

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 13, 2015
8:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Salute to the Flag/Invocation

Councilwoman Higbee

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

Oath of Loyalty

Carl Ennis, 2nd Assistant Chief, Highland Chemical Engine Company
Robert E. Keeny, III, Fire Police
Doug Atkinson, Fire Police

Proclamation Presentation

Pitman Fire Department member Christian Howey, Fire Company #1

Approval of Minutes

Work Session & Formal Meeting Minutes of September 28, 2015

Motion: Austin

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

Committee Reports

Councilman Austin – Councilman Austin reported that on September 28, Captain McAteer taught classes at the Gloucester County Police Academy.

Councilman Austin announced that on October 21, at 7:00 p.m., the Borough will be hosting a public forum to discuss the illegal drug problems in Pitman, as well as prevention and treatment options for interested residents. The program, which will feature various speakers and members of the Police Department, will be held in Council Chambers and is open to the public.

The Body Worn Cameras (BWC) to be used by the Police Department have been delivered. It is anticipated that they will be in use by the Borough's police officers by the end of November.

The Environmental Commission will conduct a study evaluating invasive species in Alcyon Lake.

Councilman Blass – Councilman Blass thanked everyone who was involved in the Grove Clean-Up which was held on October 3, 2015. The group of volunteers was small, but everyone worked very hard and a lot was accomplished, particularly on the grounds around the auditorium.

The Memorabilia Committee met on October 6 for their monthly meeting. The Museum will be open for the remainder of the Fourth Friday events for 2015, and will also be open during the Grove's Harvest Festival which will be held on Saturday, October 17.

Councilman Blass updated the progress on the repair and upgrades to Walton Park. Materials and labor is being provided by Lowe's in Mantua. Work at the park was not performed during the month of September due to inventory at the store. They intend to repair the picnic tables and have ordered rubber mulch for the play area. All work should be completed within the next few weeks.

Councilman Razze – Councilman Razze reported that the Recreation Department has sent out notices for the upcoming basketball programs through the schools. Registration forms have also been posted on the Borough website.

The deadline to participate in the Borough's Christmas Parade is November 13. The parade will take place on November 28, beginning on Lambs Road and Broadway at 5:00 p.m.

Councilman Razze announced that the Borough has received a dividend from the Health Insurance Fund in the amount of \$25,886.52. These funds will be deposited into the Borough's General Fund.

Councilman Pierpont read the following report:

I had the pleasure of attending the annual Butterfly Parade and ceremony at Ballard Park. It's always fun to watch the children from Memorial School march past the store and sing songs at the park. My congratulations to the faculty and staff from Memorial School on this continuing event which I believe celebrated its' fifteenth year. Great Stuff.

On-street leaf collection begins in full force next week. Keep in mind we will do our best to collect leaves weekly, but equipment and weather conditions may dictate our ability. When placing leaves at the curb, please keep in mind to not cover and block storm drains, and to place the leaves with a space between piles and the curb to facilitate rainwater drainage.

The street sweeper was repaired again last week and is back on the streets. If you know of a particular area in need of the street sweeper please call 589-1040 to report the location information.

Mr. Alexander and Water & Sewer Division Foreman, Matt Paden, met recently with a representative from Kennedy Hydrants to discuss how we may adapt the thirty-three remaining hydrants, which have the wrong installation length. Ordering new "barrels" of a proper length seems to be our only option at this point. Mr. Paden is gathering this information and I will provide an estimate at a future meeting.

A water main break was repaired on Touhy Avenue last week.

Finally, two openings exist in our Highway Division. One full time and one part time. The advertisement for these positions will go out soon. Applications may be obtained at Borough Hall.

Councilwoman Higbee – Councilwoman Higbee reported that \$153,133.53 in tax payments were collected during the month of September.

The Pitman Municipal Alliance and the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse will sponsor the Borough’s annual Senior Citizen Luncheon on October 26, at noon, at Mannino’s Cucina Italiana, located at 126 S. Broadway. Seating is limited, and attendees must make a reservation by calling Borough Hall.

Clean Communities clean-ups continue. The most recent clean-ups were performed by the Pitman Women’s Club and the Boy Scouts. They each received a \$500.00 mini grant. Any non-profit group that would like to participate in a clean-up may contact Councilwoman Higbee at debra.higbee@pitman.org for information.

The Historic Commission met on October 8, at 7:00 p.m. where seven applications were submitted. Five of the applications were approved, one was approved with changes, and one was denied. Two residents asked questions relating to future projects.

Council President Kelley – Council President Kelley welcomed the Borough’s new Code Enforcement Officer, Ed Powell. He will work with the current Code Enforcement Officer, Bruce Scott, for the next two weeks to help ensure a smooth transition. Council President Kelley thanked Mr. Scott for his three years of service to the Borough in this capacity.

The Combined Planning and Zoning Board will meet Monday at 7:00 p.m., and the Green Team will have their meeting on October 22, at 7:00 p.m.

Council President Kelley stated that she received an email from a resident who said that she loved the teal ribbons that are decorating our town. The sender said that the ovarian cancer cause is very important to her because she is also fighting cancer. Mrs. Kelley expressed her opinion that it is a good thing that Council does when they approve symbolic ribbons.

Mayor Johnson took a moment to thank Bruce Scott for his dedication and efforts expended in the performance of his duties during his tenure as Code Enforcement Officer for the Borough.

New Business

Resolution No. 159, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Endorsing the 2015 Best Practices Inventory for the State of New Jersey

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 160, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman,

County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Release of Maintenance Guarantee Escrow Funds Provided by Christopher Chapman, Submitted for a Project Affecting a Parcel Known as 330 N. Woodbury Road, Block 115 Lot 3 and Block 119 Lot 2.01 on the Official Tax Map of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

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. 161, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 TRICO JIF Safety Incentive Money

Resolution No. 162, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 Clean Communities Program

Resolution No. 163, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Providing for the Insertion of a Special Item of Revenue in the Budget Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 Body Armor Grant

Motion to approve Resolutions No. 161, 2015, No. 162, 2015, and No. 163, 2015: Higbee

Second: Kelley

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. 164, 2015 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Contract for Extraordinary, Unspecifiable Services to Rio Supply, Inc. for the Maintenance and Support to the Borough of Pitman’s Neptune Water Meters

Motion: Pierpont

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. 165, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Patrice Sheehan as Recording Secretary to the Borough of Pitman Environmental Commission

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. 166, 2015 - 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 subject(s) to be discussed shall be:

Police Department Personnel Retirement and Potential Appointment

Action may be taken upon returning to an open meeting at the conclusion of the closed meeting.

Motion: Austin

Second: Razze

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. 167, 2015 - Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Todd Townsend to Replace Virginia Radcliffe as a Member of the Historic Commission of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Payment of Bills

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

***Application for a Service Project at Alcyon Park**

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

No action was taken on this project at this time. It was recommended by Councilman Razze that an Event Permit with a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough as Additional Insured should be submitted for Council review.

Raffle Application

Applicant: Pitman Memorial School HSA

Event: 50/50 Raffle

Date: November 14, 2015

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Memorial School

Contact Person: Stephanie Tartaglia

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Abstain

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution 169, 2015 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving a 2.0% Salary Increase for Non-Contractual Employees of the Borough Retroactive to January 1, 2015

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Razze

Second: Austin

Time: 8:38 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close the public portion: Razze

Second: Austin

Time: 8:39 p.m.

Closed Meeting

Motion to enter into a closed meeting: Razze

Second: Austin

Time: 8:39 p.m.

Motion to return to an open meeting: Razze

Second: Blass

Time: 8:53 p.m.

As a result of discussion in the Closed Session, the following action was taken upon returning to an open meeting:

Resolution 168, 2015 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Captain Daniel J. McAteer as Officer-in-Charge

Motion: Austin

Second: Razze

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Adjournment

Motion: Razze

Second: Austin

Time: 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator

