

**WORK SESSION
AUGUST 4, 2026**

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 6:06 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Council President Matejek, Councilwoman Pacifico, Councilman Rinaldo, Councilman Van Deusen, Councilwoman Wass, Attorney Post and Administrator Mortimer. Also present were CFO Justyna Zagorska-Diaz, DPW Director Matthew DeAnna, Recreation Director Frank Masella and Chief Joseph Giannuzzi. Councilman Dierkes was absent.

Discussion was held regarding the need for a resolution covenanting to comply with the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and designating the \$6,591,000 Bond Anticipation Note as a "qualified tax-exempt obligation". A resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding department appointments. Seasonal pool staff will be appointed. The proper appointment resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding department refunds. The refunds are likely from the recreation department and will be provided to Council in their packets. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Finance Officer for a Chapter 159 resolution to include special item of revenue into the 2026 municipal budget from the Watts Foundation for the Mountainside Active Retirees (\$5,400). The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the review of the 2025 annual audit. It is the seventeenth consecutive year in which the financial statements had been approved by the auditors without any comments or recommendations. The proper resolutions regarding the 2025 annual audit will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding entering into a professional services contract. The borough plans to enter into a professional services contract with Heitz & Fiore for architectural services for the 2nd floor addition at the Mountainside Ambulance Building for OEM Offices. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a bid recommendation from the Borough Engineer for Contract 2026-6 Paving Improvements on Nottingham Way. The Engineer recommends the base bid, alternate #1 and alternate #3 be awarded to the lowest bidder Midwest Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$258,256.61. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding amending the 2026 capital budget. The 2026 capital improvement plan did not include the pool renovation therefore, a resolution is required to include the project into the capital improvement portion of the budget.

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of a new Police Officer. James Greaney will be appointed with the effective date of July 27, 2026. The proper resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding complete disabled veteran exemptions for Block 15.09, Lot 34 and Block 5.02, Lot 23. The disabled veterans were approved for full exemptions by the state. The proper resolutions will be prepared for the next meeting.

Upcoming bids for Contract 2026-5 Renovation of Beechwood School Athletic Field will be accepted and awarded at the next meeting.

ORDINANCE: Second Reading (Public Hearing)

ORDINANCE 1356-2026

CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF FIVE HUNDRED NINETY THOUSAND DOLLARS
(\$590,000.00) FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR JOINT-USE FIELD IMPROVEMENTS
AT THE BEECHWOOD SCHOOL ATHLETIC FIELD

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Mountainside, County of Union, State of New Jersey, (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) as follows:

SECTION 1. The Borough of Mountainside is hereby authorized to undertake joint-use field improvements at the Beechwood School athletic field, which facilities shall be utilized by both the Borough of Mountainside and the Mountainside Board of Education for recreational and community purposes.

SECTION 2. The sum of \$590,000 is hereby appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund for the improvements authorized herein. The project shall be fully funded from the Capital Improvement Fund.

SECTION 3. In the event the Borough of Mountainside receives any federal, state, county, or other grant funding for the improvements authorized herein, such grant proceeds shall be used to reimburse the funds appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication as required by law.

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

It was moved by Councilman Matejek and seconded by Councilwoman Pacifico that this ordinance be passed on second and final reading and advertised by title only.

Roll Call: Ayes: Matejek, Pacifico, Rinaldo, Van Deusen, Wass. Nays: 0

Discussion was held regarding a waiver request for an electrical permit from the Mountainside Baseball League. The waiver was approved.

Discussion was held regarding a settlement for a reverse tax appeal at 1165 Globe Avenue for the 2026 taxes. A resolution approving the stipulation of settlement will be prepared for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding a request from the Tax Collector for a possible tax sale lien redemption at 164 Chipmunk Hill.

Second Reading (Public Hearing)

ORDINANCE 1357-2026

CAPITAL ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$60,000.00) FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS AT MUNICIPAL FACILITIES

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Mountainside, County of Union, State of New Jersey, (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) as follows:

SECTION 1. The Borough of Mountainside is hereby authorized to undertake security improvements at various municipal facilities.

SECTION 2. The sum of \$60,000 is hereby appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund for the improvements authorized herein. The project shall be fully funded from the Capital Improvement Fund.

SECTION 3. In the event the Borough of Mountainside receives any federal, state, county, or other grant funding for the improvements authorized herein, such grant proceeds shall be used to reimburse the funds appropriated from the Capital Improvement Fund.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication as required by law.

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

It was moved by Councilman Van Deusen and seconded by Councilwoman Pacifico that this ordinance be passed on second and final reading and advertised by title only.

Roll Call: Ayes: Matejek, Pacifico, Rinaldo, Van Deusen, Wass. Nays: 0

BILLS & CLAIMS:

The following resolution was introduced by Councilwoman Pacifico and seconded by Councilman Matejek.

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 4th day of August 2026, 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 \$439,936.03 (Copy of bill list attached.)

Roll Call: Ayes: Matejek, Pacifico, Rinaldo, Van Deusen, Wass. Nays: 0

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None

Upon a motion by Councilman Rinaldo and a second by Councilwoman Pacifico, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

Martha Lopez, RMC