

**WORK SESSION
DECEMBER 3, 2019**

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 7:32 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Councilman Dierkes, Councilman Messler, Councilman Messler, Councilwoman Pater, Council President Turner, Administrator Atkins and Attorney John Post. Also present were Recreation Director Frank Masella, Public Works Director Matthew DeAnna, Chief Joseph Giannuzzi and CFO Jill Goode. Councilwoman Andre was absent.

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

RESOLUTION 127-2019

WHEREAS, the Borough of Mountainside would like to honor 1st Lieutenant Joseph Hoy upon his return from active duty; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council would like to request permission from the County of Union to hang a banner along Mountain Avenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that County of Union grant the Borough of Mountainside permission to hang such banner.

Roll call: Ayes: Dierkes, Messler, Mortimer, Pater, Turner. Nays: 0.

A presentation was held to discuss the Stigma-Free Community Initiative. The Stigma-Free Communities Initiative is a program which aims to eradicate the stigma associated with mental illness and substance use disorders. Communities are dedicated to raising awareness of these illnesses by creating an environment where affected individuals are supported in their efforts to achieve wellness and recovery.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer for year-end budget transfers. In accordance with state statute, transfers can be made within certain budget appropriations during the last two months of the fiscal year. It is requested that certain transfers be made within the 2019 municipal budget. The proper budget transfer resolution will be prepared for the December 17, 2019 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the canceling of certain tax account balances. In accordance with state statute, balances in the amount of \$5.00 or less, whether owed to the borough or owed by the borough, may be cancelled with the authorization of the governing body. The proper resolution to authorize the cancellation of \$5.00 balances on various tax and sewer accounts will be prepared for the meeting of December 17, 2019.

Discussion was held regarding an amendment to the Post Polak Professional Services contract resolution. The 2019 legal services for Post Polak has exceeded \$275,000 therefore, requiring an adjustment increase of an additional \$30,000. The proper resolution will be prepared for the December 17, 2019 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to enter into competitive contracting for Animal Control Services. This process would be cost-effective for the borough as it allows for a 3 to 5 year contract which solicits competitive pricing from interested vendors. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of December 17, 2019.

Discussion was held regarding a refund for a cancelled fire/burglar alarm permit at 1090 Bristol Road. The proper resolution will be prepared for the December 17, 2019 meeting.

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 3rd day of December 2019, 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 \$139,742.39. (Copy of bill list attached)

Roll call: Ayes: Dierkes, Messler, Mortimer, Pater, Turner. Nays: 0.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Hearing no one desiring to speak, Mayor Mirabelli closed the meeting to the public.

Upon motion by Councilman Mortimer and a second by Councilman Dierkes, 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, 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 7:46 P.M.

The meeting was recalled to public session at 8:17 P.M.

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

Martha Lopez, RMC
Borough Clerk