

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF DEMAREST
WORK SESSION MINUTES**

June 10, 2024

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 is posted at Borough Hall, on the Borough website and was published in the Record and Star Ledger and was filed in the office of the Borough Clerk.

Mayor Bernstein asked Deputy Police Chief Visaggio to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

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

Absent: Councilmember Reiss

Also Present: Julie Falkenstern, Borough Administrator
Deena Rosendahl, Borough Attorney
Peter Suh, CFO
Jason Gangi, DPW Director
Gary Vinci, Borough Auditor
Nick Chelius, Borough Engineer
Member of the Demarest Police Department

Mayor Bernstein reported that longtime resident and Shade Tree Commissioner Edwin Herning passed away and he offered condolences on behalf of the Borough to his wife Kathy and her entire family.

Resolution 108-24 Approval for estimated tax bills

A motion was made by Councilmember Fox and seconded by Councilmember Marks to approve Resolution 108-24

Roll Call:

Ayes: Council President Slowikowski, Councilmember Collins, Councilmember Fox, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Marks

Absent: Councilmember Reiss

Nays: None

Resolution 109-24 Self Examination of the 2024 Budget

A motion was made by Council President Slowikowski and seconded by Councilmember Collins to approve Resolution 109-24

Roll Call:

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

Resolution 110-24 Waiver of Reading the Budget in Full

A motion was made by Council President Slowikowski and seconded by Councilmember Jiang to approve Resolution 110-24

Roll Call:

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

Resolution 111-24 Adoption of the Budget (Public Hearing)

Mayor Bernstein asked if anyone from the public has questions or comments before the adoption of the 2024 Budget.

Speaker(s): None

A motion was made by Council President Slowikowski and seconded by Councilmember Collins to approve Resolution 111-24

Roll Call:

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

Resolution 112-24 Appointment of Kyle Polo – Demarest PD (Badge #453)

A motion was made by Councilmember Marks and seconded by Councilmember Jiang to approve Resolution 112-24

Roll Call:

Ayes: Council President Slowikowski, Councilmember Collins, Councilmember Fox, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Marks

Absent: Councilmember Reiss
Nays: None

Mayor Bernstein then administered the oath of office to Officer Kyle Polo.

Resolution 113-24 Appointment of Vincent Quintana – Demarest PD (Badge #454)

A motion was made by Council President Slowikowski and seconded by Councilmember Collins to approve Resolution 113-24

Roll Call:

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

Mayor Bernstein then administered the oath of office to Officer Vincent Quintana.

Mayor’s Commendations:

Mayor Bernstein then issued the following commendations:

Commendation for Excellent Police Work on May 4, 2024

PTL Joe Solan

Commendations for Bravery on April 24, 2024

SRO Don Cho

Lt. Joe Del Greco

Lt. Paul Schmidig

Detective Brian Hampton

Consent Agenda:

Resolution No. 114-24 Escrow Release
Resolution No. 115-24 Liquor License Renewals
Resolution No. 116-24 Payment Authorization – T.R. Weniger
Resolution No. 117-24 Bills List

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Councilmember Collins and seconded by Councilmember Fox.

Roll Call:

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

Work Session Discussion Items:

Engineer's Report

Mr. Chelius reviewed the monthly engineering report and highlighted the status of the Borough's paving projects and the status of the CAP.

Approval of Minutes:

March 25, 2024 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Council President Slowikowski and seconded by Councilmember Jiang to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2024 meeting.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Council President Slowikowski, Councilmember Collins, Councilmember Fox, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Marks

Absent: Councilmember Reiss

Nays: None

Mayor Bernstein spoke about the 80th Anniversary of D-Day and noted the sacrifice of our country's greatest generation.

Mayor Bernstein reported that the shared service agreement has now been executed with Bergen County to address a turn lane at the intersection of Hardenburgh and Piermont County Rd. He thanked Jim Tedesco, County Executive and the Board of County Commissioners for their cooperation and believes this collaboration helps achieve a goal of his as well as the entire council. He reported that this will improve safety in the area.

Meeting Open to the Public

A motion was made by Council President Slowikowski, seconded by Councilmember Jiang and approved by all to open the meeting to the public.

There being no members of the public wishing to speak, a motion was made by Councilmember Collins, seconded by Councilmember Fox and approved by all to close the meeting to the public.

A motion to adjourn was offered by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Marks and approved by all. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Falkenstern
Acting Borough Clerk