

**WORK SESSION
JUNE 5, 2024**

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, Councilman Dierkes, Councilman Matejek, Council President Pacifico, Councilman Rinaldo, Councilwoman Wass, Attorney Post and Administrator Mortimer. Also present were CFO Justyna Zagorska, Recreation Director Frank Masella, Senior Coordinator Kim Moriak, Police Chief Joseph Giannuzzi, Borough Engineer Mike Disko and DPW Director Matthew DeAnna. Councilman Messler was absent.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Borough Engineer to determine which roads to apply for this year's NJDOT Municipal Aid Grant application. The Council approved the following roads: Chapel Hill and Outlook Drive West. The proper resolution will be prepared for the June 18, 2024 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the annual renewal of liquor licenses. The establishments have been inspected, some received their tax clearances and paid all required fees. Awaiting tax clearances are Chrones Tavern, Mosaico, Famous Daves, and Vine Republic. Licensees who do not obtain their tax clearance will need to apply for an ad interim permit. The resolution to approve liquor license renewals will be prepared for the meeting of June 18, 2024.

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 June 18, 2024 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer for a Chapter 159 resolution to include special items of revenue into the 2024 municipal budget for the Infrastructure & Municipal Aid Grant \$40,000 and Clean Communities Grant \$19,730.98. A letter granting a Recreation Grant in the amount of \$65,000 was received and may also be added to the revenue. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of June 18, 2024.

Discussion was held regarding a department refund. A request from the Borough Engineer for the return of a bond for road opening permit on Creek Bed Road. The proper resolution will be prepared for the June 18, 2024 meeting.

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Dierkes and seconded by Councilwoman Pacifico.

RESOLUTION 78-2024

BE IT RESOLVED that Mayor Paul N. Mirabelli hereby authorizes the following appointment and term to the Library Board of Trustees:

Linda Paparatto

6/6/2024 – 12/31/2027

Roll Call: Dierkes, Matejek, Pacifico, Rinaldo, Wass. Nays: 0

Discussion was held regarding the townwide garage sale held by the Mountainside Newcomers Club. The Club have struggled to efficiently run the event due to insufficient manpower. They propose transitioning the event to the Borough so it can be a town-organized/supported event and are willing to partner with the appropriate group. Suggested organizations to run the garage sale are the PAL, Elks, Rescue Squad or Fire Department.

Discussion was held regarding a request to hang a National Night Out banner on Mountain Avenue. The Council will approve a resolution to request permission from the County of Union to hang such banner. The proper resolution will be prepared for the June 18, 2024 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding allocating capital improvement funds for the acquisition of OLL fields. There is a need to replenish the account and Attorney Post recommends allocating \$35,000 for additional preliminary expense at this time. A new assessment and offer were made and we are awaiting the church officials response. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of June 18, 2024.

Discussion was held regarding a bid recommendation from the Borough Engineer for Contract 2024-2 TV Inspection and Cleaning of 18" Sanitary Sewer Trunkline. The Engineer recommends the base bid and alternate #1 be awarded to the lowest bidder Oswald Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$87,313.40. It has not yet been determined if funding will be available for alternate #1. The proper resolution will be prepared for the June 18, 2024 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding NJDEP mandated privately owned salt storage regulations. The purpose of this ordinance is to prevent stored salt and other solid de-icing materials from being exposed to stormwater. The Borough Engineer also mentioned the need to amend our stormwater ordinance by July as to not effect our stormwater certification.

Discussion was held regarding NJDEP mandated tree removal and replacement regulations. The ordinance will establish requirements for tree removal and replacement in the borough to reduce soil erosion and pollutant runoff, promote infiltration of rainwater into the soil. Trees over 10" diameter and 4.5' off the ground will require a permit and under certain circumstances will need to replace the tree. There may be a need to hire a tree arborist. The Council expressed their concerns and have questions for the NJDEP.

Discussion was held regarding an amendment to the new residential development fee and adding a non-residential development fee. The residential development fee will increase from 1% to 1.5% of the assessed value and a non-residential development fee will be added at 2.5%. The proper ordinance will be introduced at the meeting of June 18, 2024.

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 5th day of June 2024, 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 \$223,002.44 (Copy of bill list attached).

Roll Call: Dierkes, Matejek, Pacifico, Rinaldo, Wass. Nays: 0

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None

Upon a motion by Councilman Dierkes and a second by Councilman Wass, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:21 P.M.

Martha Lopez, RMC
Borough Clerk