

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 23, 2015
8:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Salute to the Flag/Invocation

Councilman 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 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: Absent
Councilman Pierpont: Present
Mayor Johnson: Present
Clerk O'Donnell: Absent

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

Approval of Minutes

Work Session Minutes of March 9, 2015

Motion: Kelley

Second: Pierpont

Roll Call:

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

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

Committee Reports

Councilman Austin

PtIm. Barbetta and S/O Stefanopoulos will be attending Bicycle Training at the Gloucester County Police Academy. PtIm. Parker and K9 Ranger have completed their training and are now on duty for patrol.

Chief Zimmerman and Captain McAteer attended the March 17th Rotary Club meeting where they were the guest speakers.

On May 2nd there will be a fundraiser Fishing Tournament for kids benefitting the K-9 Trust Fund from 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

Captain McAteer taught a recruit class on March 20th at the Gloucester Co. Police Academy.

Councilman Blass

Board of Education

At the March 18th meeting, the Board of Education presented their tentative budget. Currently the total budget is \$25,211,109.00. It will result in a 1.96% increase in the tax levy, for the average assessed home of \$167,000. That amount will create an approximate \$95.00 increase over last year for the owner of an average home. The public hearing for the school budget will be held on April 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the Pitman High School Media Center.

McCowan Memorial Library

Summer Reading Program – The theme for 2015 Summer Reading Program is Building Heroes. The Friends of the Library will once again sponsor the following programs:

After School Fun – is every Tuesday for 5-10 year olds, at 4:00 p.m.

March 3rd was Green Eggs and Ham –edible craft and movie

March 10th was Make a Mosaic Alligator using paper and scraps

March 17th was Sunshine Rainbow craft using paper plates and steamers.

Tomorrow, March 24th is Bunny Rabbit canvas painting class.

Seed Library – March 14th at 10:00 a.m. was the kickoff for this year's Seed Library. Jeff Quattrone, who leads our Seed Library, distributed seed packets, and answered questions. There are thirty-nine varieties of seeds being distributed.

New Programs:

Tiny Tunes at the Library – is a new program that will be on Monday at 10:15 a.m. for baby's aged 0-2 and their caregivers. The program consists of songs, rhymes, puppets, instruments, movement, and more!!

“How to Draw” for 6 years old and up is being held on first Fridays at 4:00 p.m. Children will learn pencil drawing techniques then highlight with colored pencils.

Fun and Fitness for 5 years old and up. Children will get up and move to the music and follow simple, athletic dance moves to some of the hottest music from around the world.

Yoga for Kids for 5 years old and up is on 4th Friday at 4:00 p.m. Children will have fun building strength, flexibility, learn coordination and poses, breathing practices, and relaxation.

Councilman Razzo

Pitman Rec T-ball will begin on April 1st.

Opening day for T-Ball will be on April 17th.

We will start accepting Parade Applications on April 15th or you may submit them at pitmanparade.com. We are also taking nominations for Grand Marshal. All letters should be in writing and in a sealed brown envelope. The Economic Development Committee is soliciting donations for the Theatre Avenue Pocket Park Project.

The EDC, along with the Chamber of Commerce are promoting advertising for local businesses on our advertisement sign on Holly Avenue and Delsea Drive.

I attended the Government Risk Leadership Conference from March 8 to May 11.

At my Joint Insurance Fund meeting tonight they talked about how to document a pot hole for repair, mobile apps for incident reports and training for summer camp and summer playground.

Councilman Pierpont

Spring Clean-Up is just around the corner.

Public Works will begin picking up leaves on April 13th and continue to do so until May 14th. Please do not start putting your leaves to the curb before April 13th. And as always only leaves may be left at the curb for pick up. Do not rake branches, sticks and dead plants to the curb as these will force the driver to go around your leaf pile.

We continue to monitor the pot hole situation around town. Most have been taken care of, but if you see a pot hole on any Borough street or right of way, please call Public Works at 589-1040.

Public Works is offering free mulch to all Borough residents and property owners. If you haven't seen the mulch varieties offered, you are invited to visit the Public Works maintenance area and look at the different, leaf, root and wood mulch available. Please call 589-1040 to schedule a mulch delivery.

The numbers for trash, bulk, and brush pick up for the period of February 23 through March 6 are as follows:

Twelve loads of trash totaling 132.4 tons
Ten loads of recycling totaling 52.6 tons
Twelve loads of brush collected

Council President Kelley

The Planning Board met on March 16th and they approved a variance for a Highland Terrace residence. Also, there were two applications from the Historic Commission, both were given certificates of approval. Their next meeting is April 10th at 7:00 p.m.

The Green Team will meet on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. The members are working on certification applications.

Last Saturday the Borough hosted a Shredding Event that was a great success.

New Business

Resolution No. 57, 2015 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing James Foley as Part-time Fire Safety Inspector for the Borough of Pitman, Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Fire Prevention

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Absent

Council President Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Mayor Johnson _____

Councilman Razze: Yes

Resolution No. 61, 2015 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing James Foley as Emergency Management Coordinator for the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

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

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

Resolution No. 62, 2015 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Samantha Apostle to the Position of Construction/Housing Office Part-time Clerk

Motion: Kelley

Second: Pierpont

Roll Call:

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

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

Resolution No. 63, 2015 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Refund of Water and Sewer Overpayments

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Kelley

Roll Call:

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

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

Resolution No. 64, 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 subjects to be discussed shall be:

Personnel Matters: Employee Job Performance

Action may be taken upon returning to an open meeting.

Motion to table until April 13, 2015: Blass

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

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

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

Payment of Bills

Motion: Kelley

Second: Pierpont

Councilman Razze asked to amend the bill pay record on page 2, #30117, regarding paying Melissa Eaton. He asked the payment to be removed until it can be verified how many hours she worked prior to her resignation.

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes
Council President Kelley: Yes
Councilman Razzo: Yes

Event Permit Applications

Applicant: Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce
Event: Park Decorations (See attached)
Date: June 6, 2015 through Sept. 12, 2015
Time: Dusk – 11:00 p.m.
Location: Ballard Park
Contact Person: Yvonne Giovannitti

Council President Kelley asked where all the chairs and tables would be stored at night, and who will be doing this every night?

This application was withdrawn until more information can be received from the Chamber.

Applicant: Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce

Event: Spring Craft Fair
Date: May 16, 2015; Rain date May 23, 2015
Time: 6:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location: Ballard Park, Broadway from Holly to Laurel, Pitman Ave. to the R/R tracks
Contact Person: Lori Poisker

Motion: Razzo

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

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

Councilman Blass: Yes
Council President Kelley: Yes
Councilman Razzo: Yes

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Razzo
Time: 8:27 p.m.

Second: Blass

No public comment.

Motion to close the public portion: Razzo
Time: 8:29 p.m.

Second: Blass

Adjournment

Motion: Razzo
Time: 8:29 p.m.

Second: Blass

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Wilson
Recording Secretary