

**WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 2, 2025**

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 Donna Pacifico called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

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

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Tax Collector to authorize a tax overpayment refund due to a duplicate payment. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to renew membership with the Suburban Municipal Joint Insurance Fund. The Council agreed to continue their membership with the JIF effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2029. The proper resolution and agreement will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of recreation staff. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding department refunds. The recreation department would like to refund the participants due to cancellations. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to appoint Gabrielle Kulcsar as a new volunteer firefighter. Her background check has cleared. The Deputy Fire Chief recommends the appointment. A motion to approve the new firefighter will take place at the next meeting.

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Dierkes and seconded by Councilman Van Deusen with amended hours.

RESOLUTION 112-2025

WHEREAS, the Borough of Mountainside and the Mountainside Governing Body are scheduled to host a car show on September 28, 2025, on Mountain Avenue and New Providence Road, in Mountainside, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Mountainside desires to close Mountain Avenue to accommodate said car show on September 28, 2025, between the hours of 7:00 am and 4:00 pm; and

WHEREAS, the County of Union Department of Engineering, Public Works and Facilities Management requires the request for road closures to be approved by the local Municipality, by either letter or legislative action by the Governing Body.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Mountainside, that Union County is hereby respectfully requested to grant permission to close Mountain Avenue to accommodate the Mountainside Annual Car Show on September 28, 2025, between the hours of 7:00 am and 4:00 pm.

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

Discussion was held regarding a sanitary sewer main extension plan for 331 Tanager Way. The Borough Engineer endorsed the plan and requires Governing Body approval to proceed with the treatment works approval application. A resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a request from Rob Ross to amend the borough's littering ordinance. Attorney Post will follow up with Mr. Ross for clarification on what he anticipates to be the effects of some of the changes he has requested.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Dierkes and seconded by Councilman Van Deusen:

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 2nd day of September 2025, 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 \$249,255.29 (Copy of bill list attached).

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

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None -----

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Matejek and seconded by Councilwoman Wass.

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 and 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 7:59 P.M.

The meeting was recalled to public session.

Upon a motion by Councilman Rinaldo and a second by Councilman Dierkes, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:44 P.M.

Martha Lopez, RMC
Borough Clerk