

WORK SESSION
AUGUST 5, 2014

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 8:04 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Councilman Dierkes, Councilman Lane, Councilman Messler, Councilman Turner, Attorney Post and Administrator Debbie. Also present were CFO Jill Goode, Recreation Director Frank Masella, Borough Engineer Michael Disko, Lt. Allan Attanasio, Senior Citizen Coordinator Kim Moriak and Public Works Manager Ronald Romak. Councilwoman Andre and Councilman Mortimer were absent.

Discussion was held regarding a request for donations from the PTA to fund the annual fall festival. The Mayor and Council would like to continue their contribution to the PTA fall festival with a \$250.00 donation. The Municipal Drug Alliance will also contribute \$250.00. The proper resolution will be prepared for the August 19, 2014 meeting.

The following applications are in order and the proper fees have been paid:

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| 1. | Our House Foundation Inc. | 50/50 on premise draw raffle |
| 2. | Mountainside PTA | On premise draw raffle |
| 3. | Our Lady of Lourdes Church | 50/50 off premise draw raffle |
| 4. | Community Access Unlimited | 50/50 off premise draw raffle |
| | | On premise draw raffle |
| 5. | Arc of Union County Inc. | 50/50 on premise draw raffle |
| | | On premise draw raffle |

A motion to approve these licenses will take place at the meeting of August 19, 2014.

Discussion was held regarding proposed revisions in the regulations governing the operation of the borough's fire department. The Fire Committee recommended changing the ordinance so that the former fire chief is not automatically made an officer under operation of law. Another suggestion was to extend the term of the fire chief from one (1) year to three (3) for continuity. The Council agreed to extend the term of the fire chief, but weren't convinced the former chief should not automatically become a deputy and assist in the transition. The Fire Committee will schedule a meeting to discuss this issue further. The committee plans to address the department's needs and 2015 budget. A grant request was sent to the Watts Foundation to help fund some equipment.

Discussion was held regarding a proposed ordinance from Rahway Valley Sewerage Authority to assist each municipality in reducing excess flow. In an effort to help reduce inflow, the Authority approved increasing member flow rights by five (5%) percent. Mr. Post is concerned that a 5% increase isn't the same for one municipality as it is for another. Mountainside has programs in place to ensure a lower inflow and paid a substantial amount for its contractual capacity. Therefore, all the member towns will receive a 5% increase whether they need it or not without paying for it. The Borough remains below their flow rights and would not benefit from this increase. Attorney Post recommends a report/opinion from our RVSA Representative John Tomaine.

Discussion was held regarding New Jersey's 350th Anniversary. A Committee will be appointed to discuss a plan of action to commemorate the event on the weekend of October 18th-19th. Kim Moriak presented three ideas for the Council's approval. The community can help create a historical portrait of the state bird and state flag. Students can also get involved by creating a historical headdress and both pieces will be displayed to the public. A pumpkin carving contest will also be a part of the festivities. The Council agreed to pass a resolution authorizing the appointment of a committee to plan for this commemoration and promote community involvement in the celebrations.

Discussion was held regarding the status of the senior citizen transportation van. Senior Citizen Coordinator Kim Moriak informed the Council that a grant request was sent to the Watts Foundation to fund the purchase of a new Glaval Primetime 11 Passenger Bus in the amount of \$55,780. The current van has incurred costly repairs that cause limited availability and effects the transportation schedule. The new bus offers new safety features and does not require a CDL driver.

Discussion was held regarding pool membership refunds. Mr. & Mrs. Kalellis were unable to use their senior citizen pool memberships due to her sudden need for cancer treatments. Recreation Director Frank Masella approves and recommends granting them a full refund of \$220. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of August 19, 2014.

Discussion was held regarding proposed changes to the floor area ratio (FAR). At last month's meeting the Borough Engineer Michael Disko and Borough Planner John Chadwick presented a report on the impact of a potential increase in the current FAR of 0.225. Mayor Mirabelli suggested the Council consider combining any increase in the allowable FAR with an increase in the required side-yard setbacks. The Mayor asked John Chadwick and Michael Disko to consult with the Borough Attorney to draft a proposed ordinance and report back at the next meeting. The ordinance proposes a standard floor area ratio for the R-1 Zone

shall remain at 0.225. However, for certain applications for single family dwellings having a proposed FAR of greater than 0.225 but in no event greater than 0.24, the side yard setback requirements should be 15 feet or 15% of the lot width, whichever is greater. The new floor area ratio would allow a 3,600 square foot home on a 15,000 square foot lot. Councilman Lane isn't clear on the motivation behind increasing the FAR and is not convinced it is necessary. The Council wants to continue this discussion as they still are not in agreement.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

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

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 August 2014, 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 \$78,269.63. (Copy of bill list attached)

Roll call: Ayes: Dierkes, Lane, Messler, Turner. Nays: 0.

Upon motion by Councilman Lane and a second by Councilman Turner, 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 personnel 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 9:03 P.M.

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The meeting was recalled to public session at 9:22 P.M.

Upon motion by Councilman Turner and a second by Councilman Lane, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Lopez, Borough Clerk