

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 22, 2019**

Call to Order

Time: 8:10 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 2019, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 5, 2019.

Roll Call

Councilman Austin: Present

Councilman Pierpont: Present

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Mayor Johnson: Present

Borough Auditor Nick Petroni: Present

Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Council President Blass: Present

Councilman Razzo: Present

Councilman Weng: Present

Borough Solicitor Scaffidi: Present

Borough CFO Considine: Present

Approval of Minutes

Work Session, Formal Meeting, and Closed Formal Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2019

Motion: Blass

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Abstain

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Final Adoption of 2019 Municipal Budget

Resolution No. 55, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the 2019 Municipal Budget to be Read by Title Only

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwomen Rudley: Absent

Councilwoman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

2019 Municipal Budget Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Budget and Tax Resolution of the Borough of Pitman for the year 2019 was approved by the Borough Council on March 25, 2019 and was published in the "South Jersey Times" in the issue of April 5, 2019. Copies were made available for public inspection in Pitman Borough Hall and the McCowan

Memorial Library since March 26, 2019.

Motion to open to the public: Razze
Time: 8:12 p.m.

Second: Blass

Beth Portocalis, 301 Washington Avenue – Ms. Portocalis pointed out a typographical error on the agenda pertaining to Resolution No. 55, 2019.

Motion to close public comment: Razze
Time: 8:13 p.m.

Second: Blass

Motion to adopt 2019 Municipal Budget Resolution: Austin
Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Council Reports

Mayor Johnson took a moment to thank those who responded to the large gas leak in the vicinity of South and Embury Avenues, particularly Highland 1st Asst. Chief Keith Tetreault, and workers from Atlantic City Electric.

Councilman Austin

Councilman Austin reported that the McCowan Memorial Library Board of Trustees will have their monthly meeting tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. in the library. Everyone is invited to attend.

In the absence of Councilwoman Rudley, Councilman Austin provided the following report from the Pitman Police Department.

Training:

4/11 & 4/25	Patrolman Hoffman	Monthly SWAT Training
4/18	Patrolman Decker	ERT Training
4/11 & 4/12	Patrolmen Decker & Baker	Annual Recertification Training

The Annual K-9 Fishing Tournament will take place on Saturday, May 4, at Alcyon Lake, in Betty Park, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. This event attracts about one hundred child participants each year. A nominal entry fee of \$5.00 includes a PPD Fishing Towel, a hot dog and a drink. Registration forms may be picked up at the Police Department in Borough Hall, or printed from the PPD Facebook Page.

Community Appreciation Day will be on Tuesday, June 4 at Alcyon Lake Park. Cpl. Pierson & Cpl. Leach are once again coordinating the event.

Chief McAteer thanked Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce President Vanessa James for helping to finalize the designation of a police officer as the liaison between the Police Department and the Chamber. Sgt. Andrew Carson will take on this responsibility, and this partnership is intended to help streamline availability and communication between the two entities.

The following officers received citations in their personnel records following positive comments on their job performance from members of the community:

Cpl. Marshal Pierson
Ptl. Sam Hoffman
Ptl. Dominique Khoury

Council President Blass read the following report:

The Pitman Council of Churches invited me to their Easter Eve Breakfast to discuss recycling. I addressed the challenges that the Borough and other communities face in that area. Several residents raised concerns that recycling was, as one person described, “a moving target.” I acknowledged their concerns and explained that we are at the mercy of the market and what the recycling companies are willing to take.

I emphasized that we all need to be more vigilant with recycling. I explained that our recycling company wants only 3% residual in cans (contamination), and that a recent spot check showed only 9 out of 200 cans were correctly used.

On this Earth Day, I will add that everyone would like less trash going to the landfill. The vast majority of us want to recycle. The reality is that not everything we want to recycle can be recycled. By contaminating the recycling cans, we risk having entire truck loads rejected and sent to the landfill. We must all take the extra step to double check that what goes in the recycle bin belongs there. Another way to cut down on trash and recycling is to be more cognizant of what we purchase and how it is packaged. The adage of *Reduce – Reuse – Recycle* was never truer.

Councilman Razze

Councilman Razze announced that a resolution is on the agenda to designate May 18, 2019 as Earth Day and Arbor Day in Pitman to coincide with our Spring Craft Show.

Councilman Pierpont read the following report:

The next meeting of the Memorabilia Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, May 6 2019 in the Pitman Museum.

The Museum is open every second Saturday of the month, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., and every fourth Friday from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

The Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce is hosting the Spring Craft Show on May 18 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The Craft Fairs are the major fundraisers for the Chamber. Please come out and enjoy the day in Uptown Pitman.

The repair of the clock in Ballard Park came in at a base cost of \$5,000.00, and approximately \$7,000.00 if some preventive maintenance is performed. Currently, I believe, there is \$2,900.00 in the Dedicated Trust Fund.

Also, the Chamber would like to remind all residents to *Eat, Stay, Stroll and Shop Local*. Please support our local businesses.

Councilman Weng

Councilman Weng said that he wanted to share a compliment that was received for Lisa in the Construction Office. Councilman Weng said that he heard from someone who needed something last minute, and Lisa was able to accommodate him in a very professional and polite manner, and did a great job on very short notice. The customer was very appreciative of the service he received.

Mayor Johnson stated that the person that contacted Councilman Weng was the Mayor of Vineland, and that as elected officials, they do not always hear the compliments, and he said that it is nice that this got back to them.

New Business

Ordinance No. 15, 2019 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 35, Article 2, Section 2.2, Zoning Map of the Code of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

First Reading

Motion: Weng

Second: Pierpont

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 56, 2019 – 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 Performance of Board-up Services for 349 Boulevard Avenue, Block 28, Lot 58 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

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 57, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Contract to Schaefer Fireworks for a Fourth of July Fireworks Display

Motion: Razzo

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 58, 2019 – 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 at said meeting shall be:

Personnel: Police Department Potential Retirement

Personnel: Potential Hire Borough Tax Collector

Action may be taken upon returning to an open meeting.

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 59, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Acknowledging and Authorizing the Pitman Gallery and Art Center, Inc. to Proceed With the Application of a Social Affairs Permit and Authorizing the Chief of Police and the Borough Clerk to Sign the Approval of Said Social Affairs Permit Application Relating to the *Mom Prom* Fundraiser for the Shore Scholarship Program, to be Held at the Pitman Gallery and Art Center in Pitman, On May 11, 2019

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 60, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Execution of a Shared Services Agreement With the County of Gloucester, To Provide Family Entertainment at Sunset Auditorium

Motion: Razzo

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 61, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Carmen J. Cattafi as Part-time Employee of the McCowan Memorial Library of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 63, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Designating May 18, 2019 as Earth Day and Arbor Day in the Borough of Pitman, Gloucester County, New Jersey

Motion: Razzo

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Payment of Bills

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

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

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

Event Permit

Event: Comcast Cares Day

Sponsor: Pitman Revitalization Corp. and Comcast
Contact Person: Adam Mazzola/Vanessa James
Date & Time: May 4, 2019; 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Location: Ballard Park

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

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

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

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Razze
Time: 8:28 p.m.

Second: Blass

Chief Dan McAteer, 462 West Avenue - Chief McAteer wanted to let Councilmembers know that Sgt. Carson was named Liaison to the Chamber of Commerce, and that he will be attending and getting involved with events in town, and working with Chamber President Vanessa James.

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

Second: Blass

Closed Meeting

Motion to enter a closed meeting: Blass
Time: 8:30 p.m.

Second: Austin

Motion to return to an open meeting: Pierpont
Time: 9:04 p.m.

Second: Weng

As a result of discussion in the Closed Session Meeting, the following action was taken by Council upon returning to an Open Meeting.

Resolution No. 62, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Elizabeth A. Ruhl to Fill the Unexpired Term of Kim Jaworski as Certified Tax Collector for 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: Absent

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

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 64, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing and Permitting Pitman Police Department Sergeant Erik Beschene the Use of Sick, Personal, and Vacation Time in Anticipation of Possible Retirement From the Pitman Police Department on or about September 30, 2019

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Adjournment

Motion: Razzo

Second: Blass

Time: 9:05 p.m.

Motion to reconvene meeting: Weng

Second: Razzo

Time 9:06 p.m.

Resolution No. 65, 2019 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Designating New Signer on the Pitman Tax Accounts Known as “Premium Account” and “Tax Title Lien Account”

Motion: Razzo

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Adjournment

Motion: Razzo

Second: Blass

Time: 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator

