

**WORK SESSION  
SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

In compliance with Chapter 231, OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice has been given to all members of the Governing Body, the "Local Source" and the "Westfield Leader" the two newspapers designated to receive such notice. The notice is posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board.

Mayor Paul N. Mirabelli called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Mirabelli, Councilwoman Andre, Councilman Dierkes, Councilman Matejek, Council President Messler, Councilwoman Pacifico, Councilwoman Pater, Administrator Mortimer and Attorney Post. Also present were Public Works Director Matthew DeAnna, Recreation Director Frank Masella, Captain Michael Jackson, Engineer Mike Disko and Senior Citizen Coordinator Kim Moriak.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Tax Collector to authorize tax overpayment refunds due to duplicate payments. The proper resolution will be prepared for the September 19, 2023 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding department refunds. The recreation department would like to refund program fees due to cancellations. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting on September 19, 2023.

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Discussion was held regarding the cancellation of a receivable balance that exist in the records of the borough and cannot be spent. The balance is from the Municipal Alliance Grant in the amount of \$1,945.93. The proper resolution will be prepared for the September 19, 2023 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding closing Old Tote Road for Halloween. The Council agreed to close the street.

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Discussion was held regarding the approval to appoint Nicholas Schoen and William Iden as new Volunteer Firefighters. Fire Chief Peter Esemplare recommends these appointments and the background checks have cleared. There is another candidate undergoing a background check and once is cleared will be added to the agenda. A motion for approval will take place at the meeting of September 19, 2023.

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Discussion was held regarding a donation for the PTO Fall Festival on October 14, 2023. The Council agreed to donate \$500 in support of this fun community event. The proper resolution will be prepared for the September 19, 2023 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding the appointment of a Communication Officer. The Police Committee recommend the appointment of Matthew Alexander. Matthew passed all testing and the background check was cleared. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of September 19, 2023.

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Discussion was held regarding a raffle application from Highlander Booster Club for on premise 50/50 draw raffle. The application is in order and the proper fees have been paid. A motion to approve the application will take place at the September 19, 2023 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding a bid recommendation from the Borough Engineer for Contract 2023-8 Paving Improvements on Various Streets. The Engineer recommends the base bid and alternate #1 be awarded to the lowest bidder Denbar Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$267,325.56. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of September 19, 2023.

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The Administrator announced an upcoming car show and wet-down.

Attorney Post provided an update on the Lady of Lourdes field project.

Councilman Messler inquired about pothole repairs.

The Mayor wanted to know the status of lawn seeding by the water company.

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**BILLS & CLAIMS:**

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Dierkes and seconded by Councilwoman Pacifico:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside that the following bills of the persons named and for the amounts stated below, having been duly audited and found to be correct this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023, the same be paid after Council's review, if and when funds are available and that the Mayor, Council President, Administrator and Treasurer are hereby authorized and directed to sign and deliver warrants for same in the amount of \$201,255.83 (Copy of bill list attached)

Roll call: Ayes: Andre, Dierkes, Matejek, Messler, Pacifico, Pater. Nays: 0.

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**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Hearing no one wishing to speak, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

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Upon motion by Councilman Dierkes and a second by Councilman Messler, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:47 PM.

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Martha Lopez, RMC  
Borough Clerk