

**WORK SESSION  
DECEMBER 3, 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 7:32 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Councilman Dierkes, Councilman Matejek, Council President Pacifico (by phone), Councilman Rinaldo, Councilman Van Deusen, Councilwoman Wass, Administrator Mortimer and Attorney John Post. Also present were Chief Joseph Giannuzzi, CFO Justyna Diaz and Senior Coordinator Kim Moriak.

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 2024 municipal budget. The proper transfer resolution will be prepared for the next 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 will be prepared for the next meeting.  
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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.  
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The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Van Deusen and seconded by Councilwoman Wass.

**RESOLUTION 139-2024**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Mountainside advertised a public notice for and will conduct a public hearing on, December 3, 2024, to consider proposals for the Union County Year 51 Community Block Development Grant Program ("CDBG"); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Borough of Mountainside hereby expresses its support of the Union County Year 51 CDBG Program submission presented to the Governing Body as set forth in the grant application received, for the following program:

Senior Citizens Social Services Program

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the County of Union along with all applications required for CDBG program submission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll call: Ayes: Dierkes, Matejek, Pacifico, Rinaldo, Van Deusen, Wass. Nays: 0.  
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Discussion was held regarding a department appointment. There is a need to appoint a Municipal Housing Liaison for affordable housing. Administrator Mortimer will be appointed to the

mandated position. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.  
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Discussion was held regarding the annual commuter parking fees. Once a fee ordinance is passed the borough will implement a \$10 daily commuter parking option. Last year, the annual increase for commuter parking permits was waived. The Council agreed to waive the increase again to fill the empty spots. The Mayor requested seniors be able park in empty spots when attending meetings at borough hall.  
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Discussion was held regarding raffle applications from Our Lady of Lourdes Church for an off premise 50/50 draw raffle and PTO Mountainside for an on premise 50/50 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 next meeting.  
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Discussion was held regarding PD vehicle tows. Attorney Post will review the towing procedures (rates, response time, etc.) and draft any necessary revisions into the ordinance.  
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Discussion was held regarding a recent court directive. Due to recent home break-ins, suspects apprehended will be incarcerated and not released until the trial.  
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**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 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December 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 \$126,669.10. (Copy of bill list attached)

Roll call: Ayes: Dierkes, Matejek, Pacifico, Rinaldo, Van Deusen, Wass. Nays: 0.  
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**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Joanne Hanson, 1259 Wood Valley Road, complained about an ongoing issue with a cat colony. The cat owner made an agreement with the Health Officer to trap, relocate and stop feeding the colony by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Hanson reported that nine cats were seen on her property. The Health Officer will be advised and the borough will begin a trapping program.  
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Upon motion by Councilman Dierkes and a second by Councilman Rinaldo, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:58 PM.