue – Mr. Smith thanked Council for their efforts in correcting the problem with parking on Snyder Avenue, and asked about the signage being installed and how many permits would be issued per household.

Councilwoman Rudley said that initially two signs will be installed as enforcement warnings. Two permits will be given to each household, and additional permits may be purchased to park overnight on the Borough lots located throughout town. The closest lots to Snyder Avenue would be Ballard Avenue and Sunset Auditorium.

Chief McAteer said that the Police Department will provide time for the signs to be installed and for the change in parking restrictions to take effect. Enforcement will not begin until the signage is in place and residents are notified. There will be no in street parking on the east side of Snyder at any time going forward.

Motion to close public comment: Razze
Time: 8:30 p.m.

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: No
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Razze: No
Councilman Weng: Yes

New Business

Ordinance No. 3, 2018 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Execution and Recording of Deeds of Correction for Block 3/Lot 1 and Block 3/Lot 1.01 in the Borough of Pitman

First Reading

Motion: Rudley

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Council President Blass: ____

Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 41, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Execution of the Westville Regional Laboratory Shared Services Agreement With the Borough of Pitman

Motion: Razze
Second: Weng
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Council President Blass: ___
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 42, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving the Application of the 2017 Recycle Tonnage Grant for the Borough of Pitman

Motion: Razze
Second: Austin
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Council President Blass: ___
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 43, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Quote to Friedrich Heating and Air Conditioning Inc. for the Replacement of a Heat Pump, Air Handler with Back-up Heat Kit, and Heat Pump Thermostat in the Municipal Building of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

Motion: Rudley
Second: Weng
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Council President Blass: ___
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 44, 2018 Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing a Refund of a Street Opening Permit Fee to the Pitman Board of Education for Their Project at Walls School Contingent Upon Completion of the Project and Inspection of the Street Opening Repair by the Borough's Public Works Manager

Motion: Razze
Second: Austin
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Council President Blass: ___
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 45, 2017 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing a Closed Meeting

The general nature of the subjects to be discussed shall be:

Potential Litigation

Action may be taken.

Motion: Weng
Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Council President Blass: ____

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Payment of Bills

Motion: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Council President Blass: ____

Second: Razze

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Event Permit & Signage Application

Event: Yoga Class with Live Music

Applicant: Yoga Inspired

Contact Person: Jeff Somers

Date & Time: June 23, 2018; 12:00 p.m. - TBD

Location: Sunset Auditorium

Motion: Razze

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Council President Blass: ____

Second: Rudley

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Contingent upon proper insurance certificate being provided.

Event: Bike Race and Block Party

Applicant: Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce

Contact Person: John Fitzpatrick

Date & Time: June 9, 2018; 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Rolling Closures on Broadway, Holly, Cedar, Laurel and Block Party in Ballard Park

Motion: Razze

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Council President Blass: ____

Second: Weng

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Approved contingent upon submission of a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough as Additional Insured, and with the approval of the Police Department for the Bike Race only. A separate Event Permit with plans will need to be submitted for a Beer Garden.

Event: Fall Craft Show

Applicant: Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce

Contact Person: Lisa Morgey

Date & Time: September 15, 2018; 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Broadway from Holly to Laurel, Pitman Ave. to tracks, Ballard Ave. and Park

Motion: Razze

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Second: Austin

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Council President Blass: ____

Councilman Weng: Yes

Event: Spring Pop-up Park Takeover/Water Ice Truck

Applicant: Pitman Board of Education
Contact Person: MaryBeth Koniecki
Date & Time: May 3, 2018; 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Location: Ballard Park
Motion: Razze
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Council President Blass: ____

Second: Austin
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Event: Pitman Potter Festival 2018

Applicant: Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce
Contact Person: Vanessa James
Date & Time: October 20, 2018; 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Location: Ballard Park, Grove & Sunset Auditoriums, Shertel, McBurney, Theatre Ave. and surrounding areas
Motion: Razze
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Council President Blass: ____

Second: Austin
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Social Affair Permit Application

Applicant: Pitman Revitalization Corporation
Contact Person: John Fitzpatrick
Date & Time: March 24, 2018; 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Location: Pitman Gallery & Art Center
Motion authorizing the Borough Clerk and Chief of Police to sign the approval for the Social Affairs Permit Application:
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Council President Blass: ____

Second: Austin
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Approved contingent upon submission of a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough as Additional Insured, and with additional coverage to include Alcohol Liability.

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public:
Time: 8:52 p.m.

Second: Austin

Jim Fortney, 502 Carew Avenue – Mr. Fortney said that there are too many events being scheduled for Ballard Park. The grass is not growing, and it needs grass seed and seedlings planted. The trees should be trimmed, and events in the park should be postponed until the grass and the root issues are addressed.

Motion to close the public portion: Razze
Time: 8:55 p.m.

Second: Austin

Motion to enter into a closed meeting: Weng
Time: 8:55 p.m.

Second: Rudley

Motion to return to an open meeting: Razze
Time: 9:08 p.m.

Second: Weng

No action was taken pertaining to discussion in the closed meeting upon returning to an open meeting.

Adjournment

Motion: Razze
Time: 9:09 p.m.

Second: Rudley

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator