

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 12, 2014  
8:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Time: 8:00 p.m.

**Salute to the Flag/Invocation**

Council President Razze

**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 2014, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 5, 2014.

**Roll Call**

Councilman Austin: Present	Councilman Blass: Present
Councilwoman Higbee: Present	Councilwoman Kelley: Present
Councilman Pierpont: Present	Council President Razze: Present
Mayor Johnson: Present	Borough Solicitor Duffield: Present
Borough CFO Steve Considine: Present	
Borough Auditor Dave Rollison, Bowman and Company: Present	
Clerk O'Donnell: Present	

**Proclamation Presentation**

Marshall Genter

**Approval of Minutes**

Work Session Meeting of April 28, 2014

Motion: Kelley

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Abstain

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

**Committee Reports**

**Councilman Austin**

Councilman Austin congratulated the members of the Pitman Police Department who recently had a visit from a Loss Control Consultant from J.A. Montgomery Risk Control. The Loss Control Report for the Borough was reviewed, and the department has received no recommendations for improvement.

Ptlm. Barbetta, Ptlm. Decker and Ptlm. Pierson attended a stress management workshop hosted by the Joint Insurance Fund, and featuring Chief Zimmerman as a guest speaker. On May 5, Captain McAteer, Ptlm. Perry and S/O Osinski received the Unit Citation Award at the Gloucester County Police Awards Banquet for implementing Pitman's Police Trading Card

program.

The Fire Department responded to an outside structure fire on Saturday, which was placed under control very quickly.

The Environmental Commission met and made preparations for Earth Day which is scheduled for this Saturday in Ballard Park in conjunction with the Spring Craft Show.

Members of the Borough's Office of Emergency Management attended mandatory training in Atlantic City last week.

#### Councilman Blass

The Memorabilia Committee's Tom Wilk and John Leach had an article in the Inquirer newspaper highlighting a collection of fifty-seven World War I photographs. The photographs are from the collection owned by Pitman resident Dick Zahn's father.

Councilman Blass reported that the McCowan Memorial Library also had media coverage from Eyewitness News featuring the new seed library.

Councilman Blass recognized the efforts of the members of the Pitman Garden Club. He met with members Bob McMaster and Judy Lohmann while the group was completing the gardens on First Avenue.

The "Friends of the Grove" had a clean up on May 3 in the Grove which Councilman Blass participated in.

The "Friends of Alcyon Lake" are having a contest to design a logo for the clean-up that will take place in Betty Park and around Alcyon Lake on October 4. The logo will be used on the t-shirts that will be given to the volunteers who come out to help.

#### Council President Razzo

Council President read the following report:

Youth Week was a great success. There was a lively debate but Mayor Stafford did not get the opportunity to vote on anything. All the activities that took place went well and we want to thank Andy Fox and all his help for doing a great job.

The Miss Pitman Pageant Committee met last week. The Pageant is always the night before the Fourth of July. I encourage everyone to come out and support our Pageant contestants that evening. Our Pageant has run at a loss the past couple of years, so please come out and support our Pageant.

The parade applications are now online. You may print them out and return them to Borough Hall, or apply online. Applications are accepted through June 13, at midnight. Our contracts have been sent out to our bands and we are seeking nominations for Parade Grand Marshal. We are also taking all volunteers who are willing to help. Our next meeting will be this Thursday.

#### Councilman Pierpont

Councilman Pierpont read the following report:

The project on West Holly Avenue is on schedule. The base asphalt has been applied from Cedar Avenue to Elm Avenue. This project to replace the storm water drains and sewer main is scheduled to be finished by the end of August.

Our Public Works Department offers free mulch delivered to your door. There are three choices, leaf mulch, aged wood mulch (dark brown), and fresh ground wood mulch. We will not place piles in the street, generally piles are placed in driveways only. Call 589-1040 to schedule delivery.

The Water and Sewer Division of the Public Works Department has contracted with the Utility Services Group to perform a relatively new process called Ice Pigging. This process will be performed on the water main on Elm Avenue and Spruce Avenue. This involves ice slurry injected into the water main and traveling through the pipe removing debris and deposits. The slurry is then removed from the water main, tests are performed, and the system is put back in service. We anticipate this process will greatly reduce iron deposits and turbidity along those stretches of water main. Residents affected by this process will be notified in advance. Our trash and recycling numbers for the period ending May 9, 2014 are as follows:  
Trash Collected: 164.11 tons  
Recyclables: 48.75 tons  
Brush collected: 33 loads

Leaves will continue to be collected curbside until May 15.

Congratulations to Andy Fox on a successful Youth Week

#### Councilwoman Higbee

Councilwoman Higbee read the following report:

In the Finance Office, we have welcomed MaryBeth Gill. She will be working as our Water and Sewer Clerk while Jessica Vernacchio is out on leave.

Mayor and Council, our Chief Financial Officer Steve Considine, and Administrator O'Donnell, along with Department Supervisors, have had many budget meetings and discussions and made decisions relative to revenues and for what purposes they shall be spent in regards to the 2014 Municipal Budget. Everyone has worked to make certain that there is efficient and effective use of public money.

Tonight we will be voting on the adoption of our 2014 Municipal Budget.

#### Councilwoman Kelley

The Economic Development Committee will hold their next meeting at 7:00 p.m. on May 15 in Borough Hall.

The Combined Planning and Zoning Board will have their next meeting on May 18 at 7:00 p.m. also in Borough Hall

Councilwoman Kelley reported that two new businesses are coming on Broadway, an antique store and a ceramic studio.

The work at the former Armory site should be finished shortly, and new monitor wells will be put in to access the ground water. Samples will then be taken to determine if ongoing remedial action work is necessary.

#### New Business

**Resolution No. 75, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the 2014 Municipal Budget to be Read by Title Only**

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**2014 Municipal Budget Hearing**

**Final Adoption and Public Hearing**

Notice is hereby given that the Budget and Tax Resolution of the Borough of Pitman for the year 2014 was approved by the Borough Council on April 14, 2013 and was published in the “South Jersey Times” in the issue of April 20, 2014.

Motion to adopt 2014 Municipal Budget: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Motion to open to the public: Higbee

Second: Razze

Time: 8:27 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to close public portion: Higbee

Second: Razze

Time: 8:28 p.m.

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: No

Councilman Blass: No

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: No

Council President Razze: Yes

Mayor Johnson: Yes

**Resolution No. 76, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Borough of Pitman to Execute an Indemnity and Trust Agreement With the Southern New Jersey Regional Employee Benefits Fund**

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**Resolution No. 77, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Hiring of Police Officer, Samuel A. Hoffman, Rank of Patrolman**

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**Resolution No. 78, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Contract to A.C. Schultes, Inc. for the Performance of Standard Maintenance on the Existing Motor and the Installation of a Temporary Motor on Well #3 in the Amount of \$5,196.00.**

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**\*Resolution No. 79, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Billing Adjustments to Borough of Pitman Water and Sewer Accounts**

This resolution was removed from the agenda at the request of Councilman Pierpont. It will be added to the agenda of the next regular meeting of Mayor and Council scheduled for May 27, 2014 at 8:00 p.m.

**Resolution No. 80, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving an “Outdoor Eating Facilities Permit” for Sweet Lula’s Restaurant on South Broadway in the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey**

Motion: Kelley

Councilman: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**Resolution No. 81, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving the Application of the 2013 Recycle Tonnage Grant for the Borough of Pitman**

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Higbee

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**Resolution No. 82, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Confirming the Mayoral Appointment of Michelle LaPlante to the Borough of Pitman Historic Preservation Commission**

Motion: Higbee

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**Resolution No. 85, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Contract to Schaefer Pyrotechnics, Inc. for the Fourth of July Fireworks Display as Amended to Remove Paragraph 14 of the Contract**

Motion: Razze

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**Payment of Bills**

Motion: Higbee

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**Event Permit Applications**

**Event:** Memorial Service

Applicant: Jacqueline Pagan

Date: May 17, 2014

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Grove Auditorium

Contact Person: Jacqueline Pagan

Motion: Razze

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**Event:** Fourth of July Parade

Applicant: Pitman Parade Committee

Date: July 4, 2014 Rain date: July 5, 2014

Time: 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.

Location: Highland, Adams, Broadway and side streets off Highland

Contact Person: Michael Razze

**Event:** Fourth of July Fireworks

Applicant: Pitman Parade Committee

Date: July 4, 2014 Rain date: July 5, 2014

Time: Dusk Dusk

Location: Alcyon Lake Park & Betty Park

Contact Person: Michael Razze

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call for both events:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**\*Event:** Outdoor Concert

Applicant: Pitman High School Jazz Band

Date: June 6, 2014

Time: 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Sunset Auditorium

Contact Person: Phil Verespy

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

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

**Public Portion**

Motion to Open to the Public: Razze

Second: Kelley

Time: 8:41p.m.

**Mickey Smith, 470 Locust Avenue** – Mr. Smith thanked Solicitor Duffield and Zoning Officer Clark Pierpont for their efforts in trying to reach a settlement in regard to the Fazio property located next to the Pitman Mews on Elwood Avenue. Solicitor Duffield stated that the Borough will be going to court in an effort to attain a solution to the problems.

**Barry Owen, 508 Pitman Avenue** – Mr. Owen asked why there were “no” votes cast by members of Council on the adoption of the 2014 Municipal Budget. Councilman Austin replied that it was his opinion that more reductions could have been made to the appropriations found in the budget.

Motion to Close the Public Portion: Razze

Second: Kelley

Time: 8:45 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Motion: Razze

Second: Higbee

Time: 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O’Donnell  
Borough Clerk/Administrator

