

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 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: Present
Councilwoman Rudley: Present
Mayor Johnson: Present
Borough Clerk O'Donnell: Present

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

Proclamation Presentation

Debbie and Tom Slenkamp were honored for their coaching and dedication to the tennis programs for both the Borough and the Pitman High School. The tennis courts at Shertel Park were renamed *The Debbie and Tom Slenkamp Tennis Courts*, and the sign that will be installed at the courts was unveiled at this meeting.

Council Reports

Councilman Austin read the following report:

The next scheduled meeting of the McCowan Memorial Library Board of Trustees has been cancelled due to the Christmas parade being held that evening. It has been rescheduled for December 4 in the library.

Council President Blass

Council President Blass thanked Borough Administrator O'Donnell for her work with the Municipal Alliance and for making sure that all the Borough schools had a presentation today, which was based on "Words Matter".

Councilman Razze

Councilman Razze said that he heard about the Municipal Alliance program from his daughter who attended the program at Memorial School. He said that he could tell from his daughter's reaction that it had a definite impact on her.

The Holiday Parade is tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m., and line up at the Pitman United Methodist Church begins at 6:00 p.m. Unfortunately, because the parade was rescheduled due to the heavy rain last Saturday, several of the groups will not be able to participate in the parade tomorrow.

Before coming to this meeting, Councilman Razze attended a JIF meeting, and brought some posters advertising employee training for computer safety. This program will be presented by Media Pro. The JIF is also accepting nominees at this time for special recognition awards to be given to employees who have contributed to improving the safety environment at their workplace, and he presented Administrator O'Donnell with a check in the amount of \$8,600.00, which is the Borough's reimbursement for our safety and wellness program rewards.

There will be an approximate 1% increase in the Borough's 2019 premium for MEL and EJIF coverage from the TRICO Joint Insurance Fund. Councilman Razze said that this is a very modest increase when compared to the premiums charged by other insurance providers.

Councilman Pierpont read the following report:

We are currently advertising to fill two vacancies in Public Works. The vacancies were advertised in the South Jersey Times and posted here in Borough Hall and on the website.

At the last Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce meeting, the 2019 slate of officers were duly elected. Congratulations to Ms. Vanessa James on her reappointment as President, and to Mr. Patrick Bradley on his election as Vice President. We can expect more great things to come from the Chamber. Also, at this meeting, Mr. Jon Bryson, the Borough Engineer, briefed and answered questions concerning the Theater Avenue project.

Speaking of Chamber accomplishments, the first ever sale of "Pitman Bucks" was held this past Saturday. These "dollars" may be redeemed at any participating Pitman business. The Chamber sold \$10,500 worth of bucks, which will go directly to local businesses. For a listing of participating businesses, please go to uptownpitman.com. The Chamber plans on selling more Pitman Bucks in May 2019.

The trash and recycling collection statistics for November 13 through November 21 are as follows:

- Ten loads of trash collected for a total of 112 tons
- Nine loads of recycling for a total of 37 tons
- Ninety-four yards of brush
- One hundred seventy-five yards of leaves collected
- Three loads of bulk trash

Pitman resident Pat Patterson, who passed away suddenly this past week, was a very active member in the Chamber of Commerce and the American Legion. My condolences go out to his family.

Councilman Weng

Councilman Weng reported that on November 19, he attended the Pitman Combined Planning and Zoning Board meeting where the withdrawal without prejudice of the use variance for a proposed Longmere Avenue Bed and Breakfast, was memorialized due to strong opposition to it from the neighbors.

The Planning and Zoning Board also discussed the ordinance that is on Council's agenda tonight. Our planner, Tim Kernan showed us a draft of the redevelopment plan for the former Sony Property. He hopes to have a final plan, as well as a public meeting, very soon.

Councilwoman Rudley read the following report:

Councilwoman Rudley reported that Patrolwoman Dominique Khoury and Patrolman Tyler Hagan have both successfully completed their Field Training and are now fully certified Patrol Officers with the Pitman police Department. Congratulations to both officers. Patrolman Nick Brown is about two-thirds complete with his Field Training, and will soon be fully certified as well.

Patrolwoman Cristyn Edwards has begun the process of Field Training and will begin her "full-time waiver" training in February at the Ocean County Police Academy. The waiver process will take two weeks to complete.

The Pitman Police Department wishes everyone a safe holiday season and asks motorists to please drive safely and remember, if you drink, please drink responsibly and always designate a driver who has not been drinking. The Pitman Police Department and other police departments will be strictly enforcing traffic laws throughout the holiday season in an effort to help ensure safety.

New Business

Ordinance No. 15, 2018 – An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter XIV Entitled "Housing" of the Code of the Borough of Pitman

Second Reading – Public Hearing

Motion: Weng

Second: Rudley

Motion to open to the public: Weng
Time: 8:23p.m.

Second: Rudley

No public comment.

Motion to close public hearing: Weng
Time: 8:24 p.m.

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 213, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Payment #4 to Journey Contracting Company Inc. in the Amount of \$29,425.59 for the Grove Auditorium Roof Replacement Project

Motion: Blass

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 214, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Cancellation/Refund of Taxes Due to the Property Owner Meeting the Requirements of a 100% Disabled Veteran as Set Forth in N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30 and is Exempt From Paying Property Taxes

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 215, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Providing for a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87; NJDOT State DOT Road Aid-Highland Terrace Phase 2

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 216, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Providing for a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87; Joint Insurance Fund - Wellness

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Councilman Weng: Yes

Resolution No. 217, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Providing for a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87; Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 218, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Providing for a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87; FY 2016 Community Development Block Grant

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 219, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Providing for a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87; Joint Insurance Fund - Safety

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 220, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Providing for a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87; Joint Insurance Fund – EPL/Cyber Risk Management

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 221, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Providing for a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87; Joint Insurance Fund – Alcohol Education Fund

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 222, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing 2018 Utility Budget Transfers

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 _____

Resolution No. 223, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing 2018 Budget Transfers

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 _____

Resolution No. 224, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Payment #1 to Jerry & Son Excavating Inc. in the Amount of \$159,792.92 for the Resurfacing of Highland Terrace Phase 2 Project

Motion: Pierpont

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. 225, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Cancellation/Refund of Taxes Due to the Property Owner Meeting the Requirements of a 100% Disabled Veteran as Set Forth in N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30 and is Exempt From Paying Property Taxes

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 _____

Resolution No. 226, 2018 – 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:

Employment Contract

Employee Leave of Absence

Amendment to AFSCME Contract

Action may be taken upon returning to an open meeting.

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. 227, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Providing for a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87; Shared Services – BOE Pitman Public Schools

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 _____

Payment of Bills

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin Yes, Abstain to #36511

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes, Abstain to #36511

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Razze

Second: Blass

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Rich Musto, 37 Bellevue Avenue – Mr. Musto asked the amount of the roof repair to the Grove Auditorium, and followed by asking why so much? Council President Blass explained that the cost of approximately \$250,000.00 was for the replacement of the entire roof including the wood under the shingles. There were also structural repairs to the inside of the building, and renovations to the cupola.

Mr. Musto then asked if there has been any word on the repairs that are needed to the roadway on Bellevue, and if the Borough Engineer had been out to inspect the street. Councilman Pierpont replied that Bellevue was added to the 2019 grant submission for New Jersey Department of Transportation funding. He also said that in a meeting with South Jersey Gas Company, who is doing mini projects throughout the Borough, he proposed to them that he would request that Mayor and Council waive the road opening permit fees if SJG would agree to make the necessary repairs to Bellevue Avenue. The Borough has not received a reply from SJG as of this date. Otherwise, the Borough will have to allocate funds in the municipal budget to pay for the repairs.

Motion to close the public portion: Razze

Second: Blass

Time: 8:38 p.m.

Closed Meeting

Motion to enter into a Closed Meeting: Rudley

Second: Weng

Time: 8:39 p.m.

Motion to Return to an Open Meeting: Razze

Second: Rudley

Time: 9:24 p.m.

As a result of discussion in the closed meeting, the following action was taken upon returning to an open meeting.

Resolution No. 228, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Borough of Pitman to Enter Into an Employment Agreement With Captain Thomas Zander, Retroactive to May 15, 2018

Motion: Rudley

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Motion to approve a personal leave of absence to Public Works Water and Sewer Department employee Craig Kier, to be taken concurrently with the use of all available sick and vacation time, effective immediately and ending on March 1, 2019:

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Weng

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Council President Blass: Yes
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Adjournment

Motion: Razze

Second: Rudley

Time: 9:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator