

**WORK SESSION  
MARCH 1, 2022**

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 7:35 PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Councilman Dierkes, Councilman Matejek, Councilwoman Pater and Attorney Post. Also present were Recreation Director Frank Masella, Senior Coordinator Kim Moriak and CFO Jill Goode. Council President Andre, Councilman Messler, Councilwoman Pacifico and Administrator Mortimer were absent.

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Discussion was held regarding a request from the Tax Collector to authorize refunds for tax overpayments due to duplicate payments. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of March 15, 2022.

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Discussion was held regarding the appointment of the pool management staff for the 2022 season. It was recommended by Recreation Director Frank Masella that two veteran pool managers John Tosado and Scott Laudati be reappointed. There still exist a vacancy for another Assistant Manager. The proper appointing resolution will be prepared for the March 15, 2022 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding a department refund from recreation due to the cancellation of a winter soccer program and several road opening permit refunds requested by the building department. The proper resolutions will be prepared for the meeting of March 15, 2022.

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Discussion was held regarding authorization to enter into a grant agreement with the Department of Human Services Division of Planning for a Municipal Drug Alliance Grant in the amount of \$15,124.00. The grant period is effective through a fiscal year cycle for 2022-2023 and covers such programs as project graduation, 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance, peer leadership and DARE. The proper resolution authorizing the grant agreement will be prepared for the March 15, 2022 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer for end of year budget transfers within 2021 reserve municipal budget. Transfers can be made within certain budget appropriations during the first three months of the fiscal year. It is requested that certain transfers be made within the 2021 municipal budget. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of March 15, 2022.

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Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer to make additional appropriations to the 2022 temporary budget. Until the final 2022 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 March 15, 2022 meeting.

The 2022 budget was not introduced due to the uncertainty regarding the American Rescue Act funding and the delay of budget documents from the Auditor. Therefore, the budget will be introduced in April and adopted in May.

Discussion was held regarding authorizing the CFO to accept bids for a \$5,085,000.00 bond anticipation note in order to refinance our existing bond. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of March 15, 2022.

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Discussion was held regarding the naming of a new street due to a subdivision on Summit Road. A recommendation was made to name the street Gold Star Way, in honor of the four Mountainside Veterans who were killed in WWII. The Council approved the street name and the proper resolution will be prepared for the March 15, 2022 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding a proposed downtown business forum to compose ideas to upgrade the downtown area. The input from businesses and the Mountainside Beautiful Committee would be beneficial to integrate the new park and create a plan for a more aesthetic downtown.

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Discussion was held regarding a request from the Senior Coordinator Kim Moriak to attend the NJRPA Conference. Mayor Mirabelli highlighted the importance and advantages of attending the conference and although some council members denied the request, he asked for a vote to approve.

A motion was made by Councilman Dierkes and seconded by Councilman Matejek that Kim Moriak's request to attend the NJRPA Conference was hereby approved.

Roll Call: Dierkes, Matejek, Pater, Mirabelli. Nays: 0

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**BILLS & CLAIMS:**

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

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 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 2022, 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 \$104,773.64 (Copy of bill list attached).

Roll Call: Dierkes, Matejek, Pater, Mirabelli. Nays: 0

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**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

None

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Upon a motion by Councilman Dierkes and a second by Councilman Matejek, 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 and 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 7:57 P.M.  
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The meeting was recalled to public session at 8:02 P.M.

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

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Martha Lopez, RMC  
Borough Clerk