



VOL. 2 ISSUE 1 • January 2020

Pittman Center Times

Official Newsletter of the Town of Pittman Center

Dear Subscribers,

Thank you for continuing to read the Pittman Center Times! We believe this project has set us apart from many Towns our size in communicating with the folks that live in this great community.

We hope you enjoy the first issue of 2020 and have started the new year on a positive note!

If you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to call Town Hall at (865) 436-5499 or you can email us at asutton@pittmancentertn.gov.

Your PC Times Staff

MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL

The Town of Pittman Center hopes that everyone is having a fantastic start to the New Year!

As we begin the new year, we would like to take a moment to acknowledge and reflect on our progression and accomplishments in 2019:

- Finished repairs on Hills Creek Road.
- Finished numerous paving projects (Thank You Sevier County Highway Department!).
- Published the third Glenn Cardwell book.
- Began a Building Department with an ICC certified Building Official.
- Increased our communication and transparency with citizens through the newsletter, social media, and our website.
- Purchased a dump truck to increase our level of service and abilities.
- Completed numerous public works projects in house including, but not limited to, the repair on Webb Creek Road and Tunis Branch Road.
- Hired and maintained a fully staffed Police Department.
- Revamped our accounting and financial reporting software.
- Entered into an agreement with the other government entities in Sevier County to partner with the United States Army Corps of Engineers for a real-time flood study.
- Sold the remaining Pinnacle Vista lot and our surplus vehicles.
- Began revitalization of Pittman Center City Hall playground/park.
- Began a recodification of our Town Ordinances.
- Moved Heritage Day to April.
- Partnered with the Tennessee Transportation Assistance Program to provide recommendations regarding Pinnacle Vista road maintenance and for traffic studies on Webb Creek and Emerts Cove.



As we delve into 2020 the Board of Mayor and Aldermen will review our existing strategic plan and make decisions on what our priorities are moving forward in 2020 and beyond. It is a very exciting time in Pittman Center and we look forward to continued advancement.

We are also very excited to announce we have begun searching for a part-time maintenance worker. Please visit our website and our Facebook for more details!

Michael T. Borders
City Administrator

MEET OUR CITY EMPLOYEES

What do you like about your job?

Keeping peace in a well visited area. Helping people who are not able to help themselves. Being a servant to the community.

What do you like about Pittman Center?

I enjoy the beautiful mountain scenery, how it is the most untouched part of the county. It is also a great place to fish.

Anything Else?

Ben plays acoustic guitar and sings, he enjoys classic country, hunting deer, trout fishing and once was in an episode of the TV docudrama Snapped. Ben also practices Brazilian Jujitsu.



Officer Ben Ogle

TOWN MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Town meetings are open to the public. Members of the community are encouraged to attend! Complete minutes (after they are approved by the BMA) are available on the Pittman Center web site. Below is an **unofficial** and brief overview of the meetings.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission did not meet during the month of January.

Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BMA)

During the meeting held on January 23rd the BMA:

1. Passed on second reading Ordinance No. 290: An Ordinance Amending the “Zoning Map of the Town of Pittman Center, Tennessee” By Rezoning Property from the RLD and C-1 to the C-3 District.
2. Passed on first reading Ordinance No. 291: An Ordinance of the Town of Pittman Center, Tennessee to replace Ordinance No. 217 in its entirety and replace with a new Tree Ordinance.
3. Passed on first reading Ordinance No. 292: An Ordinance of the Town of Pittman Center, Tennessee to adopt a Tourist Residency Program.

4. Passed on first reading Ordinance No. 293: An Ordinance of the Town of Pittman Center, Tennessee Amending Title 12 of the Municipal Code to Designate the Building Official as a Special Police Officer for Issuing Citations in Lieu of Arrest.
5. Passed on first reading Ordinance No. 294: An Ordinance of the Town of Pittman Center, Tennessee, Replacing Municipal Code §15-8 and Adopting by Reference State Traffic Offenses and Rules of the Road.
6. Passed on first reading Ordinance No. 295: An Ordinance of the Town of Pittman Center, Tennessee to amend the FY20 Budget.
7. Passed Resolution No. 222: A Resolution of the Town of Pittman Center to Revise the Personnel Policy.
8. Discussed Litter

BMA Notes:

- Please note that the Tourist Residency program will only, if passed on second reading, affect ***new*** overnight rental units and units that currently do not comply with rules, regulations, fail to remit hotel/motel taxes, or otherwise not meet the requirements to be considered grandfathered in Tennessee Code Annotated.
- The ability for the Building Official to issue citations is limited to building codes, property maintenance, planning and zoning, etc., and does ***not*** include criminal, traffic, or other Police Department related offenses.

The Planning Commission will meet on Monday February 10th at 4:30

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen will meet on Thursday February 20th at 4:30

The next Tree Board meeting is yet to be determined.

The next Recreation Board meeting is yet to be determined.

If you have any questions regarding agenda items or action please contact the City Administrator at (865) 436-5499.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS



Pittman Center Sparkle Days!

The Town of Pittman Center Tree Board in corroboration with the Pittman Center Firewise Committee is excited to announce that Sparkle Days will run from February 13th through February 29th. Sparkle Days is an opportunity for citizens to place their collective brush next to the road for pick-up by the Town of Pittman Center. This is a free curbside pick-up for **residential** brush that is less than five inches (5”) in diameter and less than six feet (6’) in length. Once your brush is curbside contact the Town of Pittman Center at (865) 436-5499 and let us know it is ready for pick-up. Town staff will pick it up within a few business days!

The Pittman Center Firewise Committee is separate from the Town of Pittman Center and is made up of volunteers that are willing to help folks that may not be physically able to trim brush themselves. If you would like help trimming brush please contact the Town of Pittman Center at (865) 436-5499 or email at pittmancenterfirewise@gmail.com and a Firewise Committee member will be in contact with you to discuss what can be done to assist you.

It is that simple!



The Town of Pittman Center & AirMedCare

Daniel Willis from AirMedCare will be at Pittman Center City Hall on ***Thursday March 12th from 12p.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday March 13th from 6:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.*** for citizens wishing to upgrade their membership.

Remember the Town partners with AirMedCare to provide basic coverage which means:

Any individual whom resides within the boundaries of The Town of Pittman Center, TN when transported for medical necessity by Lifestar (or any AirMedCare Network Provider) will be covered under the standard terms and conditions for an AirMedCare Network membership except:

- *Transport must be from a pickup location in Sevier County, TN;*
- *If covered person transported is uninsured (**or has no billable insurance**) at the time of transport, Med-Trans Corporation will bill the covered person at the “Medicare Allowable Rate” for the transport.*

While this is a great service, you can upgrade your benefits to a full membership with additional coverage. By upgrading to a full membership, this removes the two limitations mentioned above. A full membership includes coverage in an additional 38 states with 320 locations for an additional \$45.00 per year per household you can cover everyone living under your roof. If anyone in the home is 60 years of age or older then the whole home is an additional \$35.00 per year.

Due to the agreement with the Town of Pittman Center being annual the discounted rates are only available on a yearly basis. AirMedCare will mail you a letter within 90 days of your full membership’s expiration date. If you have any questions regarding renewals please contact Daniel at Daniel.Willis@airmedcarenetwork.com

Heritage Day

Calling all vendors and crafters the Town of Pittman of Center is now accepting applications for Heritage Day 2020! Please visit www.pittmancentermtn.com go to the “government” tab in the ribbon bar then to “printable forms” to print out the “Vendor Registration form” and “Vendor Letter” (you can also pick up a form at City Hall). The deadline to turn in Vendor Registration forms will be April 17.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or volunteer for Heritage Day please give us a call at (865) 436-5499.

We have some exciting plans and look forward to seeing everyone at the 30th annual Heritage Day on Saturday April 25th at 9am at the Pittman Center City Hall grounds!

REMINDERS...

Please remember in order to participate in the citizens comment section at the Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting you must fill out a form provided by Town staff and return the form prior to the end of day Tuesday before the Thursday meeting. You can find the form at www.pittmancentertn.com go to the “government” tab in the ribbon bar then to “printable forms”. You may also contact Town staff and have the form filled out over the phone at (865) 436-5499.

DID YOU KNOW ...?

Building Permits

That the majority of construction and building work, including signage, requires a permit through the Town of Pittman Center? If you begin work without a permit you may also be charged double the permit fee as a penalty for not obtaining a permit originally. The Town of Pittman Center Building Department was authorized to begin issuing permits as of July, 2019. The Town employs a Building Official, Travis Ogle, that is certified through the State of Tennessee to inspect mechanical, plumbing, and the building of residential and commercial structures. The Building Official also works with the Planning Commission to ensure that all zoning laws and regulations are adhered to. Some work is exempt from a permit such as: painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, counter tops, and other similar work. It is recommended that if you are unsure if the project you are about to commence may or may not be exempt from permit requirements to call Pittman Center at (865) 436-5499.



Firewise

The national Firewise Communities program is a multi-agency effort designed to reach beyond the fire service by involving homeowners, community leaders, planners, developers, and others in the effort to protect people, property, and natural resources from the risk of wildland fire- before a fire starts! The Firewise Communities approach emphasizes community responsibility for planning in the design of a safe community as well as effective emergency response, and individual responsibility for safer home construction and design, landscaping, and maintenance. While many people play an important role in making homes safer from wildfire, no one has more control over the safety of a home than homeowners (Tennessee State Government, 2019)!

Informational Video

Search “Is Your Home Firewise” (Published by the Tennessee Division of Forestry) on YouTube

Pittman Center Firewise

The Pittman Center Firewise Committee is a group of volunteers, separate from the Town of Pittman Center, with a goal of educating and working with the community in an effort to better protect the people, property, and natural resources from the risk of a wildland fire. This group was formed in the fall of 2019

The warmer temperatures throughout this winter have many of us thinking about spring landscaping. The Pittman Center Firewise Committee would like to share some outdoor tips to make our homes and community safer from wildfire, starting with the space around your home. Remembering to use fire resistant plants and materials around the exterior of your home or business will go a long way toward keeping both your landscape and the exterior surface from catching fire from blowing embers.

The 30 feet around your home or business is referred to as the home defense zone. As one Firewise official said, this area should be lean, clean, and green. Vegetation in this area is low to the ground, spaced apart, and should include non woody plants with fire resistant qualities. Mulch is both attractive and helpful to conserve water, keeping weeds away, and stopping erosion. Fire resistant mulch choices around the first five feet of landscaping are rock, gravel, or pavers. Design elements that provide fire breaks between advancing fire and your home are decomposed granite, cement, asphalt, gravel, patios, masonry walls, pools, ponds, and streams.

For those of us who are imbedded in the woods, we can only do the best we can to be safer. An important outside goal should include reducing vegetation and plants that provide a ladder type path to higher trees or your home. Plants and trees should be trimmed and all dead material removed.

As the Pittman Center Firewise Committee moves forward in 2020, our goals are simple. We aim to help Pittman Center home owners, renters, and business owners who are interested in fire safety for their property make safer choices. The committee will be stepping out into the community to meet neighbors and offer information, and Firewise is excited to part of the upcoming Pittman Center Sparkle Days. Here’s to some great work this year!

If you would like more information or would like to join the Pittman Center Firewise Committee please contact us at pittmancenterfirewise@gmail.com.

