

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF DEMAREST
Municipal Building**

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
February 12, 2024
7:30 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm at the above place.

Mayor Bernstein read the compliance statement and invited all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Absent: Councilmember Jiang

Also Present: Julie Falkenstern, Borough Administrator
Deena Rosendahl, Borough Attorney
Nick Chelius, Borough Engineer
John McLoughlin, Fire Chief / OEM Coordinator

Work Session Discussion Items:

Engineer's Report

Mr. Chelius of Colliers Engineering and Design reviewed the current engineer's report. He gave an update on the CAP for the compost site. He advised that the last set of comments from the DEP, namely Green Acres division, was received and contained some requests they were not expecting. They are requesting a forensic forester to review the area to determine the types of trees that were previously at the site. Mr. Chelius advised that he felt this was an unusually strict requirement and Colliers will be requesting a waiver. He will report back on the progress of those discussions with the DEP. Lastly, he reported that the work being approved later this evening for Pine Terrace will begin immediately.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Bernstein asked if any member would like to have any resolution removed from the consent agenda and voted on separately. No councilmember asked for a resolution to be removed. He then said he would like to vote on resolution 048-24 separately as he wanted to clarify some information.

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

Mayor Bernstein asks for a motion to accept the consent agenda (with any abstentions noted)

Consent Agenda:

Resolution No. 047-24 Release Escrow – 28 Ross, 57 Woodland
Resolution No. 049-24 DPW Hire

Resolution No. 050-24 Appointment to BC Communications Advisory Board
Resolution No. 051-24 Payment of Bills
Resolution No. 052-24 Awarding Contract for Pine Terrace Drainage Improvements Engineering
Resolution No. 053-24 Awarding Contract for Pine Terrace Drainage Improvements Clearing Drainage Ditch
Resolution No. 054-24 Accepting Damian Hunter as a member of the Demarest Volunteer Fire Department

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

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

Resolution No. 048-24 MOU Church Property

Mayor Bernstein noted that on page 10 of the MOU there is a blank space that is awaiting information from the Church. It represents the amount of excess funds that the Church is donating along with the property that is to be used for maintenance on the building.

A motion was made by Councilmember Reiss and seconded by Council President Slowikowski to approve Resolution 048-24.

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

Approval of Minutes:

January 22, 2024 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Council President Slowikowski and seconded by Councilmember Collins to approve the minutes.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmember Jiang

Meeting Open to the Public

Councilmember Reiss made a motion, seconded by Council President Slowikowski to open the meeting to the public.

There being no member of the public wishing to speak, the meeting was closed to the public.

Closed Session

No member of the governing body had an item to discuss in closed session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Council President Slowikowski made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Marks, and approved by all to adjourn.

The meeting was therefore adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie Falkenstern
Acting Borough Clerk

