

WORK SESSION
JULY 1, 2025

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, Councilman Matejek, Council President Pacifico, Councilman Rinaldo, Councilman Van Deusen, Councilwoman Wass, Attorney Post and Administrator Mortimer. Also present were CFO Justyna Zagorska-Diaz, Senior Coordinator Kim Moriak, Police Chief Joseph Giannuzzi, and DPW Director Matthew Deanna. Councilman Dierkes was absent.

Discussion was held regarding department staffing. Mireille Diamond was appointed as a part-time technical assistant to the Construction Official, completing staffing upstairs with one full-time and two part-time employees. Additional hires for the pool and playground will be provided by Frank before the next meeting. The proper appointment resolutions will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to purchase 25 body-worn cameras. The purchase will be under a five-year lease totaling \$116,536.50, including annual replacement, repairs, and video storage. The vendor remains the same as the current provider. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding upcoming bid openings and recommendations. Bids will open for three projects prior to the next meeting: resurfacing Prior Name, Justin Place, Kings Court, and Queens Lane (July 3); TV inspections of various sanitary sewers (July 3); and granite block curb installations (July 10). Recommendations will be forwarded for award. The proper resolutions to award these contracts will be prepared for next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding implementing an OPRA service fee for body-worn camera footage. Due to extensive manual review requirements, an ordinance will be drafted to establish fees based on an hourly rate calculated at three hours of review for each hour of footage, plus media costs. Attorney Post will prepare an ordinance.

Discussion was held regarding entering a Cooperative Agreement with Union County for the CDBG Program. The amount increased to \$15,500, with \$14,000 allocated to salary and the remainder for supplies. The proper resolution will be prepared for next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding establishing house number visibility standards for safety and first responder access. Council discussed requiring four-inch numbers within ten feet of the front door or over the garage, with exceptions as needed. Attorney Post will prepare an ordinance.

Discussion was held regarding regulating use of municipal parking lots during protests and demonstrations. An ordinance will be drafted by Attorney Post requiring permits and addressing impacts on public facilities such as the pool and library.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer for a Chapter 159 resolution to include special items of revenues into the 2025 municipal budget for the Watts Foundation – Senior Prom (\$2,800.00). The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to approve a raffle application from Mountainside Restoration Committee for an off-premise draw raffle. A motion to approve the application will take place at the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding department refunds. The recreation department would like to refund the participants due to cancellations. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to purchase a new DPW truck (2026 F-350) for \$64,403.00 under the Morris County Co-op price, replacing a 2008 F-150. The proper resolution authorizing purchase will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a proclamation to honor the Governor Livingston Baseball Team for their championship and a memorialization proclamation for Andrew Adornato. Both proclamations will be prepared for the next meeting.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Matejek 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 1st day of July 2025, 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 \$651,624.45 (Copy of bill list attached.)

Roll Call: Ayes: Matejek, Pacifico, Rinaldo, Van Deusen, Wass. Nays: 0

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None

Upon a motion by Councilman Rinaldo and a second by Councilwoman Pacifico the following resolution to adjourn to closed session was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey permits the public to be excluded from certain matters to be discussed by the Governing Body; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desire to discuss litigation which are matters where the exclusion of the public is permitted; and

WHEREAS, public disclosure of the results of this discussion will be made as soon as the matters discussed have been resolved by the Governing Body of the Borough of Mountainside.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside that the aforesaid matters shall be discussed in closed session upon adoption of this resolution.

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 7:57 P.M.

The meeting was recalled to public session at 8:07 P.M.

Upon a motion by Councilman Rinaldo and a second by Councilwoman Pacifico, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

Martha Lopez, RMC