

**WORK SESSION MEETING
APRIL 6, 2021**

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 7:34 P.M via Zoom.

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

Discussion was held regarding a request to use the borough logo for the 8th grade fundraiser. The fundraiser entails the sale of garden flags with the Mountainside logo and requires the council's approval due to its trademark. The council agreed to allow them to use the borough logo.

Discussion was held regarding a request to have an outdoor sale on borough property. Resident Caroline Antonelli would like to have local businesses (15-25) advertise and participate in a sidewalk sale on borough property to bring positive exposure to Mountainside and provide a change of pace for residents during the pandemic. The council was open to the idea but did have concerns about liability. Before a decision is made some specifics need to be worked out.

Discussion was held regarding a pool party waiver request. The Mountainside PTO has requested the use of the facilities at the Mountainside Community Pool. They have requested that the fee of \$400 normally charged be waived. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of April 20, 2021.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer to purchase gift checks for Deerfield School Graduation Class Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Council approved two gift checks in the amount of \$300 and \$200. The proper resolution will be prepared for the April 20, 2021 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the Memorial Day Parade donation. The plan for a parade has not been determined. The committee is preparing something for the Veterans and the donation will support those activities.

Discussion was held regarding authorizing the CFO to accept bids for a \$5,854,000.00 bond anticipation note in order to refinance our existing bond. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of April 20, 2021.

Discussion was held regarding the sewer/water line bathroom project at the Levi Cory House. Councilwoman Pater explained the proposed project and asked if the borough could provide

some funding. Councilwoman Pater will inquire with the committee if there are any plans for grant submissions. Administrator Mortimer stated the funds could possibly come from the projected stimulus monies from the federal government. Once the state promulgates the rules on how the money can be spent we will have a better idea on whether we can assist with this project. Other possible infrastructure projects were discussed.

Discussion was held regarding hiring a street sweeper to clean the borough roads. Stormwater regulations mandate residential streets be swept once a year and commercial streets once a month. The borough has solicited a quote for an annual sweep at \$19,250 without disposal costs. We are currently exploring a shared services agreement with Scotch Plains. The Mayor requested a projected cost to appropriated those funds.

Discussion was held regarding approval of the Municipal Alliance By-Laws. The by-laws have not been amended since 1994 and the County has requested they be updated. The Municipal Alliance Coordinator Kim Moriak explained the changes and will provide them to the Borough Attorney for his review. Kim was congratulated for being elected the Vice Chair on the CDRS Committee which approves project submissions.

Discussion was held regarding department refunds. Recreation Director Frank Masella recommends issuing a refund due to a pool membership cancellation. Construction Official Jerry Eger submitted a refund request for a generator permit that was denied. The proper resolutions will be prepared for the meeting of April 20, 2021.

Discussion was held regarding an update on the intern program. The borough is seeking two rising junior or senior college students to assist in the recreation and building departments at an hourly rate of \$15.00. The recreation intern will be marketing its programs and the building intern will update all the property record cards along with daily duties.

Discussion was held regarding the demolition and oil tank removal at the Viking property. Quotes were solicited with the lowest quote for demolition being Wallace Brother Contracting Group at \$18,900 and oil tank removal being ERC Environmental at \$1,750. Pending demolition, we are awaiting asbestos test results and once cleared will offer the house to the fire department for training. Quotes are being solicited for tree removal services. The NJDOT requested a sketch of the property and we are hopeful that they will approve an expansion of the area.

Discussion was held regarding COVID-19 protocols for borough employees. Administrator Mortimer announced the recent travel changes for fully vaccinated people. The borough follows the state's protocols and CDC recommendations.

Councilwoman Andre provided an update on Local Government Week and announced Rescue Squad award recipients.

The bags to benches program has awarded the borough with a bench to be placed at the pool. The borough plans to continue participation in the program.

Councilwoman Pater announced upcoming events.

The Mayor thanked Councilwoman Andre and Councilwoman Pater for their submission into the 2021 “Show Off Your City Contest” in which Mountainside received an honorable mention.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Dierkes 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 6th day of April 2021, 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 \$58,053.25 (Copy of bill list attached.)

Roll Call: Andre, Dierkes, Matejek, Pacifico, Pater. Nays: 0

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None

The following resolution was introduced by Councilwoman Andre and seconded by Councilwoman Pacifico.

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 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 8:35 P.M.

The meeting was recalled to public session.

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Pacifico and a second by Councilman Dierkes, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:57 P.M.
