

WORK SESSION
JANUARY 11, 2022

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 7:34 P.M. via Zoom.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Council President Andre, Councilman Dierkes, Councilman Matejek, Councilman Messler, Councilwoman Pacifico, Councilwoman Pater, Administrator Mortimer and Attorney Post. Also present were CFO Jill Goode, Police Chief Joseph Giannuzzi, Public Works Director Matthew DeAnna, Senior Coordinator Kim Moriak and Recreation Director Frank Masella.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of representatives to the UC Transportation Advisory Board. Council agreed to reappoint Councilman Robert Messler and Mike Disko as alternate, for a one-year term. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of January 18, 2022.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of Fund Commissioner to the Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund. The Borough Administrator will be appointed for a one-year term. The proper resolution will be prepared for the January 18, 2022 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of a DPW Laborer. The Administrator and DPW Director recommend the appointment of Gabriel Baumgarten from Scotch Plains whose background and reference checks were cleared. He will work on obtaining his CDL and replaced a retired employee. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of January 18, 2022.

Discussion was held regarding increasing the pool membership fees for 2022. The proposed changes include a 2% increase for resident and non-resident memberships. The Recreation Committee will meet to discuss plans to increase pool memberships and prepare for pool upgrades. The Council agreed with the recommendation and the ordinance will be prepared for the January 18, 2022 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Elks Club for a license fee waiver. The Elks Club annual licensing fees total \$275 for music machine/non-food, sign and food handler. They are a non-profit organization supporting the community youth programs and veterans. The Council agreed to waive the license fees. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of January 18, 2022.

Discussion was held regarding the annual July 4th fireworks display. Garden State Fireworks, Inc. provided a quote that offers additional materials on contracts paid before February 1st. Council agreed that the Borough should take advantage of this offer. The Mayor is interested in providing a fireworks display for the tree lighting ceremony paid for by sponsors. The proper resolution will be prepared for the January 18, 2022 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer for end of year budget transfers within 2021 reserve municipal budget. In accordance with State Statute, transfers can be made within certain budget appropriations during the first three months of the fiscal year. It is requested that certain

transfers be made within the 2021 municipal budget. The proper budget transfer resolution will be prepared for the meeting of January 18, 2022 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of Council Committees and Council Liaisons. The resolutions were tabled at the reorganization in order to have the full council present to vote. The proper resolutions will be prepared for the meeting of January 18, 2022.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of Fire Department Officials. The resolution was tabled at the reorganization meeting to await the completion of the new Fire Chief's sick leave. The proper resolution will be prepared for the January 18, 2022 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding Local Government Week. The Council announced community activities to recognize and celebrate local government week between April 3rd through April 9th.

Discussion was held regarding an update to the claimant certification vendors. The borough passed a resolution in 2018 which allows certain exceptions to claimant certification therefore, exempt vendors are not required to sign purchase orders to render payment. The list of exempt vendors needs to be updated and the proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of January 18, 2022.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Dierkes and seconded by Councilman Matejek:

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 11th day of January 2022, 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 \$418,708.53. (Copy of bill list attached)

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

Upon a motion by Councilman Dierkes 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 personnel 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 7:53 P.M.

The meeting was recalled to public session at 8:24 P.M.

Upon motion by Councilwoman Pacifico and a second by Councilman Matejek, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Martha Lopez, RMC
Borough Clerk