

**WORK SESSION
MARCH 3, 2026**

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 PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Councilman Dierkes, Council President Matejek, Councilman Rinaldo, Councilman Van Deusen, Councilwoman Wass, Administrator Mortimer and Attorney Post. Also present were Public Works Director Matthew DeAnna, Recreation Director Frank Masella, Chief Joseph Giannuzzi and CFO Justyna Diaz.

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

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer to make additional appropriations to the 2026 temporary budget. Until the final 2026 municipal budget is formally adopted, temporary appropriations are made and approved by Council in order for the Borough to operate and meet their obligations. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer for end of year budget transfers within 2025 reserve municipal budget. 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 2025 municipal budget. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding raffle applications from various organizations. Wilson School PTO applied for an on premise draw raffle and armchair race. The Watchung Stables Auxiliary applied for (3) on premise 50/50 draw raffles. Mountainside PTO applied for an on premise draw raffle and on premise 50/50 draw raffle. NJ Services Foundation applied for an on premise draw raffle and on premise 50/50 draw raffle. A motion to approve these applications will take place at the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the approval to appoint Allan Tweedle as a new volunteer firefighter. The background check has cleared. The Fire Chief recommends the appointment. A motion to approve the new firefighter will take place at the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding department appointments. Appointing recreation staff, temporary fire official and clerical employee. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding Zachary Myrtetus' final payout. The patrol officer resigned and is entitled to unused comp and vacation time in the sum of \$5,756.50. A resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the 2026 pool concession contract. Recreation Director Frank Masella received one proposal for \$4,000 from Mosaico who has extensive experience in the food industry. The awarding resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a request for a road opening permit at 298 Old Tote Road. Homeowner Vincent Chang would like to convert the HVAC system to natural gas due to the age and performance of the current system. Follow up required in order to make a determination.

The Mayor announced the planning board's approval for the corner park at New Providence Road.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

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

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 March 2026, 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 \$203,044.57 (Copy of bill list attached).

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

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Kurt Manz, 1015 Charles Street, thanked the Administrator and Engineer for their assistance on the paving issue on Charles Street. He also thanked the DPW Director for keeping the brook behind his property clear. Mr. Manz reiterated his desire to be on the 250th Celebration Committee.

Upon a motion by Councilman Dierkes and a second by Councilwoman Wass 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 contracts 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.

Upon a motion by Councilman Rinaldo and a second by Councilman Van Deusen, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:24 P.M.

Martha Lopez, RMC
Borough Clerk