

WORK SESSION
MAY 7, 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.

Acting Mayor Keith C. Turner called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M.

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

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

RESOLUTION 64-2013

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside, County of Union, that the budget herein before set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes of the sums therein as set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of \$7,882,093.55 for municipal purposes.

Roll Call: Lane, Messler, Mortimer, Turner. Nays: 0

Discussion was held regarding the review of the 2012 annual audit. We have accomplished another year with no violations or recommendations. The proper resolutions regarding the 2012 annual audit will be prepared for the meeting of May 21, 2013.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to advertise for snow & ice removal bids. The current contract with La Ferrara has expired and it is necessary to solicit bids for the upcoming season. The specifications were modified to address certain issues and to improve the removal process based on the needs of our residents. The proper resolution will be prepared for the May 21, 2013 meeting.

Discussion was held regarding support for the PSE&G Energy Strong Program. The program will invest \$3.9B worth of infrastructure projects over a 10-year period to enhance PSE&G's electrical and gas system. Those improvements will benefit Mountainside by reducing the impact and speed up the recovery process during power outages. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of May 21, 2013.

Discussion was held regarding four upgrade projects in Mountainside submitted by Elizabethtown Gas. Borough Engineer Mike Disko submitted their proposal and indicated that Central Ave and Beech Ave should not be approved since the road has a paving moratorium. The Council suggested we estimate the cost to repave this project and propose Elizabethtown Gas pay the Borough a portion of the cost.

Discussion was held regarding authorization to issue estimated tax bills. The Tax Collector recommends early issuance in order to meet our financial obligations. The Council agreed and the proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of May 21, 2013.

Discussion was held regarding the Memorial Day Parade. Our local organizations are getting involved to help raise funds and organize the parade. The Council will make a \$200.00 contribution towards the Memorial Day celebration. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of May 21, 2013.

Discussion was held regarding the Watts Foundation. Councilman Lane suggested the Borough show recognition to Blanche and George Watts for creating a foundation that supports charitable organizations benefiting the citizens of Mountainside. The members of the board are also to thank for all their efforts in fulfilling the foundations wishes. Councilman Lane thanked the foundation publicly at our last meeting and with their consent would like to present them with a resolution of commendation. Administrator Debbie will inquire whether they wish to be recognized.

Discussion was held regarding a pool membership refund to Nicholas Ulizio for \$147.00. The membership can be refunded since the cancellation was made prior to the start of the season. Also discussed was the playground staff appointment resolution approved at the April meeting. An error was made when calculating the 2013 salaries that reflects a 3% increase and Stephanie Scofield an additional hire needs to be appointed. The proper resolutions will be prepared for the May 21, 2013 meeting.

Administrator Debbie announced an upcoming School Safety Forum at Deerfield School.

Discussion was held regarding the state stormwater report requirements. The report works through a point system allowing the Borough to earn points by providing a public education program. Engineer Mike Disko satisfied this requirement by providing a presentation to the Council and through the annual distribution of our stormwater ordinance to all pet owners.

BILLS & CLAIMS:

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

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 7th day of May 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 \$63,276.41 (Copy of bill list attached.)

Roll Call: Lane, Messler, Mortimer, Turner. Nays: 0

Upon motion by Councilman Mortimer and a second by Councilman Lane, 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 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 8:42 P.M.

The meeting was recalled to public session at 8:47 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Lopez, Borough Clerk