

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
October 26, 2015  
8:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Time: 8:07 p.m.

**Salute to the Flag/Moment of Silence**

Councilman 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 2015, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 4, 2015.

**Roll Call**

Councilman Austin: Present  
Councilwoman Higbee: Present  
Councilman Pierpont: Present  
Mayor Johnson: Present  
Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Councilman Blass: Present  
Council President Kelley: Present  
Councilman Razze: Present  
Borough Solicitor Duffield: Present

**Approval of Minutes**

**Amended Council Meeting Minutes of September 28, 2015**

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Kelley: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes

**Work Session, Formal Meeting and Closed Formal Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2015**

Motion: Kelley

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Abstains to Work Session Minutes; Yes to Formal and Closed Minutes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Kelley: Yes

**Committee Reports**

**Councilman Austin**- Councilman Austin reported that the Police Department applied for, and received, a grant in the amount of \$2,100.00 to be used for the purchase of body armor for officers.

Curfew in the Borough has been set for 8:00 p.m. on Friday, October 30 and Saturday, October 31. The hours for Trick-or-Treat are from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Pt. Ken Decker attended a narcotics training class which was offered by the Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office from October 19 through October 23.

Councilman Austin reported that Chief Robert Zimmerman is retiring from the Police Department at the end of this year. Councilman Austin wished him the best, and announced that Council has appointed Capt. Dan McAteer as the Officer-in-Charge until the date of Chief Zimmerman's retirement.

The next Environmental Commission meeting will be held on November 5 in Borough Hall.

The Fire Department and the Office of Emergency Management have been very quiet, with no calls reported.

**Councilman Blass**- Councilman Blass read the following statistics for the McCowan Memorial Library for the month of September:

Customers: 5944

Internet users: 311

Loans for Pitman: 2707

Reciprocal loans: 702

Meeting room use: 18 times

Programs for children: 40

Children's Story Time attendees: 323

Councilman Blass reported that the removal of trees damaged during the June storm continued this past Sunday and Monday with trees being pruned and debris cleaned up in Ballard Park.

**Councilman Razzo** – Councilman Razzo announced that the 2015 Santa Parade will be held on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. The deadline to register to participate is Friday, November 13, 2015. Councilman Razzo stated that he has recently heard that there may be a conflict with using their parking lot to line up. He said that the parade groups may have to line up on the side streets instead of in the lot as usual. He said that he will speak with Capt. McAteer about this.

Recreation Department Youth Basketball registration took place this past week. Anyone who may have missed sign-up may go to Borough Hall during normal business hours and register with Recreation Department Director Andy Fox.

**Councilman Pierpont** read the following report:

On-street leaf collection has started. Please place leaves only at the curb for collection. All other yard debris should be in a can or piled on the curb for pick-up.

Members of our Highway Division attended a safety class on leaf collection. This class was sponsored by the Joint Insurance Fund at no cost to the borough.

There is presently one full time and two part time positions open in our Public Works Department. Applications will be accepted until October 30, 2015. Applications and the job description may be obtained at Borough Hall.

Our Highway Division started installing the hardware necessary to hang directional signs for the Uptown business district. These signs will assist in providing information on shopping, dining, and parking locations. These signs were purchased by the Economic Development Committee.

The Water and Sewer Division were busy on Carew Avenue repairing a water main break.

The trash and recycling statistics for the period of October 13 - October 23 are as follows:

Ten loads of trash collected totaling 120 tons

Ten loads of recycling collected totaling 45 tons

Twelve loads of brush were collected

Three loads of bulk trash were collected

Finally, I want to thank and congratulate Mrs. Maureen Fitzpatrick for hosting the recent public forum titled Educate and Eradicate. I had the pleasure of attending with my wife Ronda. There were many good speakers to educate and inform those attending on the consequences of drug addiction and how it has affected their lives. We have many good community organizations that are making a difference in our ongoing effort to rid our community of illegal drugs and make our young people aware of the problems associated with substance abuse.

**Councilwoman Higbee** read the following report:

Today at noon, the Pitman Municipal Alliance held its annual Senior Citizen Luncheon at Mannino's Cucina Italiano on Broadway in Pitman. Thanks to Barbara Brown from the Senior Health Insurance Program of Gloucester County for speaking about Medicare, explaining some changes to the program, and some alerts to possible fraud. Thanks to members of the Pitman Police Department, Detective Sergeant Moore and Sergeant Owens, for speaking about current issues concerning seniors and encouraging everyone to contact police if they suspect any illegal activity in their neighborhood, drug related or not.

Eighty-two seniors enjoyed today's luncheon thanks to the work of Administrator O'Donnell who is in charge of Pitman's Municipal Alliance and arranges for the many programs provided through the grant program.

November 7 and November 8 are the dates for the next scheduled Clean Communities clean ups. They will be done by the Pitman High School Drama Club, under the direction of Judy Walker, and the Pitman United Methodist Women, under the direction of Debbie Harrison. All non-profit groups are welcome to participate in a local clean-up.

**Council President Kelley**

Council President Kelley reported that it was a quiet meeting for the Planning and Zoning Board last Monday. Members discussed the affordable housing update presented by the Planning and Zoning Board Engineer.

Our New Use Wavier Committee is investigating an in-between application. The application form currently in use is a little too broad.

The Borough Code Enforcement Officer has provided the following update: One hundred seven permit applications have been filed to date, and in the last month he has investigated three

complaints and issued one violation.

**Councilman Razze** announced the dates for the upcoming Elected Officials Seminars sponsored by the Joint Insurance Fund. He also reported that Youth Voice planted 500 tulip bulbs last Saturday in Ballard Park.

**Mayor Johnson** extended his best wishes to all candidates seeking election on November 3. He thanked everyone for their desire to serve the Borough in the capacity of elected official.

**New Business**

**Ordinance No. 11, 2015 – An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter XXXV Entitled “Zoning” and to Create a New §35-38 Entitled “Outdoor Display of Merchandise” of the Code of the Borough of Pitman**

First Reading

Motion: Kelly

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

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

**Ordinance No. 12, 2015 – An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter XXIII Entitled “Outdoor Eating Facilities” of the Code of the Borough of Pitman**

First Reading

Motion: Kelly

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

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

**Resolution No. 170, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Chief Robert T. Zimmerman the Borough Issued Firearm and Badge Upon His Retirement From the Borough of Pitman Police Department**

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

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

**Resolution No. 171, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Deleting Signer and Designating New Signers on the Pitman Police Department’s “Forfeited Funds Account”**

Motion: Austin

Second: Razze

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

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

Councilman Razze: Yes

**Resolution No. 172, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Deleting Signer and Designating New Signers on the Pitman Police Department's "K9 Trust Fund" Account**

Motion: Austin

Second: Razze

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Kelley: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes

**Resolution No. 173, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Borough's Tax Collector to Apply Real Estate Tax Credits to Various Properties as Directed by the Gloucester County Tax Assessor's Office**

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Kelley: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes

**Resolution No. 174, 2015 – 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 Yard Work**

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Kelley: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes

**Payment of Bills**

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Kelley: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes

**Event Permit Applications** (Razze)

**Applicant:** Gloucester County Nature Club & New Jersey Bluebird Society

**Event:** A service project of 6-10 people working to improve the wildlife habitat and natural aesthetics of the wet meadow behind the picnic pavilion at Alcyon Park

**Date:** Sunday, November 8, 2015

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. - Noon

**Location:** Alcyon Park

**Contact Person:** Rich Dilks

**Motion:** Razze

**Second:** Blass

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Kelley: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes

**\*Event was approved contingent upon providing the Borough of Pitman a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough as Additional Insured.**

**Applicant: Good Day for a Run, L.L.C.**

**Event:** Fun Run, 2-3 miles

**Date:** Wednesday, December 16, 2015

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

**Location:** Pitman streets & sidewalks, beginning at Bus Stop Café

**Contact Person:** Ken Culbertson

**Motion:** Razze

**Second:** Blass

**Roll Call:**

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Kelley: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes

**\*Event was approved contingent upon providing the Borough of Pitman a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough as Additional Insured.**

**Applicant: Good Day for a Run, L.L.C.**

**Event:** The Lucky Run, 5K Road Race

**Date:** Sunday, March 13, 2016

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

**Location:** Pitman streets, beginning at Clancy's Pub

**Contact Person:** Ken Culbertson

**Motion:** Razze

**Second:** Blass

**Roll Call:**

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Kelley: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes

**\*Event was approved contingent upon providing the Borough of Pitman a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough as Additional Insured.**

**Public Portion**

**Motion to open to the public:** Razze

**Second:** Blass

**Time:** 8:32 p.m.

**Charles Whiteman, 52 C Simpson Avenue** – Mr. Whiteman asked why the 2:00 a.m. – 6:00 a.m. parking restriction is not being enforced on Simpson Avenue between Pitman Avenue and Broadway, and on Pitman Avenue between Broadway and Simpson Avenue. He said that there is no room for the residents who live nearby to park, and that the issue has been ongoing for at least the last seven months.

Councilman Austin asked Capt. McAteer, who was in attendance, to direct someone to look into this issue.

Motion to close the public portion: Razze  
Time: 8:37 p.m.

Second: Higbee

**Discussion/Miscellaneous**

**Motion** was made by Councilman Austin to authorize the Officer-in-Charge to sign the Policies and Procedures Memorandum of Agreement between the Pitman Police Department and the Pitman Board of Education which states that the Borough of Pitman Police Department agrees to follow the policies as set by the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey and the New Jersey Commissioner of Education.

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes  
Council President Kelley: Yes  
Councilman Razze: Yes

**Adjournment**

Motion: Razze  
Time: 8:45 p.m.

Second: Higbee

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell  
Borough Clerk/Administrator