

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 12, 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: Present

Councilwoman Rudley: Present

Mayor Johnson: Present

Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Council President Blass: Present

Councilman Razze: Present

Councilman Weng: Present

Borough Solicitor Scaffidi: Present

**Approval of Minutes**

Budget Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2018

Motion: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Abstain

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Blass

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Razze: Abstain

Councilman Weng: Yes

Work Session, Formal Meeting, and Closed Formal Meeting Minutes of February 26, 2018

Motion: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Abstain

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Blass

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

**Council Reports**

**Councilman Austin** read the following report:

**McCowan Memorial Library**

In the month of February, there were 4,826 visitors to the library and 280 children attended story time. The new Library Director Andrew Coldren, started on March 12. I will be introducing him at the next Council Work Session Meeting.

**Finance Office**

The first reading of the proposed 2018 municipal budget will be tonight, and I am pleased to announce there will be no municipal tax increase this year.

**Councilman Blass** read the following report:

Over the past week, two break-ins have occurred at the Grove Auditorium. Thanks to the vigilant neighbors who reported these events, no vandalism or serious damage occurred.

The Historic Commission met last Thursday. All applications were approved, with the exception of one. In that case, a soon-to-be resident was seeking guidance on how to proceed with home renovations. The collective experience of the Commission, which includes builders and architects, provided information so that the project can begin.

As the nor'easters roared through the Borough these past two weeks, calls regarding trees increased. Two calls were able to be handled through our Public Works Department, which saved having to hire a tree company. The other three trees have been inspected by the Shade Tree Commission and are on the list for removal. I remind residents that if they see a potentially dangerous tree on Borough property to please call so that it can be dealt with.

**Councilman Razzo** read the following report:

The Recreation Commission met on March 1, and they discussed upcoming programs. All Borough programs can be found on the Borough's website under Recreation. Our other spring sports programs, such as soccer, baseball, softball, etc. can be found under their organization's websites.

The Commission was also visited by Gayle and Eric Todd who petitioned for the renaming of one of the recreational facilities in our town. This is a topic that was discussed last year, and it was determined at that time not to move forward with the change proposed by Mr. Todd. This evening, Mr. Todd asked the Commission to reconsider. Before doing so, the majority of the Commissioners agreed that the Commission should have some type of protocol or procedure in place regarding the criteria to name or rename one of our recreation facilities before making any recommendations to Council.

Recreation Director Andy Fox will be compiling information from other entities involved in the naming or renaming of facilities, or honoring individuals for their work with recreation and athletics. He will be reaching out the Board of Education, county and local Halls of Fame representatives to see what criteria those groups follow. The Commission will review and use that information to formulate a policy that can be used going forward.

The Commission also discussed the borough ordinance governing events before noon on Sundays; I will be providing the Commission with procedural information at their next meeting, and will report back to Council any recommendation that the Commission makes. Council rejected this proposal when it was initially brought for their consideration last December.

Thank you to Councilman Weng for attending the March Environmental Commission meeting on my behalf. His presence allowed me to stay at the Recreation Commission meeting for the discussion, and also to attend Pitman's third and fourth grade boys basketball tournament game.

I would like to compliment Councilman Austin, CFO Considine and Admin. O'Donnell for their hard work towards not having a municipal tax increase.

**Councilman Pierpont** read the following report:

I'd like to start my report by thanking Mr. Fred Rodi and our Public Works personnel for the tremendous job during last week's snow storm. Some of the totals incurred during this storm are as follows:

Eight tons of salt were spread

Fifteen bags of snow melt were used on the sidewalks and school crossing points

Ten hours of overtime for most folks working the plows, shovels and spreaders

Most nights ended near or shortly after midnight, with personnel reporting back for work at 6:00 a.m.

I think they did a terrific job getting our roads and sidewalks clear and safe. I did receive some feedback from residents offering their thanks and recommendations for improvement. I will be meeting with Mr. Rodi this week to discuss these recommendations.

I recently received notification from the New Jersey Department of Transportation that we were awarded a \$215,000 grant towards the repair of McClelland Avenue, from Broadway to N. Oak Avenue, and Woodland Avenue, from Broadway to Elm Avenue. I want to thank Mrs. O'Donnell and Martin Sander, our Borough Engineer for helping me put the grant request together and submitted on time. As of yet we have not heard of anything on our second request for aid to improve Seneca Avenue and Glen Lake Boulevard.

The Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring its first Networking Event for members of the Pitman Business Community on Monday, March 19, from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Human Village Brewing Company. This is a great opportunity for businesses from our area to get together and share ideas and information.

The Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce is also hosting a Pitman Grove Easter Egg Hunt and Activities on Saturday, March 24, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Activities will include an egg hunt, scavenger hunt, games, and a garden craft. All are invited to attend.

The Chamber of Commerce would also like to remind residents that an app for Uptown Pitman was developed and may be downloaded free. For more information, please visit the Uptown Pitman Facebook page.

### **Councilman Weng**

Councilman Weng reported that on March 1, he attended the Environmental Commission Meeting where the following topics were discussed:

- Renewing membership with the ANJEC

- Various projects including the local third grade student's tree planting project

- Events for Earth Day and Arbor Day

Finally, they discussed the issue regarding erosion around Alcyon Lake. Some photos were available to show the erosion in its current state, and the Environmental Commission decided to research some plants that can be used to help stabilize the bank and help with the erosion issue.

Councilman Weng said that he received an email from a resident with complimentary words for the Construction Office personnel, pertaining to their very helpful assistance with filing paperwork.

### **Councilwoman Rudley**

Councilwoman Rudley announced that the Pitman Police Department will host its annual Fishing Tournament on May 5, at Betty Park and Alcyon Lake from 9:00 a.m. until noon. The tournament is open to all students from Kindergarten to grade 12. Anyone wishing to participate should contact Cpl. Leach or Patrolman Pierson. Registrations can be picked up at the Pitman Police Department. All donations benefit the Pitman Police Department's K9 Unit.

The Pitman Police Department would like to thank Debbie Shiffer of the TriCo JIF for providing an excellent training on health and wellness for all department members and their families on February 27. The presentation on healthy eating was well received by all in attendance.

On the day of our Nor'easter, our volunteer fire fighters received over twenty calls in Pitman alone. Councilwoman Rudley thanked them on behalf of the entire community for their incredible efforts.

The Economic Development Committee is scheduled to meet this Thursday night at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room in Borough Hall. They are working on a number of new ideas, including the possibility of connecting to

another local bike path. When complete, it will provide bike access to the new hospital being built on Route 322, and to the Borough of Glassboro.

The Senior Outreach Committee will also be meeting this Thursday at 6:00 p.m., just prior to the Economic Development Committee meeting. The committee is working on organizing the fall Senior Outreach Fair, as well as toward arranging a trip to Ocean Grove, another New Jersey Camp Meeting community dating back to the 1870's.

**Mayor Johnson**

Mayor Johnson thanked Pitman Public Schools Superintendent Patrick McAleer, NJEA local union President Tony Capello, Board of Education President Judy Walker, Pitman Police Chief Dan McAteer and Pitman Police Sergeant Tom Zander for meeting with him to discuss safety in Borough schools. Mayor Johnson stated that the safety of our students is the priority of all who attended this meeting.

**Unfinished 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**

Second Reading – Public Hearing

Motion: Rudley Second: Weng

Motion to open to the public: Razze Second: Austin  
Time: 8:17 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close public comment: Razze Second: Austin  
Time: 8:17 p.m.

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes Councilman Razze: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes Councilman Weng: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**New Business**

**Ordinance No. 4, 2018 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank**

First Reading

Motion: Austin Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes Councilman Razze: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes Councilman Weng: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Motion to Introduce 2018 Municipal Budget Ordinance**

First Reading (Second Reading and Public Hearing; April 9, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.)

Copies available for public inspection at the McCowan Memorial Library and at Borough Hall, during normal business hours.

Motion: Austin Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Ordinance No. 5, 2018 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Detailing and Controlling the Sale and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages Within the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey**

First Reading

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: No  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 46, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Confirming the Report of the Tax Collector in the Matter of the Performance of Board-up Services for 353 Wesley Avenue, Block 37 Lot 17 on the Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey**

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 47, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Confirming the Report of the Tax Collector in the Matter of the Performance of Board-up Services for 462 Boulevard Avenue, Block 38 Lot 8 on the Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey**

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 48, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Sale of Surplus Property Owned by the Borough of Pitman, Via an Online Auction Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36 and the Advertisement Thereof**

Motion: Blass

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Council President Blass: Yes  
Councilman Razzo: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Resolution No. 49, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Keith A. Tetreault, Jr. as Part-Time Fire Safety Inspector for the**

**Borough of Pitman Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Fire Safety**

Motion: Rudley

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution No. 50, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Matthew Blake as a Member of the Borough of Pitman Economic Development Committee**

Motion: Rudley

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution No. 51, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor of Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Acknowledging and Authorizing the Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce to Proceed with the Application of a Social Affairs Permit and Authorizing the Mayor and Borough Clerk to Sign the Approval of Said Social Affairs Permit Application Relating to the Summer Swelter Beer Fest to be held at 400 N. Woodbury Road, on August 18, 2018**

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Rudley

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment of Bills**

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

**Event Permit**

**Event: Community Garden**

Applicant: Danielle Cooke

Contact Person: Danielle Cooke

Date & Time: April 2018 – December 20, 2018

Location: Borough property: Block 18 Lot 15

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

*Approved contingent upon the submission of a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough of Pitman as Additional Insured*

**Public Portion**

Motion to open to the public: Razze  
Time: 8:35 p.m.

Second: Blass

**Dani Cooke, 227 Boulevard Avenue** – Referring to the Event Permit Application for the Community Garden, Ms. Cooke stated that insurance coverage will be attained through Pitman Redevelopment’s plan.

**Shari Hulitt, 335 Roosevelt Avenue** – Ms. Hulitt said that she has added Public Works and Parks & Recreation to the GPCC’s Pitman App. She would like to have the trash collection schedule added as well, if that could be provided by the Borough. Ms. Hulitt offered her assistance to anyone who needs help with adding information to the site.

**Vanessa James, 2018 President, Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce** - Ms. James thanked Council for their support of the first Summer Swelter Beer Fest. Ms. James stated that she has updated the Pitman App with all the public meetings, and the Pitman Public School’s information is also on there now. She offered to work with anyone who may need assistance updating the App.

**Paul Bowen, 118 Fifth Avenue** - Mr. Bowen stated that he appreciates the Pitman community garden, and as a result of having it, he and his family have become very involved in the community. Mr. Bowen thanked Dani Cooke for her efforts with the garden.

**Barry Owen, 508 Pitman Avenue** - Mr. Owen thanked the on-call employee from the Public Works Department for the quick response to a weekend emergency at his home approximately two weeks ago.

**Kevin Austin, 562 Florence Avenue** - Mr. Austin congratulated Keith Tetreault, Jr. for being hired as a part-time Fire Inspector for the Borough. Mr. Austin said that he is confident that Mr. Tetreault will do a good job. Mr. Austin expressed his disappointment at not being given the opportunity to interview for the job and to have been able to make a choice for himself. He stated that much of the disappointment comes from knowing that there might be other factors involved that limit his ability to help the town, even without compensation. Mr. Austin claimed that in the past there has been instances of people being hired that may have been questionable. He stated that he looks forward to helping everyone in our community at all times.

Motion to close the public portion: Razze  
Time: 8:45 p.m.

Second: Blass

**Discussion**

Borough Clerk O’Donnell informed Council that the engineering report that was prepared for the prospective buyer of 106 S. Broadway has been offered for sale to the Borough in the amount of \$600.00. It was suggested by the Clerk that it would give Council a good idea of the current condition of the building and a cost estimate of the necessary repairs. Borough Solicitor Scaffidi stated his opinion that the requested \$600.00 was a fair price for the engineering and assessment report, and could be of value to the Borough as Council decides the next course of action pertaining to the building.

**Resolution No. 52, 2018 - Resolution of the Mayor of Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Purchase of the Engineering and Assessment Report Pertaining to 106 S. Broadway, Block 3 Lot 1 on the Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman as Prepared for Prospective Buyer Kathy Streck, in the Amount of \$600.00**

Motion: Blass

Second: Razze

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Razze: Yes  
Councilman Weng: Yes

**Adjournment**

Motion: Razze  
Time: 8:47 p.m.

Second: Blass

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell  
Borough Clerk/Administrator