

**WORK SESSION  
DECEMBER 5, 2023**

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 7:31 P.M.

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

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer for year-end budget transfers. In accordance with state statute, transfers can be made within certain budget appropriations during the last two months of the fiscal year. It is requested that certain transfers be made within the 2023 municipal budget. The proper budget transfer resolution will be prepared for the December 19, 2023 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding the cancellation of certain tax account balances. In accordance with state statute, balances in the amount of \$5.00 or less, whether owed to the borough or owed by the borough, may be cancelled with the authorization of the governing body. The proper resolution to authorize the cancellation of \$5.00 balances on various tax and sewer accounts will be prepared for the meeting of December 19, 2023.

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Discussion was held regarding the appointment of a new Police Officer. The Police Committee recommended Cesar Reyesperez be appointed to this position. Council approved the recommendation. The appointing resolution will be prepared for the December 19, 2023 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding the appointment of Thomas Cassidy as a PT Senior Driver. Thomas Cassidy has been a substitute driver since June. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of December 19, 2023.

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Discussion was held regarding a department refund. The recreation department would like to refund a program fee due to low enrollment. The proper resolution will be prepared for the December 19, 2023 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding a raffle application from Our Lady of Lourdes Church for an off premise 50/50 draw raffle. Other raffle applications submitted were from MEF for casino night, on premise 50/50 draw raffle and on premise draw raffle. The applications are in order and the proper fees have been paid. A motion to approve the applications will take place at the meeting of December 19, 2023.

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**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 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023, 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 \$159,090.29. (Copy of bill list attached)

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

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Danielle Zanzalari, 1009 Charles Street and Kenny Yque, 1358 Wood Valley Road expressed concern regarding cars speeding along their streets and asked for better police presence. Chief Giannuzzi stated the department has reacted to the complaints by issuing summons. Mayor Mirabelli asked the Police Chief and DPW Director to develop a plan to address the speeding and to purchase monitoring equipment.

Hearing no one else wishing to speak, the public portion of the meeting was closed  
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The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Dierkes and seconded by Councilman Matejek.

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 and 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 7:50 P.M.  
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The meeting was recalled to public session at 8:42 P.M.  
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Upon motion by Councilman Dierkes and a second by Councilman Matejek, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

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Martha Lopez, RMC  
Borough Clerk