

**WORK SESSION
AUGUST 3, 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 PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Councilman Matejek, Councilman Messler, Councilwoman Pacifico, Councilwoman Pater, Attorney Beere and Administrator Mortimer. Also present were CFO Jill Goode, Recreation Director Frank Masella, Public Works Director Matthew Deanna and Police Chief Joseph Giannuzzi. Council President Andre and Councilman Dierkes were absent.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to apply for the 2021 Kids Recreation Trust Grant Program. The borough will apply for field improvements and outdoor games. The Mountainside Youth Baseball will apply for renovations to various fields and bleacher upgrades. The grant application is for \$120,000 with the borough matching funds. The proper resolution authorizing borough officials to make application for the grant will be prepared for the meeting of August 17, 2021.

Discussion was held regarding participate in the SGY21 Body-Worn Camera Grant Program. The State of New Jersey grant program requires submission of a resolution and certification approving the acceptance of State funds and participation in the State grant program. The grant award is for \$50,950.00. The proper resolution will be prepared for the August 17, 2021 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of James Pisauro as the PT Fire Sub-Code Official. Michael Juzefyk would replace Joseph Popola at an hourly rate of \$45.00. The proper resolution will be prepared for the August 16, 2021 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer for a Chapter 159 resolution to include a special item of revenue into the 2021 municipal budget for Watts Mountainside Community Foundation Grant for \$2,000.00 to purchase VFW Banners. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of August 17, 2021.

Discussion was held regarding changes to the Municipal Court Personnel. The Deputy Court Administrator will change her full-time status to part-time status working court days and as needed. The Municipal Judge temporarily appointed Rayanne Burns as Acting Deputy Court Administrator at an annual salary of \$42,000. The council requested a deadline for Ms.Burns to achieve her certification. The proper resolutions will be prepared for the August 17, 2021 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the replacement of two Library Board members. Former members Steven Witt and Marnie Cambria Dardanella will be replaced by Patricia Keane and Mauro Wolfe for their unexpired terms. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of August 17, 2021.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of Brendan Carlos as a Police Officer. Brendan comes to us after four years of service with the Union County Sheriff Department and a member of the New Jersey National Guard. Brendan holds the second highest enlisted rank of Sergeant First Class in the N.J. Guard. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of August 17, 2021.

Discussion was held regarding a bid notice to lease the 4th spot on the cell tower. Attorney Beere mentioned Dish Wireless was interested in entering a lease agreement with the borough. Council will authorize a notice of bid for the 4th spot on the borough's cell tower. The proper resolution will be prepared for the August 17, 2021 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the approval to appoint Robert DeNora and Edward Kweselait III as new Volunteer Firefighters. The background checks have been cleared through the Police Department. Fire Chief Anthony Pecorelli recommends the appointments. The council also approved Rocco Menoni to join the Junior Firemen's Auxiliary Program. Motions of approval will take place at the August 17, 2021 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the purchase of pagers for the Fire Department. In order to upgrade to the 700 MHz radio frequency band, new pagers would be required. The 33 members who respond to calls will receive a new pager. The pagers will cost \$17,415 appropriated from the capital improvement funds. The Police Chief mentioned there may be other equipment required to operate through dispatch. The proper ordinance will be prepared for the meeting of August 17, 2021.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Messler and seconded by Councilwoman Pacifico:

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 August 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 \$376,728.17 (Copy of bill list attached).

Roll call: Ayes: Matejek, Messler, Pacifico, Pater. Nays: 0.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None

Upon motion by Councilman Messler and a second by Councilwoman Pacifico, 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 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 7:56 P.M.

The meeting was recalled to public session at 8:15 P.M.

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

Martha Lopez, RMC
Borough Clerk