

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 8, 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  
Councilwoman Higbee: Present  
Councilman Pierpont: Present  
Mayor Johnson: Present  
Clerk O'Donnell: Present

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

**Presentations**

Pitman Garden Club presented their donation to the Pitman Police Department K-9 Trust Fund.  
Susan Marie Rupp Foundation endorsing September as National Ovarian Cancer Month

**Event Permit Application**

**Event:** Teal Ribbons of Hope

**Applicant:** Susan Marie Rupp Foundation

**Date:** September 9, 2014 – October 4, 2014

**Location:** Broadway lamp posts & Ballard Park trees

**Contact Person:** Ruth McCullen

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Approval of Minutes**

Work Session Minutes of August 11, 2014

**Motion:** Kelly

**Second:** Austin

**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 reported that members of the Pitman Police Department have all been trained to administer, and will now carry NARCON, a heroin antidote used in cases of overdose.

Patrolman Parker and K-9 unit Ranger have completed three weeks of training together.

Chief Zimmerman attended the School Board's opening day breakfast and spoke to school administrators and staff members about safety and the new school drop off and pick up zones in front of the school buildings.

This week, Patrolman Barbeta will be attending bicycle patrol training, and Corporal Streater will be in SWAT training.

Gloucester County is creating a Law Enforcement Resource Center and the Pitman Police Department will be the first of three departments being presented.

Patrolman Hoffman and Patrolman Weist have completed the department's FTO program and may now patrol the Borough on their own.

The Pitman Fire Department answered several calls for mutual aid.

The Office of Emergency Management met with the Gloucester County Local Emergency Planning Committee. This meeting was also attended Mayor Johnson, Borough Administrator O'Donnell, Steve Alexander, Sgt. Owens and Councilman Austin. Pitman was the first group to meet with Stewart Wallace. LLC.

The community clean up day for Alcyon Lake is scheduled for October 4, 2014.

**Councilman Blass**

Councilman Blass reported that the McCowan Memorial Library had 4,172 articles in circulation during the month of August.

The Memorabilia Committee met on September 2 for their monthly meeting. The Memorabilia Museum will be open this Saturday, September 13, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Council President Razze** read the following report:

The Recreation Commission met this past Thursday night in the lobby of Borough Hall. On that same night, Recreation Department Director Andy Fox held a "late" registration for our youth field hockey and micro-mini soccer programs. This registration was held to allow those parents who did not sign up in the spring to have the opportunity to still register their children. Registration for field hockey is still a little light so Andy will be speaking with Jen Sykes who is assisting him with the program to see what should be done. In contrast, our turnout for micro mini soccer has been outstanding. We currently have twelve teams with over ninety children registered. This is up from our usual fifty to sixty participants. The format of this year's program will model the setup we had for T-Ball which a preponderance of the parents liked...one hour of practice rotating through stations at the Dell on Wednesday evenings, and with three 15 minute games for each team on Saturday mornings. We are looking forward to all the five and six year

old children getting a lot of good instruction with the revised format, and we are looking for a particularly strong showing from Team 12.

Our fall sports programs are actively using our facilities at the Dell, Alcyon Park, and McBurney Field...all are in great shape. Pitman Soccer has obtained the donation of top soil and equipment, and is coordinating with Jared Harmon and Andy Fox to resurface the Lambs Road field back at the Dell.

Our basketball courts are 95% complete, having been painted last week. The new rims have also been installed at the proper height and a wall has been erected to prevent runoff from the alley at the rear side of the courts. The only outstanding items are the fence to be installed on the top of that wall, and some form of barrier on the front side of the courts that would allow for easy access for those using the courts, but would keep off any unwanted vehicles. Signs will also be going up prohibiting skateboarding and Chief Zimmerman has asked our officers to keep an eye on the courts to make sure they are being used for their intended purpose.

On August 18, I had the opportunity to also attend a meeting of parents, students, and organizers looking to address the drug problems that exist in our town and our schools. The meeting was not a "finger pointing" or "blame" session, but rather an opportunity to brainstorm for any new ideas to get the proper message out to our students and parents about the dangers of drug use and things to look for. The organizers, Jack Kostiuk and Shari Hulitt of the Kids Caring Foundation, are hoping to meet on a regular basis to get input from those affected with these issues, community and school leaders, as well as from students who are sometimes faced with these tough, life-changing decisions. The group is focusing on Middle School and High School aged children since there is already a DARE program in the elementary schools, and nothing in place specifically addressing this issue at the Middle School. We'll see how this progresses.

Councilman Pierpont read the following report:

The Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce would like to announce that their 39th Annual Fall Craft Fair is scheduled for Saturday, September 20th. Over 300 crafters and exhibitors are scheduled to attend and it should be a good turn out again this year. The next meeting of the Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce is scheduled for September 16th at 7:00 p.m. As always, the Chamber would like to remind all residents to stay, stroll, shop and dine local.

The Public Works Department has been very busy lately with bulk trash pick up. Please remember to follow the rules for bulk trash and only put the correct amount of items at the curb for bulk week. Bulk trash is picked up the first full week of your scheduled trash pick up. This week happens to be bulk week. For questions regarding bulk trash or any other trash and recycling questions, please call 589-1040.

Since June of this year eleven fire hydrants have been replaced as part of our replacement program. Most recently the hydrants at 517 Spruce, 424 Edsam, 608 Boundary, and 217 North Broadway were replaced.

Our Water & Sewer Division has also started replacing the water service connections along Highland Terrace. This involves replacing the old galvanized piping with copper in anticipation of resurfacing Highland Terrace.

On Spruce Avenue, our engineer is preparing an estimate of work needed to completely repair or replace the broken storm water system which is causing the collapse and sink hole of the

roadway. We have anticipated bonding monies for this replacement as well as the repair and replacement on North Brentwood Avenue.

Our Highway Division was busy painting yellow loading and unloading curbs outside of our schools to facilitate student drop off and pick up zones as well as posting new signs designating these areas.

We also mowed the lawn at an abandoned property at 136 Morris Avenue again, and we will mow a similarly abandoned property on Second Avenue this week. These properties are mowed after a violation notice has been sent to the owner of record and a ten day waiting period of the noticed has passed. A detailed invoice of the work performed and equipment used is sent to the Tax Office at Borough Hall and the amount of the invoice is then placed as a lien on the property by resolution of Mayor and Council.

The Highway Division also removed a fallen tree from the parking area on Eighth Avenue which came down during a storm.

Trash totals for the time period of August 25th through September 5th are:

Eight loads of trash totaling 104.27 tons

Nine loads of recycling totaling 44.3 tons

#### Councilwoman Higbee

Councilwoman Higbee reported that the Borough has received the credit profile report from Standard & Poors a credit reporting service; we have maintained our AA- stable rating.

The Tax Collector has reported collections for the month of July totaling \$1,753,716.35, and for the month of August totaling \$3,737,121.58.

This Thursday evening, the Historic Commission will meet in Borough Hall immediately following the 911 service in Ballard Park at 6:30 p.m. There is currently one application submitted for review by the Commission.

On August 18, Walt Madison, Michelle LaPlante, and Councilwoman Higbee attended the Planning and Zoning Board meeting to hear the decision on the changes to the Historic Guidelines that were reported at the July Board meeting. All changes were approved.

Area Clean Community clean up programs have been scheduled for the fall. Currently twelve groups have signed up.

#### Councilwoman Kelley

Councilwoman Kelley reported that for the month of June, Planning and Zoning miscellaneous fees collected totaled \$1,460.00. This also includes \$750.00 in abandoned property registration fees collected.

In July, the Construction Office issued forty-four permits, and forty-six Certificates of Continued Occupancy were issued. Fees collected totaled \$6,962.00.

Fees collected by the Registrar of Vital Statistics totaled \$452.00 for the month of August.

The Economic Development Committee held their monthly meeting on August 21, 2014. They have issued a formal recommendation to Council to consider purchasing the former bank building

and lot next door to Borough Hall. A flyer has been developed by the EDC intern to promote the Theater Avenue project. When the Borough receives approval from the State of New Jersey to do so, a subcommittee will be formed to formulate fundraising ideas for this project. The next meeting of the EDC will be on September 7, 2014.

The Planning and Zoning Board had a quick meeting on August 18. Five applications from the Historic Commission were granted Certificates of Appropriateness, and the proposed changes to the Historic Guidelines were approved. Their next meeting will be September 15, at 7:00 p.m.

**Unfinished Business**

**Ordinance No. 18, 2014 – Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Appropriating \$20,000 From the Capital Fund Balance and Authorizing the Purchase of an MPH Speed Monitor Trailer**

Second Reading – Public Hearing

Motion: Austin Second: Higbee

Motion to Open to the Public: Razze Second: Austin

Time: 8:27 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to Close Public Hearing: Razze Second: Austin

Time: 8:28 p.m.

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**Ordinance No. 19, 2014 – Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase of Software Upgrades, Refurbishing a Trash Truck, Improvements to Storm Drains, Paving of Borough Street(s), Replacing/Repairing the Roof on Borough Hall and the Purchase of a Telephone System for the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey; Appropriating the Sum of \$664,000 Therefore; Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, New Jersey, in the Aggregate Principal Amount of \$630,800 to Borrow With a Down Payment of \$33,200; Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection With the Foregoing**

Second Reading – Public Hearing

Motion: Higbee Second: Kelley

Motion to Open to the Public: Razze Second: Kelley

Time: 8:29 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to Close Public Hearing: Razze Second: Kelley

Time: 8:29 p.m.

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes

Councilman Blass: Yes

Councilwoman Higbee: Yes

Councilwoman Kelley: Yes

Councilman Pierpont: Yes

Council President Razze: Yes

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

**New Business**

**Resolution No. 126, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing State Contract Purchase of an MPH Speed Monitor Trailer to R&R Radar, Inc. Under State Contract # A82101**

Motion: Austin  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Resolution No. 127, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Form of Maintenance Guarantee Submitted by ABS Electric, Inc. for the Emergency Generators for Fire Stations Project**

Motion: Austin  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Higbee  
Councilman Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman Kelley: Yes  
Council President Razze: Yes

**Resolution No. 128, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Repealing Resolution No. 63, 2014 and Approving Revised Change Order #1 to the Contract With Asphalt Paving Corporation, Malaga, NJ for the Lexington Avenue, Phase 2 Project**

Motion: Pierpont  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Higbee  
Councilman Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman Kelley: Yes  
Council President Razze: Yes

**Resolution No. 129, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Authorizing Transfer of Real Estate Tax Overpayments**

Motion: Higbee  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Resolution No. 130, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Confirming the Report of the Tax Collector in the Matter of Yard Work**

Motion: Higbee  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Resolution No. 131, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Adopting a Written Clean Air Quality Program in Compliance With N.J.A.C. 12:100-3 and Appointing Steven Alexander, Public Works Manager, as the Designated Person for the Program**

Motion: Blass  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Higbee  
Councilman Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman Kelley: Yes  
Council President Razze: Yes

**Resolution No. 132, 2014 – Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pitman, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving Curfew Within the Borough of Pitman for the Celebration of Halloween**

Motion: Austin  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Resolution No. 133, 2014 – 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 Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse; Gloucester County Municipal Alliance**

Motion: Higbee  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Resolution No. 134, 2014 – 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 Gloucester, Salem and Cumberland County Joint Insurance Fund (TRICO JIF) 2014 Optional Safety Reward and 2014 Safety Incentive Reward**

Motion: Higbee  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

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

**\*Resolution No. 135, 2014 – 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 to be discussed: Contract Negotiations AFSCME Local 71  
Action may be taken upon returning to an open meeting.

\*Resolution removed from the agenda. Closed meeting not necessary.

**Payment of Bills**

Motion: Higbee  
Roll Call:  
Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilman Blass: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Abstain to #29168; Votes to approves all other payments.  
Councilwoman Kelley: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Council President Razze: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

Second: Kelley

**Event Permit Applications**

**\*Event:** Halloween Parade  
Applicant: Greater Pitman Chamber of Commerce  
Date: October 31, 2014  
Time: 4:00 p.m.

Location: Broadway & Ballard Park  
Contact Person: Karen Hickman

\*Approval is contingent upon the submission of a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough of Pitman as Additional Insured.

Motion: Razze  
Roll Call:

Second: Austin

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

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

**\*Event:** Baptism/Dedication Ceremony

Applicant: Jeffrey Krachun  
Date: October 4, 2014  
Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Grove Auditorium  
Contact Person: Jeffrey Krachun

\*Approval is contingent upon the submission of a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough of Pitman as Additional Insured and receipt by the Borough of the refundable deposit for the use of the facility.

Motion: Razze  
Roll Call:

Second: Higbee

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

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

**\*Event & Signage:** Panther Prowl 5K Running Race

Applicant: Pitman Education Foundation  
Date: Saturday, October 4, 2014  
Time: 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: Map attached  
Contact Person: Allison Kostiuk

Motion: Razze

Second: Kelley



Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

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

\*Approval is contingent upon the submission of a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough of Pitman as Additional Insured

**Event & Signage: Crop Hunger Walk**

Organization: Church World Service  
Contact Person: Carol Schoepske  
Date: Sunday, Oct. 19, 2014  
Time: 1:30 p.m.  
Location: Sunset Auditorium; See attached map

Motion: Razzo

Second: Austin

Roll Call:

Councilman Austin: Yes  
Councilwoman Higbee: Yes  
Councilman Pierpont: Yes  
Mayor Johnson \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Public Portion**

Motion to Open to the Public: Razzo  
Time: 8:45 p.m.

Second: Austin

**Sandy Razzo, 143 West Jersey Avenue** – Mrs. Razzo asked if a loophole was opened when Borough Council passed the BYOB ordinance.

Mayor Johnson replied that there is no BYOB ordinance in the Borough. He stated that Council could pass an ordinance that would prohibit BYOB, but that has not been done to date. The BYOB laws come under the Alcohol Beverage Control Board of the State of New Jersey, as well the enforcement of applicable laws.

**Jim Fortney, 502 Carew Avenue** – Mr. Fortney asked for an explanation of the purpose of Resolution No. 127, 2014.

Councilman Austin explained that it is approving a maintenance agreement that guarantees the work of the installing contractor for a period of two years.

**Ellie Dunn, 223 Highland Terrace** – Mrs. Dunn explained that she represented the Church of the Good Shepherd, located on the corner of Highland Terrace and Wildwood Avenue. She is attending the meeting to bring attention to the condition of the property located at 218 Wildwood Avenue, which has been vacant for over two years. She came to the meeting to ask if the Borough could become involved in forcing the owners to clean out the overgrowth of weeds and grass, and tend to the pool which is on the property.

Bruce Scott, the Borough's Code Enforcement Officer, stated that the property is registered with the Borough as a vacant property, and that they have started maintaining this property. The pool has been removed, and a management company has been mowing the grass. Mr. Scott said that he would go out to inspect the property once again to make sure that it is being maintained properly.

Motion to Close the Public Portion: Razze  
Time: 8:52 p.m.

Second: Higbee

**Adjournment**

Motion: Higbee  
Time: 8:52 p.m.

Second: Razze

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell  
Borough Clerk/Administrator