

**WORK SESSION MEETING
MAY 3, 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.

PRESENT: Mayor Paul Mirabelli, Councilman Matejek, Councilwoman Pacifico, Councilwoman Pater, and Attorney Post. Also present were Recreation Director Frank Masella, Police Chief Joseph Giannuzzi and DPW Director Matthew Deanna. Council President Andre, Councilman Dierkes, Councilman Messler, and Administrator Mortimer were absent.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to issue estimated tax bills. The Tax Collector recommends estimated bills be issued in case there is a delay with the state budget adoption. The Council agreed and the proper resolution will be prepared for the May 17, 2022 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding bid recommendations for Contract 2022-2 Retaining Wall Improvements at Public Works Facility. The Borough Engineer recommends the base bid and alternates #1, #2, #3, #4 and #5 be awarded to Denbar Construction at the cost of \$171,482. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of May 17, 2022.

Discussion was held regarding a department refund from recreation due to the cancellation of a pool membership and a payment error refund requested by the building department. The proper resolutions will be prepared for the May 17, 2022 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to approve Sangram Sandha to join the Junior Firemen's Auxiliary Program. The background check has been cleared and was recommended by the Fire Chief. A motion for approval will take place at the meeting of May 17, 2022.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of an assistant pool manager. It was recommended by Recreation Director Frank Masella that Matias Saavedra, a former instructor and trainer be appointed to the management staff. The proper appointing resolution will be prepared for the meeting of May 17, 2022.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to apply for the Highway Safety Fund Grant Program. The New Jersey Department of Transportation Safety Fund Grant Program provides funds for the enforcement of traffic violations in designated stretches of state highways known as safe corridors. The proper resolution will be prepared for the May 17, 2022 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Tax Collector to authorize refunds for tax overpayments due to duplicate payments. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of May 17, 2022.

Discussion was held regarding limiting hours for garbage dumpster pickups. Councilwoman Pater mentioned the loud dumpster pickups in her neighborhood as early as 4:00 am. A review of the borough noise ordinance and Westfield's ordinance will follow in order to get a sense of how the council would like to proceed. The topic will be discussed further at the next work session meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the need for additional capital improvement allocation for the Levi Cory Park acquisition. An additional appropriation of \$20,000 is necessary to cover preliminary costs associated with the purchase of the property such as closing costs, the final invoice and real estate taxes. Preliminary plans are to level, clean and seed the property. The proper resolution will be prepared for the May 17, 2022 meeting.

The following resolution was introduced by Councilwoman Pacifico and seconded by Councilwoman Pater.

RESOLUTION 66-2022
ENABLING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program ("State"), provides loans and/or grants to municipal and county governments and grants to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the acquisition, development, and stewardship of lands for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Mountainside (the "Applicant") desires to further the public interest by obtaining a matching grant of \$56,650 from the State to fund the following project(s):

#2010-19-079
Mountainside Borough

NOW, THEREFORE, the governing body/board resolves that Paul N. Mirabelli, Mayor of the Borough of Mountainside, New Jersey, or his successor or designee, is hereby authorized to:

- (a) make application for such a loan and/or such a grant,
- (b) provide additional application information and furnish such documents as may be required, and
- (c) act as the authorized correspondent of the above-named applicant; and

WHEREAS, the State shall determine if the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the Green Acres Program, and notify the applicant of the amount of the funding award; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the State's funds in accordance with such rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an agreement with the State for the above-named project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside:

1. The Mayor of the above named body or board is hereby authorized to execute an agreement and any amendment thereto with the State known as Levi Cory Park Acquisition; and

2. The applicant has its matching share of the project, if a match is required, in the amount of \$168,750.00.
3. In the event the State's funds are less than the total project cost specified above, the applicant has the balance of funding necessary to complete the project; and
4. The applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project.
5. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call: Matejek, Mirabelli, Pacifico, Pater. Nays: 0.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

The following resolution was introduced by Councilwoman Pacifico 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 3rd day of May 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 \$261,034.93 (Copy of bill list attached.)

Roll Call: Matejek, Mirabelli, Pacifico, Pater. Nays: 0

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Juan Yu, 591 Woodland Avenue, made a request for a proclamation to honor World Falun Dafa Day on May 13th.

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Pater and a second by Councilwoman Pacifico, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

Martha Lopez, RMC
Borough Clerk