

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
BOROUGH OF DEMAREST**

**WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

**May 10, 2023**

**7:30 PM**

Mayor Bernstein read the compliance statement:

The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, have been satisfied by sending notice of this rescheduled meeting and public hearing to the Bergen Record on April 27, 2023, and posting such notice on the Bulletin Board at Borough Hall, on the Borough website and filing in the office of the Borough Clerk.

Mayor Bernstein asked everyone to rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:**

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

Absent: Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember LaPira, Councilmember Marks

Also Present: Julie Falkenstern, Borough Administrator

Nick Chelius, Borough Engineer

Deena Rosendahl, Borough Attorney *(by phone)*

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF 2023 BERGEN COUNTY TRUST  
FUND MUNICIPAL APPLICATION**

Mayor Bernstein opened the floor to the public for the Public Hearing on the submission of a grant application for the 2023 Bergen County Trust Fund Municipal Parks Program, whereas the Borough of Demarest desires to obtain a matching grant in the amount of \$287,500.00 to fund the surface improvement and recreational enhancement of Wakelee Field.

A motion was made by Councilmember Fox and seconded by Councilmember Jiang and approved by all to open the public hearing.

Adam Collins  
42 Everett St.  
Demarest, NJ

Mr. Collins expressed his support for the application and believes it will be a great benefit to the softball program in particular.

Jean Nonenamacher  
49 Meadow St.  
Demarest, NJ

Ms. Nonenamacher asked for clarification of the budget and if the project would include drainage. Mr. Chelius explained the project and the drainage that would be added. She asked for a clarification of the funding structure. Mayor Bernstein explained that the Borough was seeking a grant through the County in addition to using Municipal Open Space fund for the Borough's portion. She ultimately expressed hope that the project would make the field more accessible with added days of usage.

There being no other members of the public wishing to speak about the application, the meeting was closed to the public.

### **Resolution No. 70-23 Open Space Trust Fund Application Endorsement**

Mayor Bernstein asked for a motion to approve the resolution of endorsement for the Open Space application.

A motion was made by Council President Slowikowski and seconded by Councilmember Jiang.

Ayes: Council President Slowikowski, Councilmember Fox, Councilmember Jiang

Nays: None

Absent: Councilmember Hamilton, Councilmember LaPira, Councilmember Marks

### **Borough Engineer's Report**

Nick Chelius gave an update on Borough engineering projects.

Mayor Bernstein then opened the meeting to the public for non-agenda items.

Jean Nonenamacher  
49 Meadow St.  
Demarest, NJ

Ms. Nonenamacher would like the culvert behind 95 County Rd and Brook Way to be inspected for debris. Ms. Falkenstern stated that she, the DPW and the Borough Engineer would inspect the next day.

There being no one else from the public wishing to speak, a motion was made by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Jiang and approved by all to close the meeting to the public.

A member of the public who arrived late then asked Mayor Bernstein if she could speak. The meeting was reopened to the public.

Mary Ann Clark  
Borough Historian

Ms. Clark stated asked questions concerning an old bell belonging to the Borough, access to the archive room at the train station and finances of the historic society.

Mayor Bernstein advised that he would look into her concerns.

There being no one else wishing to speak, the meeting was again closed.

A motion was made by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Council President Slowikowski and approved by all to adjourn at 8:15 pm.