

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF DEMAREST**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 28, 2021 7:30 PM

Mayor Iannuzzi opened the meeting at 7:40 pm with the following announcement: The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey have been satisfied by the inclusion of the date, time and place of this regular meeting in the annual schedule and notice of regular meetings of this Governing Body. Such annual schedule and notice of regular meetings is posted at Borough Hall, was mailed to the Record and Star Ledger and was filed with the Borough Clerk of Demarest on January 19, 2021.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

Mr. Carroll – present at 8:05 pm	Mrs. Kurys – absent
Mrs. Fox – present	Mr. Connelly – present
Mrs. Hamilton – present	Mrs. LaPira – present
Mayor Iannuzzi – present	

3. Mrs. Fox moved to adopt the Agenda, second Mrs. Hamilton. The Borough Attorney asked to add Ordinance 1094-21 to the agenda.

Mrs. Fox – yes	Mr. Connelly – yes
Mrs. Hamilton – yes	Mrs. LaPira – yes

Carried.

4. PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 1090-21: BOROUGH OF DEMAREST, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, CALENDAR YEAR 2021 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK. Mrs. Fox moved to open to the public, second Mrs. Hamilton. All in favor. Carried. The Borough Auditor came forward to explain the ordinance. Mrs. Fox moved to close to the public, second Mrs. Hamilton. All in favor. Carried. Mrs. Hamilton moved to adopt Ordinance 1090-21, second Mrs. Fox.

Mrs. Fox – yes	Mr. Connelly – yes
Mrs. Hamilton – yes	Mrs. LaPira – yes

Carried.

5. PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO.: 1091-21: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED EXCAVATIONS AND OPENINGS OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF DEMAREST, COUNTY OF BERGEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY. The Borough Attorney explained the ordinance. Mrs. Fox moved to open to the public, second Mr. Connelly. All in favor. Carried. Mrs. Fox moved to close to the public, second Mrs. Hamilton. All in favor. Carried. Mrs. Fox moved to adopt Ordinance 1091-21, second Mrs. Hamilton.

Mrs. Fox – yes Mr. Connelly – yes
Mrs. Hamilton – yes Mrs. LaPira – yes

Carried.

6. PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 1092-21: AN ORDINANCE FOR OPTING OUT OF CANNABIS RETAIL COMMERCE. The Borough Attorney explained the ordinance. Mrs. Hamilton moved to open to the public, second Mrs. Fox. All in favor. Carried. Mrs. Hamilton moved to close to the public, second Mrs. Fox. All in favor. Carried. Mr. Connelly moved to adopt Ordinance 1092-21, second Mrs. Hamilton.

Mrs. Fox – yes Mr. Connelly – yes
Mrs. Hamilton – yes Mrs. LaPira – yes

Carried.

7. PUBLIC HEARING – 2021 MUNICIPAL BUDGET. Mr. Connelly thanked everyone. Mr. Vinci outlined the budget. Mrs. Fox moved to open the meeting to the public, second Mrs. Hamilton. All in favor. Carried. Charles came forward and asked how he could see the budget. The Mayor explained that it is on the website. Mrs. Fox moved to close the meeting to the public, second Mrs. Hamilton. All in favor. Carried. Mr. Connelly moved to adopt the 2021 Budget, second Mrs. Fox.

Mrs. Fox – yes Mr. Connelly – yes
Mrs. Hamilton – yes Mrs. LaPira – yes

Carried.

8. Resolution adopting the 2021 Municipal Budget. Covered in Item 7.
9. Resolution approving the self-exam of the 2021 Municipal Budget. Mr. Connelly moved to adopt the resolution, second Mrs. Hamilton.

Mrs. Fox – yes Mr. Connelly – yes
Mrs. Hamilton – yes Mrs. LaPira – yes

Carried.

10. **The Clerk read the following: Review of Consent Agenda Items:** All items with an asterisk are considered to be non-controversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There may be further discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a Council member. Also, any item may be removed for further discussion or for roll call vote in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business.

Resolutions

11. Resolution approving authorizing claims in the amount of \$2,786,035.44*
12. Resolution approving the soil movement application for 38 Sunset Rd.*
13. Resolution approving the renewal of the liquor license for XPlorwine and Liquors*
14. Resolution approving the submission of a DOT grant for Lenox Avenue*
15. Resolution approving the hiring of Joseph Luppino as an Interim CFO*
16. Resolution approving stipend for current CFO*
17. Resolution supporting Northern Valley Green Way*
18. Resolution approving Community Development representatives*
19. Resolution ratifying the contract for solid waste/recycling*
20. Resolution approving the tax appeal settlement for 51 Northwood Avenue*
21. Resolution approving the submission for a Municipal Alliance Grant for 2022*
22. Resolution authorizing the auction of a 2001 fire rescue truck*
23. Resolution authorizing the settlement of the condemnation of 129 Hardenburgh Avenue*
24. Resolution to accept a memorial bench at the duck pond from the Falco family*
25. Motion to accept the Certificate of Determination and Award of the Bond Anticipation Note of \$5,546,324.00*
26. Motion to appoint Todd Adelman as Class IV alternate member of the zoning board term to expire December 31, 2021*

There was no request to remove items from Consent Agenda or discussion.

Mrs. Hamilton moved to open the meeting to the Public, second Mrs. Fox. All in favor. Carried.

Mrs. Fox moved to close meeting to the Public on Consent Agenda items only, second Mrs. Hamilton. All in favor. Carried.

Mrs. Hamilton moved to approve Consent Agenda items 11-26, second Mr. Connelly.

Mrs. Fox – yes	Mr. Connelly – yes
Mrs. Hamilton – yes	Mrs. LaPira – yes

Carried.

New Business

Mrs. Fox moved to approve the minutes of May 24, 2021 (JC, DF, JK, BC, RL), second Mr. Connelly.

Mrs. Fox – yes Mr. Connelly – yes
Mrs. Hamilton – no vote Mrs. LaPira – yes

Carried.

Mrs. Fox introduced Ordinance # 1093-21 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND ESTABLISH FEES FOR TRAFFIC CONTROL, FIRE PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL OFFICERS BY BUILDING AND UTILITY CONTRACTORS AND PRIVATE ENTITIES, second Mrs. Hamilton.

Mrs. Fox – yes Mr. Connelly – yes
Mrs. Hamilton – yes Mrs. LaPira – yes

Carried.

Mrs. Hamilton introduced Ordinance # 1094-21 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT PLAN, second Mrs. Fox.

Mrs. Fox – yes Mr. Connelly – yes
Mrs. Hamilton – yes Mrs. LaPira – yes

Carried.

Mrs. Fox introduced Ordinance 1095-21 The Limiting Schedule by district, second Mrs. Hamilton.

Mrs. Fox – yes Mr. Connelly – yes
Mrs. Hamilton – yes Mrs. LaPira – yes

Carried.

Mayor's Report

The Memorial Day celebration was a nice event. Concerts are planned for the summer. The Library is doing a lot of events; the Summer Reading kickoff is tomorrow. Phil Moore, CFO, will retire on Wednesday. A retirement luncheon was held for the Borough Hall staff last week.

Council Committee Reports

Police, Fire, and Public Events: Mr. Carroll not yet available.

Ambulance and Recreation: Mrs. Kurys not available tonight. Summer Rec started today and is a success. Concerts will be held and will offer hot dogs and ice cream.

Management, Administrative & Communication Committee: Mrs. LaPira had no report.

Finance & Insurance Committee: Mr. Connelly had no report.

DPW, Public Buildings, Public Utilities & Recycling Committee: Mrs. Hamilton reported that the clothing recycling bin has been installed. The Shade Tree Commission has planted 36 trees and had an Arbor Day celebration. The DPW is busy with projects and making the town look great.

Real Estate & Ordinance Committee: Mrs. Fox discussed the Limiting Schedule. The Borough Engineer asked that the Mayor and Council give their support to the version before them. This is the second draft. No one had any comments. The Borough Attorney stated that this will be an Ordinance. Mrs. Fox moved to introduce it as Ordinance 1095-21, second Mrs. Hamilton. The Borough Attorney stated that he hoped the Land Use Boards could review this quickly. Mrs. Fox asked about the extra hours provided for the Construction Official. Mr. Vinci stated that there is an additional \$5,000 in the budget. Mrs. Fox asked whether there will now be 15 hours. Mr. Carroll joined the meeting at this point.

Mrs. Fox – yes

Mr. Connelly – yes

Mrs. Hamilton – yes

Mrs. LaPira – yes

Carried.

Mrs. Fox asked that the resolutions for the Construction Official's additional hours and the additional pay periods in 2021 be brought to the July meeting.

Reports of Borough Officials

Borough Coordinator: Ms. Crosman read into the record the permits issued by the Construction Department and Health/Shade Tree Department. She asked everyone to confirm if they are going to the League meeting in November and where they would like to stay. The Mayor thanked the Borough Clerk for her work on eCode.

Borough Attorney: The lease for the Swim Club is pending. The contract for municipal waste has been finalized and will go to the vendor. The downtown development plans are underway.

Borough Engineer: Marie Raffay gave an overview of several projects including: Riverside Cooperative paving should start soon, and the micro-surfacing should start soon and be quick.

Borough Treasurer: Mr. Moore explained that the tax bills have gone out.

Police Chief: The Chief reported on new hires, the receipt of a \$40,000 grant for body cameras, trainings, and calls for the past month. He made a special note of a call that involved reviving an individual from an overdose and thanked the officers involved. Mrs. Fox suggested putting the trainings on the website.

Fire Chief: Assistant Chief Carl Pavlik thanked everyone for support and gave a report on the calls for the past month.

Ambulance: Ambulance Secretary Roberta Hoag thanked the Police and Fire Departments for the help on the workplace injury call.

Mr. Carroll moved to open the meeting to the Public, second Mrs. Fox. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. and Mrs. Yuk (108 Serpentine) came forward. Mr. Yuk thanked the Borough Clerk for her help. He voiced concern about the honeybees planned for the property at 110 Serpentine. He would like the honeybees to be moved to another location, perhaps to a nonresidential area. The Mayor said that the location can be re-examined, especially as construction will be taking place at that location. Mr. Yuk also asked that the town pay for a fence to be installed between their property and the Borough property. The Mayor related that fence installation would be the Yuks' responsibility. Noel Pugh (64 Prospect Street) came forward and reported that after the storm on the 8th of June his property was overwhelmed with water. He showed pictures and explained the situation. He explained that this has happened several times. He has written a letter suggesting solutions. The Mayor stated that the engineers are studying the Donnybrook drainage situation. The Borough Engineer also spoke. Mr. Pugh thanked the Borough Clerk for her help. The Mayor stated that now there is a tree ordinance requiring everyone to obtain permits before taking trees down. Mr. Pugh will bring his pictures to the Borough Hall.

Mr. Carroll moved to close the meeting to the Public, second Mrs. Fox. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Connelly thanked Mr. Moore, CFO, again and wished him well.

Mr. Carroll moved to go into Closed Session for possible litigation per Mrs. Fox, second Mrs. Fox. All in favor. Meeting went into Closed Session at 9:05 pm. Mr. Carroll moved to close Closed Session, second Mrs. Fox. All in favor. Closed Session was closed at 9:15 pm.

Mr. Carroll moved to return to Open Session, second Mrs. Hamilton. All in favor. Carried.

Mr. Carroll moved for Adjournment, second Mrs. Hamilton. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Crosman
Borough Clerk/Coordinator