

**WORK SESSION**  
**JULY 2, 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.

Paul N. Mirabelli called the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Councilman Dierkes 9 (by phone), Councilman Matejek, Councilman Messler, Council President Pacifico, Councilman Rinaldo, Councilwoman Wass, Administrator Mortimer and Attorney Post. Also present were Engineer Mike Disko, CFO Justyna Diaz, Senior Coordinator Kim Moriak Recreation Director Frank Masella, Public Works Director Matthew DeAnna, and Police Chief Joseph Giannuzzi.

Discussion was held regarding an appeal for a road opening permit at 1342 Birch Hill Road. Jonathon Gabriel requested an appeal of the denial of a road opening permit at this location due to the 5-year moratorium. Mr. Gabriel indicated the need to replace his 27-year old heating system and converting to gas. Engineer Disko explained the paving options. Council agreed to grant a permit in December with an infrared asphalt repair waiving the 5-year moratorium to 4-years.

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Discussion was held regarding the approval to appoint Jonluis Fonseca, Curtis Gilford, Sean Prawdzik, Jacob Tomas as new volunteer firefighters and Anthony Labisi as Junior Auxiliary Member. The background checks have cleared. Fire Chief Peter Esemplare recommends the appointments. A motion to approve the new firefighters will take place at the next meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding raffle applications from the Mountainside Restoration Committee for an off premise draw raffle and from PTO Mountainside for an off 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 next 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 2024 municipal budget for the Alcohol Education Rehab Grant \$2,574.26. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding department appointments. There are vacancies in the positions of PT Plumbing Inspector, PT Backup Van Driver, Recreation Assistant and Deputy OEM Coordinator. The Administrator recommended the appointments of Gary Junkroft as PT Plumbing Inspector, Alanna Moriak as Recreation Assistant, Betty Presser as PT Backup Van Driver and Capt. Michael Jackson as Deputy OEM Coordinator to replace the Mayor. The proper resolutions will be prepared for the next meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding proclamations for the GLHS Baseball Team and other sports.

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Discussion was held regarding authorization to purchase field lighting through a Sourcewell contract. Funding appropriations will mostly come from grants. Another quote will be obtained before awarding.

Discussion was held regarding department refunds. The Recreation Director requested two refunds for the swim team. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

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**BILLS & CLAIMS:**

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

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 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 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 \$119,662.14. (Copy of bill list attached)

Roll call: Ayes: Dierkes, Matejek, Messler, Pacifico, Rinaldo, Wass. Nays: 0.

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**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:** None

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The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Messler 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 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 8:04 P.M.

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The meeting was recalled to public session.

Upon a motion by Councilman Messler and a second by Councilwoman Pacifico, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:16 P.M.

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