

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF DEMAREST
WORK SESSION Minutes
July 13, 2026
7:30 PM**

The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, have been satisfied by the inclusion of the date, time and place of this meeting in the annual schedule of meetings of this Governing Body. Such schedule of meetings was published as required by law and is posted at Borough Hall, on the Borough website and filed in the office of the Borough Clerk.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Present: Mayor Bernstein, Council President Slowikowski, Councilmember Collins, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Marks, Councilmember Reiss

Absent: Councilmember Carmeli

Also Present: Julie Falkenstern, Borough Administrator
Deena Rosendahl, Borough Attorney
Nick Chelius, Borough Engineer
Carl Pavlik, Deputy Fire Chief

Mayor Bernstein noted that with the resignation of Councilmember Fox and the appointment of Councilmember Jiang to her seat, he is proposing the following updated committee assignments:

Police and OEM

Chair Councilmember Reiss

Members: Councilmembers Slowikowski and Carmeli

Fire and EMS

Chair Councilmember Jiang

Members: Councilmembers Collins and Marks

DPW and Recreation

Chair Councilmember Marks

Members: Councilmembers Reiss and Collins

Finance and Personnel

Chair Councilmember Collins

Members: Councilmember Slowikowski, Councilmember Marks

Economic Development

Chair Councilmember Slowikowski

Members: Councilmembers Carmeli and Jiang

Ordinances

Chair Councilmember Carmeli

Members: Councilmember Reiss and Jiang

Councilmember Marks made a motion to approve the proposed assignments. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jiang and approved by all on a voice vote.

Ordinance (Introduction): *(none)*

Ordinance for Public Hearing (Adoption):

**ORDINANCE NO. 1185-26 ORDINANCE AMENDING AND MODIFYING
CHAPTER 122 OF THE DEMAREST BOROUGH CODE**

Mayor Bernstein asked for a discussion on some provisions of the Ordinance as introduced before considering adoption per a request from Councilmember Jiang. The Council discussed a desire to amend the language to clarify that the alternate times proposed for the G zone should only apply to landscaping and not construction. All time provisions that apply to construction noise and activity in residential zones should also apply in the G zone. Councilmember Jiang then made a motion to reintroduce the ordinance with the revised language with a public hearing to be held on 8/24/26. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Council President Slowikowski, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Marks,
 Councilmember Reiss
Nays: None
Absent: Councilmember Carmeli
Abstain: Councilmember Collins

Work Session Discussion Items:

Engineering Report

Mr. Chelius reviewed the monthly engineering report highlighting progress on paving projects, the compost site and upcoming paving proposals. He added that he would meet with the Administrator to review plans for remaining unimproved roads that should be ready for public discussion for final design approval in the fall.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Bernstein asked if any member would like to have any resolution removed from the consent agenda and voted on separately. *(none)*

Mayor Bernstein asked if any member would like to abstain from voting on any resolution on the consent agenda. *(none)*

Consent Agenda:

Resolution No. 135-26	Release of Escrow
Resolution No. 136-26	Soil Moving 161 Chestnut St.
Resolution No. 137-26	Capital Expense – Dump Truck for DPW
Resolution No. 138-26	Capital Expense – Pick Up Truck for DPW
Resolution No. 139-26	Capital Expense – Dump Body for DPW

Resolution No. 140-26	Capital Expense – Leaf Pusher for DPW
Resolution No. 141-26	Capital Expense – Plow Frame for DPW
Resolution No. 142-26	Governing Body Certification of Receipt of 2025 Audit
Resolution No. 143-26	Soil Moving 28 Holland Ave.
Resolution No. 144-26	Payment #4 Balitano Contractors – Gazebo
Resolution No. 145-26	Payment #2 DLS – 2025 Riverside Coop Paving
Resolution No. 146-26	Payment #1 4 Clean Up – FY2025 DOT Paving
Resolution No. 147-26	Summer Recreation Salaries
Resolution No. 148-26	Payment of Bills

A motion was made by Councilmember Reiss and seconded by Council President Slowikowski to approve the consent agenda

Roll Call:

Ayes: Council President Slowikowski, Councilmember Collins,
Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Marks, Councilmember Reiss
Nays: None
Absent: Councilmember Carmeli

Approval of Minutes:

June 8, 2026 Work Session Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Council President Slowikowski and seconded by Councilmember Collins to approve the 6/8/26 meeting minutes.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Council President Slowikowski, Councilmember Collins,
Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Marks, Councilmember Reiss
Nays: None
Absent: Councilmember Carmeli

June 22, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Council President Slowikowski and seconded by Councilmember Reiss to approve the 6/22/26 meeting minutes.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Council President Slowikowski, Councilmember Collins,
Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Marks, Councilmember Reiss
Nays: None
Absent: Councilmember Carmeli

Meeting Open to the Public

Councilmember Collins made a motion to open the meeting to the public. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Reiss and approved by all on a voice vote.

There were no members of the public wishing to make comment; Council President Slowikowski made a motion to close the meeting to the public. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Reiss and approved by all on a voice vote.

There being no other business before the Council, Councilmember Collins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and approved by all on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Falkenstern, RMC
Borough Clerk