

**WORK SESSION
JANUARY 15, 2013**

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 8:15 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Councilwoman Andre, Councilman Messler, Councilman Mortimer, Council President Turner, Councilman Wass, Administrator Debbie and Attorney Post. Also present were Public Works Director Ronald Romak, CFO Jill Goode, and Recreation Director Frank Masella. Councilman Lane was absent.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of representatives to the Union County Transportation Advisory Board and Air Traffic & Noise Advisory Board. Council agreed to re-appoint Councilman Messler as our representative to the Union County Transportation Advisory Board, with Mike Disko, Jr. as alternate. Zenon Moriak is re-appointed to the Air Traffic Board. The proper resolutions approving the appointments will be prepared for the meeting of January 22, 2013.

Discussion was held regarding bids received for pothole repairs. Borough Engineer Michael Disko recommends the pothole repair contract be awarded to the sole bidder, Denbar Construction in the amount of \$16.90 per square foot. The awarding resolution will be prepared for the meeting of January 22, 2013.

Discussion was held regarding the municipal appropriation to the library. The 2013 allocation will be down approximately 3%, the lowest level of funding in eight years. They are requesting a freeze rather than a decrease. This budget challenge has required them to lay off an employee and the use furlough days. The library has undertaken capital expenses that are normally part of the municipal capital budget. The Mayor explained how the Borough was also challenged with the 2013 budget and requested their fundraising projection, anticipated revenue, and cost cutting measures before making a decision.

Discussion was held regarding the library HVAC design proposals. The Borough Engineer Mike Disko recommends proceeding with the proposal from Strunk-Albert Engineering at a cost of \$16,800.00. Council requested an additional price for the installation of a generator which increased the project costs by \$4,350.00. DPW Manager Ronald Romak explained why the overall design costs were so expensive. The design is complex and requires a lot of redesign work and

engineering due to the infrastructure of the building and the change in HVAC technology. The Council agreed to proceed with the project as recommended.

Discussion was held regarding employee changes. A temporary payroll clerk was handling the payroll until the new finance clerk was ready to undertake those duties. Catherine Cook has been trained and will now be responsible for payroll at salary of \$3,000.00. The part-time secretary to the building department has increased responsibilities and the Council agreed to compensate the hourly rate by \$2.00. The proper resolutions will be prepared for the meeting of January 22, 2013.

Discussion was held regarding the A&E Committee's recommendation to give an additional day pay or day of compensatory time as a "thank you" to certain employees who went above and beyond their duties after Hurricane Sandy. They include DPW Manager Ronald Romak, all public works employees, and all dispatchers.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to advertise the sale of three surplus vehicles. The police department does not utilize a 2009 Ford Crown Victoria or a confiscated 1998 Chevy Blazer. The DPW can no longer use the 1994 EZ Beaver Chipper. The proper resolution will be prepared authorizing the Borough Clerk to advertise for bids for the sale of these vehicles for the January 22, 2013 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Mountainside Softball Association to build a storage shed within the Field Drive Right of Way. The proposed shed will measure 10' x 25' and will be located immediately adjacent to the field house structure. The Council approved their request and the proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of January 22, 2013.

Discussion was held regarding a raffle application from the Westfield YMCA. They are requesting an on premise draw raffle. The application is in order and the proper fees have been paid. Action to approve the raffle license will take place at the meeting of January 22, 2013.

Discussion was held regarding the 2013 budget preparation process. The Mayor informed Council that he will meet with the Auditor to discuss the budget and expects to have a better idea on how the capital needs will impact our road improvements and library HVAC.

Discussion was held regarding replacement of the canopy at the pool snack stand damaged during Hurricane Sandy. The Recreation Committee presented the preliminary plans and estimated a rough cost of approximately \$65,000. The cost to the Borough depends on how much we will be reimbursed by our insurance and FEMA. The project would need to be bid as soon as next month in order to be ready for the upcoming pool season. The Council agreed to have Dan Falcone proceed with the plan and preparation of the bid specifications at a cost of \$2,000.00.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Mortimer and seconded by Councilman Turner:

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 15th day of January 2013, 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 \$263,521.04. (Copy of bill list attached)

Roll call: Ayes: Andre, Messler, Mortimer, Turner, Wass. Nays: 0.

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Turner and seconded by Councilman Messler.

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 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 8:55 P.M.

The meeting was recalled to public session at 9:17 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Lopez, Borough Clerk