

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 8, 2017**

Call to Order

Time: 8:19 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 2017, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 7, 2017.

Roll Call

Councilman Austin: Present

Councilwoman Higbee: Present

Councilman Razzo: Present

Mayor Johnson: Present

Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Councilman Blass: Present

Council President Pierpont: Present

Councilwoman Rudley: Present

Borough Solicitor Alice: Present

Approval of Minutes

Work Session, Formal Meeting, and Closed Formal Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2017

Motion: Blass

Second: Rudley

Councilman Austin asked for a correction to the Minutes prior to voting. He said that during the Public Comment portion of the meeting, when he and Chief Scott were discussing whether the Fire Marshal had voted, or not voted, in the past, the statement made by Chief Scott was "the Fire Marshal has not voted". Councilman Austin said that he would like his reply of "yes, the Fire Marshal has previously voted" be entered into the Minutes of the Formal Meeting.

Motion to approve amended Minutes: Blass

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Councilman Blass: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Abstain

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Committee Reports

Councilwoman Rudley

Police Department

Ptln. Ken Decker attended Crash II, which is an advanced crash investigation training course, from May 8 through May 12. Sgt. Jon Streater, Ptln. Sam Hoffman, and Ptln. Eric Weist are participating in the Police Unity Tour in honor of Police Officers that were killed in the line of duty.

PtIm. E.J. Parker attended the National Interdiction Conference in Valley Forge, PA from May 1 through May 5, and PtIm. Sam Hoffman will be attending Delta Training from May 15 through May 19.

Councilwoman Rudley stated that the Board of Fire Engineers, the Senior Outreach Committee, and the Economic Development Committee have not met since her last report on their activities.

Councilwoman Higbee

Councilwoman Higbee reported that on May 4 at 7:30 p.m., the Environmental Commission met in Borough Hall, and discussed the following items:

Grove Rain Garden - Changes to the garden are permitted because Rutgers did not place a moratorium on the project. Therefore, in the fall, additional plants will be chosen by the Shade Tree Commissioner to be planted there.

Earth Day 2017 - Plans have been finalized, and the activities will take place on May 20th in Ballard Park from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The Academy of Natural Science will have a program from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and there will be various activities for children.

Fred Rodi, our Public Works Manager, is also now the Borough’s Recycling Coordinator. He is reviewing two written pieces of work for Council approval, which will enable Pitman to obtain Sustainable New Jersey Certification. Mr. Rodi reports that the recycling statistics are up by 60% over last year.

Arbor Day - The Environmental Commission planted a Swamp White Oak tree in Ballard Park. The Commission plans on continuing this event yearly. A survey of trees on public land is planned, and an informational table will be at the bike race activities on June 10.

Alcyon Woods – This area off of Alcyon Lake Park was also discussed. This area is a passive park area and part of the watershed for Alcyon Lake. It plays a significant part in the plant and animal life in that area.

Councilwoman Higbee said that she attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Broadway Bakery this past Sunday, and she wished the owners success with this much anticipated new business.

Councilwoman Higbee reported that on May 9, Administrator O’Donnell has planned an online reverse auction on the Energy Market Exchange for the purchase of electricity for public use. The Borough has done this in the past, and has found it to be financially beneficial for the Borough.

Council President Pierpont read the following report:

On-street leaf cleaning continues this week. Please put leaves, and only leaves, at the curb for collection. Other yard debris must be placed in containers or bundled at the curb for pick up.

Free leaf mulch is available from our Public Works Department. Please call 589-1040, or visit our website to order, and schedule delivery.

The work at Glen Lake is ongoing. After the recent rain, a leak at the metal “dam” was discovered. We sent the Borough engineer a proposed solution, and we are waiting for his reply.

The trash and recycling statistics for the period of April 10 - May 5 are as follows:

Twenty-nine loads of trash totaling 294 tons

Twenty loads of recycling totaling 96 tons
Brush collected: 431 yards
Leaves collected: 236 yards
Bulk trash collected: 16 loads

Finally, I would like to congratulate the following Public Works employees for successfully completing and obtaining their licensing for Water Distribution Class I and Water Treatment Class I. Mr. Ralph Richards, Mr. Craig Kier, and Mr. Mark Adams. Also, I want to congratulate Mr. Matthew Paden for his successful completion and licensing for Water Distribution Class II and Waste Water Collection Class I. Having licensed employees will help end Pitman's dependence on outsourcing for Licensed Water Operators and Assistant Water Operators, and may eventually save Pitman money. Congratulations to them all.

Councilman Razze

Councilman Razze thanked the Public Works Department, and the Public Works Manager, Fred Rodi, for the work that has been done at Glen Lake to try and solve the problem with the leak in the dam.

The Recreation Commission did not meet this month due to Youth Week activities. Councilman Razze thanked members of Council, as well as the volunteers who participated in Youth Week.

Recreation Department Director Andy Fox is considering changing Youth Week to one week later next year, due to the number of conflicts that have occurred with Youth Week activities and school activities.

Parade Grand Marshal nominations will be accepted by the Parade Committee until May 26, and applications to participate in the parade may be filed online or here in Borough Hall until the June 16.

Councilman Blass

Councilman Blass thanked the Environmental Commission for planting the tree in Ballard Park, saying that everyone worked well together in picking the right spot. Councilman Blass said that he is looking forward to seeing the results of the tree survey. He said that it will help him determine which trees need to be removed, and where we need to plant more.

Councilman Blass encouraged anyone who could, to come out and help paint the fence at the Community Garden this weekend. Volunteers are always needed to help with community projects.

Councilman Austin read the following report:

I attended the McCowan Memorial Library Board of Trustees meeting on April 25. The library has prepared for the upcoming Safety Inspection, and they will certainly pass. Mrs. Donna Collier has tendered her resignation to the Board, and I would like to thank her for her years of service. She will remain involved in the various activities that the Board sponsors, just will no longer be a member of the Board. The next Library Board of Trustees meeting is May 23, at 7:00 p.m.

The Combined Planning and Zoning Board met on April 17, and their next meeting will be on May 15.

The Housing and Code Enforcement Offices continue to research ways to reduce the amount of vacant properties, and clean up the Borough. I met with our officials today, and we have compiled a pretty extensive list of properties.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Pitman Police Department for running a great fishing tournament.

New Business

Resolution No. 86, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Cancellation and/or Refund of Taxes Due to the Property Owner Meeting the Requirements of a Surviving Spouse of a Disabled Veteran as Set Forth in N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30B and is Exempt From Paying Property Taxes

Motion: Higbee

Second: Rudley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 87, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Participation With the State of New Jersey Federal Grant Program Administered by the Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Law and Public Safety

Motion: Rudley

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 88, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Mayor and Borough Clerk/Administrator to Execute a Shared Services Agreement With the County of Gloucester for the Provision of a Transportation Bus

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 89, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Accepting the Proposal Submitted by Federici & Akin, P.A., Wendy Kunz, AIA, to Act as the Borough of Pitman, Gloucester County, New Jersey Representative for the Pitman Grove Auditorium Preservation Plan

Motion: Blass

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 90, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing an Increase in the Annual Base Rate of Pay of Water and Sewer Department Employee Ralph J. Richards, III for Attaining Licensure in the Categories of Water Distribution Class 1 and Water Treatment Class 1

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 91, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing an Increase in the Annual Base Rate of Pay of Water and Sewer Department Employee Craig K. Kier for Attaining Licensure in the Categories of Water Distribution Class 1 and Water Treatment Class 1

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 92, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing an Increase in the Annual Base Rate of Pay of Water and Sewer Department Employee Mark F. Adams for Attaining Licensure in the Categories of Water Distribution Class 1 and Water Treatment Class 1

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 93, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing an Increase in the Annual Base Rate of Pay of Water and Sewer Department Employee Matthew R. Paden for Attaining Licensure in the Categories of Water Distribution Class II and Waste Water Collection Class 1

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 94, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Michelle Friedrich as a Member of the McCowan Memorial Library Board of Trustees of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 95, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Purchase of Electricity Supply Services for Public Use on the Online Auction Services of EMEX, LLC-1 for Lighting Meters

Motion: Higbee
Second: Rudley
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes
Councilman Razze: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____
Councilman Blass: Yes
Council President Pierpont: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Resolution No. 96, 2017 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Purchase of Electricity Supply Services for Public Use on the Online Auction Services of EMEX, LLC-1 for GS Meters

Motion: Higbee
Second: Rudley
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes
Councilman Razze: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____
Councilman Blass: Yes
Council President Pierpont: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Resolution No. 97, 2017- Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Adjustment of Sewer Charges for the Gloucester County Christian School Located at 151 Golf Club Road in Sewell

Motion: Pierpont
Second: Higbee
Councilman Austin: No
Councilwoman Higbee: No
Councilman Razze: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____
Councilman Blass: No
Council President Pierpont: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: No

Payment of Bills

Motion: Higbee
Second: Rudley
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes
Councilman Razze: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____
Councilman Blass: Yes
Council President Pierpont: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Event Permit Applications (Razze)

Applicant: Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce

Event: Block Party & Bike Race

Location: Ballard Park and Race Route of Broadway, Holly, Cedar Avenue

Date & Time: June 10, 2017 (Event: 8am - 2pm)

Contact Person: John Fitzpatrick

Motion: Razze
Second: Blass

Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes
Councilman Razzo: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Council President Pierpont: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Applicant: Friends of the Grove

Event: Community Garden Opening Party

Date & Time: May 21, 2017; 1pm – 5pm

Location: Garden between Fifth and Sixth Avenues

Contact Person: Danielle Cooke

Motion: Razzo

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

***Approved contingent upon providing the Borough of Pitman with a Certificate of Liability Insurance Naming the Borough as Additional Insured, and the completion of a Facilities Use Form**

Applicant: Friends of the Grove

Event: Community Garden Phase 2

Date & Time: Ongoing Improvements

Location: Garden between Fifth and Sixth Avenues

Contact Person: Danielle Cooke

Motion: Razzo

Second: Blass

Discussion:

Councilwoman Higbee questioned the spools being donated by Atlantic City Electric, and of their offer to provide as many as needed.

Danielle Cooke, 227 Boulevard Avenue, replied that although ACE offered additional spools, there is actually no room for any more.

Councilman Blass asked if they foresee putting in additional spools in the future. Ms. Cooke replied that they were not.

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

***Approved contingent upon providing the Borough of Pitman with a Certificate of Liability Insurance Naming the Borough as Additional Insured.**

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Razzo

Second: Austin

Time: 8:55 p.m.

Jim Fortney, 502 Carew Avenue – Mr. Fortney asked when the electric service and new digital sign at the corner of Broadway and Holly Avenue is being installed? He said that the Garden Club would like to plant

