

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 23, 2018**

Call to Order

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Salute to the Flag/Moment of Silence

Council President 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 2018, which was posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board, sent to the "South Jersey Times" and filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 6, 2018.

Roll Call

Councilman Austin: Present
Councilman Pierpont: Present
Councilwoman Rudley: Absent
Mayor Johnson: Present
Borough Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Council President Blass: Present
Councilman Razzo: Present
Councilman Weng: Present
Borough Solicitor Scaffidi: Present

Approval of Minutes

Work Session and Formal Meeting Minutes April 9, 2018

Motion: Blass

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

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

Council President Blass: Yes
Councilman Razzo: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Committee Reports

Councilman Weng read the following report:

I attend the meeting of the Combined Planning and Zoning Board on April 16. There were three historic applications presented to the Board, and they were approved. There was some detailed discussion about the New Use Waiver Subcommittee, which is a subcommittee that was created in order to streamline the process of proposed changes for the use of commercial businesses and residences. Concern was expressed at the meeting that the subcommittee may have gone beyond the original intentions of the ordinance under which it was created. The subcommittee issued approvals which caused the applicant to have to go back to the Construction Office for additional permits and a new site plan review. A directive was issued to New Use Waiver Subcommittee members to be a little more discerning in their discussions, and to not be afraid to kick something back for a full site plan review if necessary.

Additionally, there was discussion about overnight parking on Borough streets, and Mr. Lowden, who is a member of the Planning and Zoning Board, gave some insight on the discussion that took place in the first meeting of that subcommittee, and an idea where he sees the direction of discussion in future meetings going.

Councilman Pierpont read the following report:

On-street leaf collection has begun. Please place leaves, and only leaves, at the curb for collection. Other yard debris should be placed in a curbside container for disposal.

Free mulch is available for delivery at Public Works. Residents may either go online or call 589-1040 to schedule delivery. Three different varieties are available.

The Green Team meets this Thursday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m. right here in Borough Hall.

Councilman Razze

Councilman Razze reported that the Recreation Commission and the Environmental Commission will both meet next Thursday, here in Borough Hall. Councilman Razze wanted to make Council Members aware that the Recreation Commission members are working on a formal policy for naming of recreational facilities around town should a request be made in the future. The Recreation Commission is fully aware that they only make recommendations to Council, but it is their hope that by establishing a policy that is well thought out and follows some of the examples of other public entities around the community, that it will allow Council to support the Commission and their potential recommendations.

Registration is now open for the Fourth of July Parade, and will remain open until June 15 at 4:00 p.m. by paper application, and midnight for online registration at pitmanparade.com.

Councilman Razze announced that this year, and in conjunction with the Miss Pitman Pageant Committee, the theme for both events will be *Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Musical Grease*.

Youth Week will begin on May 6, with Youth Council at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Hall. We should have the names of our elected representatives by the end of this week. The name of the Youth Week Mayor will not be available until next week due to the Senior Class trip to Disney World.

Councilman Razze concluded by saying that after spending eleven hours at the Woodbury High School track on Saturday, he wanted to congratulate the Pitman High School Boys Shuttle Relay Team on placing first, and winning their gold watches.

Council President Blass

Council President Blass said that he met with the Borough Shade Tree Commissioner, Josh Hitchner, and they picked two locations in the area around the Grove Auditorium to plant trees this Saturday in conjunction with the Environmental Commission's Earth Day celebration.

Councilman Austin read the following report:

The Board of Trustees of the McCowan Memorial Library will meet tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. in the library. I would like to thank Borough Fire Chief Bruce Scott for his efforts in getting Pitman Fire Patrol's

former fire engine donated to a fire department in Tennessee. They are in desperate need of one and it's great to see that fire engine going back into service.

New Business

Ordinance No. 7, 2018 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Amending Chapter 1 Entitled “General Provisions” of the Code of the Borough of Pitman

First Reading

Motion: Weng

Second: Razzo

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 65, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Placement of a Municipal Lien Against Private Property: 38 Evergreen Avenue

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 66, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Awarding Contract to Rileigh’s Outdoor Décor for the Purchase of Holiday Street Lighting for the Borough of Pitman in the Amount of \$9,922.00

Motion: Blass

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 67, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appointing Carl Scutt to Replace Louis Wilson as Class IV, Alternate 3 Member of the Combined Planning and Zoning Board of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey

Motion: Weng

Second: Pierpont

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 68, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Execution of a Hold Harmless Agreement Between the Borough of Pitman and Dellavalle Designs, LLC for the Shertel Park Pumptrack

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 69, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey to Award Contract for a 2019 Model Year Ford F450 4WD Vehicle With a Plow Package for the Pitman Public Works Department to Winner Ford, Cherry Hill NJ Pursuant to NJ State Contract #88215 in the Amount of \$69,928.00

Motion: Pierpont

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 72, 2018 Resolution of Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing the Borough's Insurance Broker Connor, Strong and Buckelew to Terminate the Borough's Agreement for the Prescription Benefit Services Provided by Benecard Services Effective June 30, 2018.

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 74, 2018 Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing an Agreement with Southern New Jersey Regional Employee Benefit Fund to Provide Prescription Benefit Services for Eligible Full-time Borough Employees Effective July 1, 2018, as Presented.

Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razze: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Payment of Bills

As presented, and including #75197000, dated April 9, 2018, for Atlantic City Electric in the amount of

\$2204.08, which was removed from the Bill Pay List of April 9, 2018.

Motion: Austin

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Abstains to #35429;
approves all other items in the list.

Mayor Johnson _____

Event Permit

Event: Kindle School Spring Concert

Applicant: Elwood Kindle School

Contact Person: Karolyn Mason, Principal

Date & Time: May 17, 2018; 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: 211 Washington Avenue, on front steps of school

Special Item: Road closure for Washington Avenue

Motion: Razzo

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

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

Event: Guided Nature Walk

Applicant: Pitman Environmental Commission

Contact Person: Dani Cooke

Date & Time: June 9, 2018; 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: Alcyon Park

Motion: Razzo

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Event: Police Youth Week

Applicant: Pitman Police Department

Contact Person: Christine Osinski, SLEO II

Date & Time: July 9 – July 13, 2018; 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: Pitman Police Department

Motion: Razzo

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent
Mayor Johnson _____

Councilman Weng: Yes

Event Amendment*: Yoga Class with Music

Applicant: Yoga Inspired
Contact Person: Barbara Paulsen
Date & Time: June 23, 2018; 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Location: Sunset Auditorium

***Amend application to include local vendors.**

Motion: Razze
Roll Call:
Councilman Austin: Yes
Councilman Pierpont: Yes
Councilwoman Rudley: Absent
Mayor Johnson _____

Second: Blass
Council President Blass: Yes
Councilman Razze: Yes
Councilman Weng: Yes

Event: Beer Garden for the Tour de Pitman Bike Race

Applicant: Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce
Contact Person: Vanessa James
Date & Time: June 9, 2018; 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Location: Theatre Avenue
Motion: Razze

Second: Blass

Discussion

Councilman Austin – I believe the Police Department has not signed off on this, and I believe that they have some concerns that need to be discussed.

Councilman Pierpont – My issue is the insurance, I know that we have approved other event permits contingent upon insurance in the past, but this is not our normal event permit. This is our first ever Beer Garden, that I totally support, but I also think I would like to see the insurance and review the policy because there is a difference between insurance for your events at school compared to the Beer Garden event. My recommendation would be to table this. I would like to table this until our next meeting; it is not a simple event and I don't want to feel rushed. Would a negative vote on this application effect them in applying in two weeks?

Solicitor Scaffidi - I would think that the intention is to give them the opportunity to resubmit; I would not deny it, I would table it. If you deny it for lack of insurance, they can always resubmit their application.

Councilman Pierpont – Those are my concerns, the Greater Pitman Chamber and the EDC support this, but I also know that this is the first time, and I also know that they are under a time constraint for this event to happen. However, I do not want to feel rushed in my vote.

Councilman Weng – I think Councilman Pierpont's comments are well taken, and he has made a legitimate point. I would say that the Greater Pitman Chamber is not an unsophisticated group. I have no

doubt that they would be able to obtain the proper insurance, with the people they have involved there and the leadership of this organization. I am not at all concerned that they would not be able to get that insurance. I think they should have the same benefit with the understanding of Councilman Pierpont's point that this is a different event and this is the first time we are doing the particular event, I think this is entirely well-taken. I think they should have the same opportunity that the other groups have had. To have their application approved contingent upon the presentation of insurance. If they don't get that proper insurance then their application is not approved.

Councilman Pierpont- Who makes the determination that this insurance is the proper insurance?

Administrator O'Donnell – I follow through on the insurance, and if I need clarification on a policy as written, I contact Councilman Razzo.

Councilman Razzo – The Police did not sign off on this, so that usually is a stumbling block. We do not approve 'contingent upon' without that. When we do not have the Police endorsing the event, or if they have issues with the event permit application, I would amend my motion to table this to the next meeting to allow us the opportunity to review the insurance and to work out the issues and concerns.

Councilman Weng – Is this a normal practice to table if they don't have the approval of the Police?

Mayor Johnson – We cannot move forward with an event if the Police do not sign off on it. That is the practice.

Motion to table Event Permit Application: Razzo Second: Blass

Vanessa James, GPCC President, 91 Circle Avenue – I appreciate Councilman Pierpont's concerns, I was on the phone with John Fitzpatrick and Steve Eckman from Eckman Insurance, and I was trying to get this insurance in place. I spoke with Mrs. O'Donnell last week to make sure that we had all the T's crossed and I's dotted. Because this is the first thing, and I agree that it's a historic moment in Pitman, I certainly want everything to run as smoothly as possible. So, the insurance that we have is a liquor liability addendum. As soon as we get the quote back, we are going to purchase the highest (we have the quote) level of insurance that you can get. It is a one million to three million dollar aggregate policy for a liquor license. Steven Eckman actually advised us to get a two million one, but we are paying the extra to go up to three million dollars.

I'm not sure what additional concerns the Chief might have; he did mention something about they might want to have an officer present. We have zero objections to that; we will be willing to pay someone to be there. If this waits two weeks I don't think we will have time to get it approved. John Fitzpatrick runs this bike race and he would like to have a beer garden. We are trying to get more attendance for this event and we think a beer garden would be good for this event.

Council President Blass – We have on the agenda Resolution No. 70, 2018 to authorize the application for the Social Affair Permit. If that was to be moved ahead does this speed up the state application process? Also, would it be okay to do these two separately?

Ms. James – I think they have to be done together because it's on public property. We have to have Council's permission because of that, before submitting it to NJABC.

Mayor Johnson – Especially since it says authorized by the Chief of Police and the Borough Clerk, both have to sign off on it.

Ms. James – My suggestion was, do we have to wait two weeks, can we work out some kind of compromise where maybe Councilman Razze, the Solicitor, Mrs. O'Donnell and the Chief sit down with me and make sure everything is acceptable, or whoever wants to review it? If there is any way we could speed up the process, it would be much appreciated.

Chief McAteer, 110 S. Broadway – I spoke to Ms. James about the idea that we may want to have a police officer, or two, present. We have not made the decision yet. There are a couple things to consider here.

One, is that of the bike race. I believe as the Chief of Police, that this is one of the biggest liability issues we face as a Police Department. It's a roving street closure, and there are issues with it. We have concerns with it from a manpower stand point.

Secondly, we just got this event permit in the middle of last week. This is not unusual for an event that is in June, so it's not unusual for us to take our time to make sure that you have everything covered. I believe I mentioned this to a few Council Members already that we would be looking at this before we sign off on it. We wanted to take our time and make sure we had all our areas covered.

Last thing is, I have to sit with Sgt. Zander and Sgt. Streater. They both have a lot of key decisions to make in this event including the bike race and the beer garden.

So to me, these are all the issues why this has not been signed off on.

I agree with Ms. James, our biggest issue is police coverage. Standing here I'm pretty sure we will require one or two officers to be there.

I had no idea that there was a time situation with it, if I had known I don't think it would have made a difference, because I have to find the time for the three of us to sit down together.

Councilman Weng – The time constraint is the State ABC, we not only have to get the Clerk's signature, but also your signature on it, and it sounds like right now you are not willing to sign.

Chief McAteer - If you are asking me to sign it right here and now, I would say I would rather not. I'm not comfortable only because I need feedback from the officers that we have in place to make these decisions.

Councilman Weng – There is a section only for the Chief of Police that it says you could sign it subject to the following special conditions if any. Are there any special conditions here tonight that we could add into this application that would ease your concerns, and if we brought it to you to sign, you would.

Chief McAteer - I believe the only concern would be police coverage. That's not with any feedback from Sgt. Zander and Sgt. Streater. The issue with Sgt. Streater is the manpower, the bike race sucks us dry, then we have scheduling issues, etc. But what I can tell you is if manpower is an issue we will bring another officer or two in from another department.

Councilman Weng – So if we added to following special conditions to that section, to say something to the effect that the additional police coverage may be necessary, detailed specifically to the beer garden.

Chief McAteer – I'm not comfortable signing unless I have talked to them to be honest.

Councilman Pierpont – The reason I asked to table this is that I don't want to be rushed on this, and I apologized. I understand that the Chamber has to get this paperwork in to the state in a timely manner. You are asking the Chief of Police to put a signature on when he truly hasn't had time to review it for manpower purposes, and we are being asked as the Governing Body to vote on something that we haven't had time to be reviewed. I really don't want to be rushed, that is why I recommended tabling this.

Councilman Razzo – What year are we in for the annual bike race?

Chief McAteer – Eleventh or twelfth, in that area.

Councilman Razzo – I agree with Councilman Pierpont, it feels forced and rushed at this point.

Chief McAteer– I would not feel comfortable signing when I need to speak with Sgt. Streater and get his input for this event. Sgt. Streater is our Traffic Safety Sergeant.

Councilman Weng – Thank you Chief, sorry for putting you on the spot.

Roll Call (on Motion to table):

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: No

Mayor Johnson _____

Resolution No. 70, 2018 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Acknowledging and Authorizing the Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce to Proceed with the Application of a Social Affairs Permit and Authorizing the Chief of Police and Borough Clerk to Sign the Approval of Said Social Affairs Permit Application Relating to the *Tour de Pitman Bike Race* to be Held on Theatre Avenue on June 9, 2018

Motion to table until May 9 Meeting: Pierpont

Second: Blass

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Council President Blass: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Councilman Razzo: Yes

Councilwoman Rudley: Absent

Councilman Weng: Yes

Mayor Johnson _____

Public Portion

Motion to open to the public: Razze
Time: 8:47 p.m.

Second: Blass

Jim Fortney 502 Carew Avenue - In Sunday's paper, regarding public funds, it was said that public money is off limits for church repairs? Does that include the cathedral?

Councilman Austin – I believe it does not include the Grove Auditorium.

Jason James, 91 Circle Avenue – I don't agree with not moving forward with this (Event Permit) contingent upon insurance. Either we are not looking at insurance closely enough, or for some reason we are holding this to a different standard.

Mayor Johnson – The reason why it could not be acted on, period, was the Chief of Police did not sign off on it.

Mr. James - Last spring, the Craft Fair, there was some concern about the number of officers. But I think it got approved contingent on all those requirements being met, without the police signing off on it then.

Mayor Johnson – The Craft Show is a different scenario altogether.

Chief McAteer - I do not appreciate the Police Department being in the middle of this.

That is a totally different situation Mr. James. I would suggest personally, I don't know why Mayor and Council would sign off on an event permit if we (police) are not comfortable with it.

That's up to you to decide, if you decide to table based on the fact that we didn't sign it, I respect that. That situation is totally different than what Mr. James mentioned. That was a situation that we had set up; that was a situation that we kind of knew the outcome; that was not a first time event. This is a first time event, this is taking place during another event, and this is totally different, Mayor and Council.

Vanessa James, 91 Circle Avenue – The Chamber of Commerce wants to have a great relationship with Council, and we have been able to do so much in the last year and half. We understand and appreciate your need to make sure that this event goes off smoothly. I don't want anyone to leave this meeting with the impression that there are hard feelings.

We will meet with the Chief and we will try to get this done, and if we can't it is not a big deal, we want to have a positive relationship with Council and the Chief of Police. We have a meeting tonight. If we get it done, or if not, there is always next year. We really appreciate you making the change to the ordinance so there is even a possibility, because two weeks ago there wasn't, and now there is a possibility. So we will move forward and eventually it will be a very strong benefit for Pitman.

Motion to close the public portion: Razze
Time: 8:54 p.m.

Second: Blass

Adjournment

Motion: Razze

Time: 8:54 p.m.

Second: Blass

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell

Borough Clerk/Administrator