WORK SESSION
JANUARY 13, 2015

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 7:36 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Councilwoman Andre, Councilman Dierkes, Councilman Messler, Councilman Mortimer, Council President Turner, Administrator Debbie and Attorney Post. Also present were Public Works Manager Ronald Romak, CFO Jill Goode, Acting Police Chief Allan Attanasio, and Recreation Director Frank Masella. Councilman Lane was absent.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of representatives to the Union County Transportation Advisory Board. Council agreed to re-appoint Councilman Messler as our representative to the Union County Transportation Advisory Board, with Mike Disko, Jr. as alternate, for a one-year term. Zenon Moriak will also be re-appointed for a two-year term as Municipal Representative to the UC Air Traffic & Noise Advisory Board. The proper resolutions approving the appointments will be prepared for the meeting of January 20, 2015.

Discussion was held regarding increasing the pool membership fees for 2015. The proposed changes include a 2% increase to last year’s membership fees. The Council agreed with the recommendation and the ordinance will be prepared for the meeting of January 20, 2015.

Discussion was held regarding the 2015 contract renewal with Associated Humane Society for animal control services. The rate was negotiated to remain flat since 2013 at an annual cost of $15,989.81. The Governing Body agreed to pass a resolution at the meeting of January 20, 2015 renewing the animal control contract.

Discussion was held on the annual July 4th fireworks display. Garden State Fireworks, Inc. provided a quote of $15,000 and offers additional materials on contracts paid before January 31, 2015. Council agreed that the Borough should take advantage of this offer. The proper resolution will be prepared for the January 20, 2015 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to enter into a grant agreement with the Department of Human Services Division of Planning for a Municipal Drug Alliance Grant in the amount of $15,743.00. The grant period is effective through a fiscal year cycle for 2015-2016. The proper resolution authorizing the grant agreement will be prepared for the January 20, 2015 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a building department refund. Victor Mennella requested a refund after deciding not to install a fireplace insert at 305 Indian Trail. The total refund amount is $80. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of January 20, 2015.

Discussion was held regarding two added/omitted county board judgments for 2014. The proper resolution to issue refunds will be prepared for the January 20, 2015 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a raffle application from Our Lady of Lourdes Church. They are requesting a 50/50 off premise draw raffle. The application is in order and the proper fees have been paid. Action to approve the raffle license will take place at the meeting of January 20, 2015.

Discussion was held regarding the purchase of a new police vehicle under the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council. One Police Interceptor SUV will be purchased from Beyer-Ford. If funds are available, a license plate reader will be purchased for the next new police vehicle. A resolution is required for purchases made over the bid threshold through a cooperative purchase contract and will be prepared for the meeting of January 20, 2015.

Discussion was held regarding an upcoming Fire Committee budget meeting. Mayor Mirabelli requested a short and long term plan for uniform purchases.

Discussion was held regarding residents who violate the no commercial vehicle parking ordinance. The Council agreed to notice all residents through the borough website, TV35, newsletter and electronic bulletin regarding prohibited parking of commercial vehicles. Ronald Romak issues notification letters to violators. Council suggested bringing back the passport to provide important information to new residents. New residents would be advised about no overnight parking, organizations, departments, contact information, etc. The Mayor requested a quote to print these informational passports.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Mortimer and seconded by Councilman Messler:

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 13th day of January 2015, 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 $80,454.54. (Copy of bill list attached)

Roll call: Ayes: Andre, Diekes, Messler, Mortimer, Turner. Nays: 0.

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Mortimer and seconded by Councilman Messler.

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 7:54 P.M.

The meeting was recalled to public session at 8:13 P.M.

Upon a motion by Councilman Mortimer and a second by Councilman Dierkes, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Martha Lopez, Borough Clerk