

**WORK SESSION  
OCTOBER 3, 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 7:33 PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Councilwoman Andre, Councilman Dierkes, Councilman Matejek, Administrator Mortimer and Attorney Post. Also present were CFO Jill Goode, Public Works Director Matthew DeAnna, Engineer Mike Disko, OEM Director Keith Turner, Recreation Director Frank Masella and Police Chief Joseph Giannuzzi. Council President Messler, Councilwoman Pacifico and Councilwoman Pater were absent.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to apply for Community Development Block Grant 50 which helps to fund the Senior Citizens Social Services Program specifically, the Senior Coordinator and Van Driver salaries. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of October 17, 2023.

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Discussion was held regarding various department appointments. There are vacancies in the following positions: Assistant Recreation Director, Finance Assistant, PT Construction Official, PT Tax Assessor. The Administrator recommended the following appointments: Jeffrey Chrono as Assistant Recreation Director, Lisa Rizzo as Finance Assistance, Joseph Ehrhardt as PT Construction Official and Jennifer Sherman as PT Tax Assessor. Some background and reference checks have cleared. The appointing resolutions will be prepared for the October 17, 2023 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding donations for the PTO Truck or Treat and Rescue Squad Spooky Trail. The Council agreed to donate \$500 in support of these community events. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of October 17, 2023.

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Discussion was held regarding department refunds. The request from the Borough Engineer for a road opening permit and from the Recreation Director for a program cancellation. The proper resolution will be prepared for the October 17, 2023 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer for a Chapter 159 resolution to include special items of revenue into the 2023 municipal budget for the DMHAS Youth Leadership Grant \$243 and the Municipal Alliance \$1,221. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of October 17, 2023.

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Discussion was held regarding updating the salary ordinance. The CFO explained when salaries are close to exceeding the ranges they need to be increased. The Mayor asked for the salary ordinance to be itemized to reflect those ranges being revised. The proper ordinance will be prepared for the October 17, 2023 meeting.

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The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Dierkes and seconded by Councilman Matejek.

**RESOLUTION 112-2023**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Mountainside would like to hang a Restaurant Week Banner; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council would like to request permission from the County of Union to hang this banner along Mountain Avenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that County of Union grant the Borough of Mountainside permission to hang such banner.

Roll call: Ayes: Andre, Dierkes, Matejek. Nays: 0.  
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Discussion was held regarding the approval to appoint Chase Kimmel as a new Volunteer Firefighter. Fire Chief Peter Esemplare recommends this appointment and the background check has cleared. A motion for approval will take place at the meeting of October 17, 2023.  
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**BILLS & CLAIMS:**

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Dierkes and seconded by Councilwoman Andre:

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 October 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 \$141,480.40 (Copy of bill list attached).

Roll call: Ayes: Andre, Dierkes, Matejek. Nays: 0.  
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**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:** None  
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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 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 7:45 P.M.  
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The meeting was recalled to public session.

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Andre and a second by Councilwoman Matejek, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:26 P.M.

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Martha Lopez, RMC