

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF DEMAREST
SINE DIE MEETING Minutes
January 5, 2026
3:00 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 publication of the date, time and place of this annual Reorganization meeting in in the Record and Star Ledger on December 4, 2025, notice posted at Borough Hall, on the Borough website was filed in the office of the Borough Clerk.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Bernstein, Council President Slowikowski, Councilmember Collins, Councilmember Fox, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Marks, Councilmember Reiss

Roll Call:

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Julie Falkenstern, Borough Administrator
Deena Rosendahl, Borough Attorney
Nick Chelius, Borough Engineer
Borough staff and Members of the Demarest Police Department

Consent Agenda

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

Mayor Bernstein asks 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. 234-25	Authorizing Transfer of 2025 Budget Appropriations
Resolution No. 235-25	Payment of Bills

A motion was made by Councilmember Marks and seconded by Councilmember Reiss.

Roll Call:

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

Minutes for approval:

July 28, 2025
Regular Meeting
Closed Session

A motion was made by Councilmember Collins and seconded by Councilmember Reiss.

Roll Call:

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

August 11, 2025
Work Session Meeting
Closed Session

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

Roll Call:

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

September 8, 2025
Work Session
Closed Session

A motion was made by Councilmember Collins and seconded by Councilmember Reiss.

Roll Call:

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

September 29, 2025
Regular Meeting
Closed Session

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

Roll Call:

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

October 27, 2025
Closed Session Meeting

A motion was made by Councilmember Collins and seconded by Councilmember Reiss.

Roll Call:

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

December 29, 2025
Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Councilmember Fox and seconded by Councilmember Marks.

Roll Call:

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

Councilmember Jiang made a motion to open the meeting to the public. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fox. The motion was approved by all on a voice vote.

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

Councilmember Jiang thanked everyone for their cooperation during his tenure on the Council.

Mayor Bernstein then addressed those present as follows:

Before we close our Sine Die meeting, I want to recognize and thank David Jiang for his extraordinary service as a council member for the past three years and his significant contributions to our community. I have had the honor of working with David for 3 years. David is not only an important member of this Council, but someone I am proud to call my friend. He served our community from the prospective of giving back. He has worked tirelessly for our community and the larger Bergen County community. He is Demarest's first Asian American councilmember. David and his family, Hilde, Konner and Kayla have a strong record of giving back to the community in multiple ways. Hilde serves as a Trustee on our Golden Seniors' Association Board, the entire family have been involved in multiple charity drives, including the Community Chest. David is a Board Member of the Community Chest, which serves to lead initiatives and supports nonprofits that make our communities stronger and benefits people in need in Bergen County. He embraced the role as Chair of the Economic Development Committee and his leadership on that Committee will lead to revitalizing our downtown, generate substantial revenues and income and create a nonresidential source of taxes or payments in lieu of taxes to help alleviate the burden on the residential taxpayer. David has also agreed to serve on our planning board and to assist the Economic Development Committee in continuing the work we already started, turning concepts and plans into reality. David also served on various Council committees including, Police, Fire and Ambulance and Ordinance. Please join me in thanking David Jiang for his contributions and commitment to our community! Thank you.

Councilmember Fox made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Jiang seconded the motion and it was approved by all on a voice vote.

The meeting was therefore adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Falkenstern, RMC
Borough Clerk