WORK SESSION
MARCH 7, 2017

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.

Acting Mayor Keith C. Turner called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

PRESENT: Acting Mayor Turner, Councilwoman Andre, Councilman Dierkes, Councilwoman Fech-Caccamo, Councilman Messler, Councilman Mortimer, Attorney Post and Administrator Debbie. Also present were Public Works Manager Ronald Romak and CFO Jill Goode. Mayor Mirabelli was absent.

Discussion was held regarding the annual recycling tonnage grant resolution. This resolution recognizes the Borough as a recycling community and appoints the recycling coordinator. The resolution must be submitted with the Borough’s annual report to the State. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of March 21, 2017.

Discussion was held regarding the 2017 municipal budget. CFO Jill Goode highlighted the increases and decreases in the operating budget and anticipated revenues. The budget is expected to increase by 1.96% at a cost of $57.71 per average assessed home. The budget will be introduced at the March 21, 2017 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer to make additional appropriations to the 2017 temporary budget. Until the final 2017 municipal budget is formally adopted, temporary appropriations are made and approved by Council in order for the Borough to operate and meet their obligations. The proper resolution will be for the meeting of March 21, 2017.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of the pool management staff for the 2017 season. It was recommended by Recreation Director Frank Masella that last year’s pool managers be re-hired as they did an outstanding job. Council agreed and the proper resolution will be prepared for the March 21, 2017 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a raffle application from the Mountainside Education Foundation for a 50/50 on premise draw raffle. The applications are in order and the proper fees have been paid. A motion to approve the application will take place at the meeting of March 21, 2017.

Discussion was held regarding regulating charity clothing bins. The Council may consider regulating charity clothing bins after receiving a complaint about the numerous clothing bins at the AMC Theater. The Borough Attorney will draft a proposed ordinance for consideration.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to appoint Austin Senkarik as a volunteer firefighter. The applicant’s background check has been cleared through the police department. Fire Chief Pecorelli recommends his appointment. A motion to approve the new firefighter will take place at the meeting of March 21, 2017.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Mortimer 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 7th day of March 2017, 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 $119,362.62 (Copy of bill list attached).

Roll Call: Andre, Dierkes, Fech-Caccamo, Messler, Mortimer, Turner. Nays: 0

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Hearing no one wishing to speak, Acting Mayor Turner closed the meeting to the public.

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

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 7:45 P.M.

The meeting was recalled to public session at 8:52 P.M.

Upon a motion by Councilman Mortimer and a second by Councilman Dierkes, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

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Martha Lopez, RMC
Borough Clerk