

VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
August 15, 2019

Present: Mayor Montreuil
Trustee Coppola
Trustee Pallisco
Trustee Burger
Cathryn Hillmann, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Thomas P. Gannon, Supt. DPW & Building Department
Janet Bevers, Research Assistant to the Board

Absent: Deputy Mayor Squicciarino

Mayor Montreuil opened the Board Meeting at 8:00 pm following a Special Use Public Hearing. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the hearing.

Minutes:

Upon motion by Tr. Burger, seconded by Tr. Pallisco, the Board Minutes from July 18, 2019 were approved by Trustees Pallisco, Burger, and Mayor Montreuil.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

Block Party Application: Approved.

Sunday, September 8 (rain date: Sunday, Sept. 15) on Millers Lane, south of Olde Trading Post driveway and north of Post Office annex) from 8:00 am – 10:00 pm.

Taxi Cab Owner Permit: Approved. The approval letter will include language to inform the applicant that there is limited parking available in the taxi stand staging area and that those spaces are available on a first come, first served basis.

JP Holding 1 LLC, d/b/a Blu Taxi & Courier Logistics, 1201 Second Avenue – 5 vehicles in fleet.

Tr. Coppola:

Fire Department

The house on North 12th Street that was destroyed by fire has been sold. There is a dumpster on site and clean-up is being done at the site.

Little League

Unfortunately, our teams did not make the World Series this year. Hopefully, next year.

Nassau County Police

Although unable to attend the July Board Meeting, I want to thank the 3rd Precinct Inspector and the POP Officers for their time and important presentation. The POP Officers have offered to run a SCAM Prevention Workshop for our residents. The Village is planning to hold a day session and a separate evening session at Marcus Christ Hall, after the end of summer. In a recent mailing, PSEG wrote about scams targeting their customers. Residents were reminded that PSEG will never call customers to solicit money or threatened to shut off power. Power outages can be reported and outages maps can be viewed on the PSEG website (www.psegliny.com) or by text at 773454. Mayor Montreuil added that there was a recent incident in the Village involving suspicious activity, which ultimately turned out to involve criminal drug activity. The 3rd Precinct left forms that can be used by residents to note details involving suspicious people or activity in the neighborhood. The forms can capture vital information about the vehicle or the person that will help the police investigate. Residents were advised to call 911 if something

looks or seems out of character. Mayor Montreuil added that he is very impressed with the leadership at the 3rd Precinct and that this community is fortunate to have protection and support from the 3rd Precinct.

Auxiliary Police

Commander John Concannon reported that the Unit has to purchase its own cars. The newest car in its fleet is 14 years old and the oldest car is 19 years old. The Unit is seeking funds to purchase a “used” vehicle to add to its fleet. Nassau County doesn’t have money in its budget to help the Unit purchase a car. The Unit is looking to combine funds from the Unit with funds from the Village. Tr. Coppola added that Commander Concannon does the best he can to maintain the cars in his fleet. Unit cars are sometimes parked on residential streets and used for decoy purposes. Tr. Coppola thanked all Unit members for the work they do and the time they give.

Unit members are providing coverage at tonight’s concert in the Park, and will provide coverage at Community Day on September 14th and the Cellini Festival at Tully Park next week.

Tr. Pallisco:

Zoning Board of Appeals

At the August 14th hearing, the following four (4) cases heard:

- 302 South 8th Street – the applicant is seeking approval to construct a 2nd floor addition to the front of the home with a 6’ cantilever into the front yard. The rest of the addition will be built over the existing first floor which has a side yard to the north of 15.3’ where a 10’ is required and a side yard to the south of 3.8’ where a 5’ side yard is required. The applicant is seeking a variance of 1.5’ on the south side. This application was granted.
- 533 North 6th Street – the applicant is seeking approval to construct a 340.66 square foot single story rear addition. The permitted lot coverage for this property is 1,400 square feet and the permitted gross floor area is 1,880 square feet. Construction of this rear addition would increase the lot coverage to 1,547.9 square feet and the gross floor area to 2051.7 square feet. This application was granted.
- 561 6th Avenue – the applicant is seeking approval to construct a full second floor addition with a 1’-10” cantilever in the front yard to the south and a 4” cantilever in the side yard to the north. The addition would leave a 22.31’ setback in the south front yard where 24.95’ is the average setback and a 3’ setback in the north side yard where a 5’ setback is required. This application was granted.
- 249 Jericho Tpke. – this application is for a business seeking approval to teach marital arts at this location. The floor plan shows approximately 1,100 square feet of teaching area, which requires 22 off street parking spaces which the application makes provisions for none. This amount is based on the permitted occupant load. The applicant received approval from the Board of Trustees for a special use permit. Parking relief was granted because the nature of the operation is pick up and drop off and there are only 2 employees working at the site. The next meeting of the Zoning Board is September 11th.

Architectural Review Board

At the August 7th hearing, the following cases were heard:

- 516 6th Avenue – a proposal to build a second story addition with 3 bedrooms and 1 bathroom was approved with suggested changes.
- 812 North 9th Place – the demolition of an existing house to build a new one-family house with a one car garage was approved.

The next meeting of the ARB will be held on Wednesday, September 4th at 7:30 pm.

Beautification

Thanks to the DPW crew for all the clean-up and maintenance done at the pocket parks, center lane medians, village gardens, and parks.

The DPW Crew was recognized for their efforts to keep the area across from Nuzzi Field and around the Nassau County Storm Basic looking great. Years ago, the Village received a grant from Nassau County Legislator Richard Nicoletto to beautify the area around the sump basin. The Village planted 25 trees, paved the lot, and DPW has been keeping the area clean and manicured ever since.

The DPW Highway Crew was acknowledged and thanked for installing reflective strips under some Stop Signs. These reflective strips will help remind drivers to stop at the signs.

Cultural Commission

The Jericho Tpke Street Fair will not be held this year, but the Village will host the New Hyde Park Village Community Day at Memorial Park on Saturday, September 14th from 11 am – 4 pm. The rain date is Sunday, September 15th. Northwell Health is our primary sponsor, along with Mike McBride from the New Hyde Park Funeral Home and the Katie McBride Foundation; Halls Carpet and Sarah's Spices. Some of the scheduled events include live music, food trucks, magic shows, participation by local merchants, charities, and service groups; the NHP Chamber of Commerce; performances by local cultural organizations; Boy Scout troops; local schools; houses of worship, and the NHP Fire Department. Northwell Health is also providing their health and wellness van to conduct blood pressure testing, skin screenings, flu shots, and more. The NHP Street Fair has always been a huge success and we hope this event provides an opportunity for everyone to experience and enjoy all that makes the Village a great place to live and work. The bulk of planning and preparing for this event has fallen on Janet Bevers, and we thank her for all her hard work.

Noise Abatement

The Nassau County Aviation Committee will hold a meeting Wednesday, September 5th from 7- 9 pm at the Nassau County Community College in the College Center Building, Room 252 – 253.

At the end of Tr. Pallisco's report, Mr. Duhl complained that the 249 Jericho Tpke business and other businesses get more parking consideration than residents. Mr. Duhl said that he feels that some members of the Board favor business over residents. Tr. Pallisco explained that this decision was a Zoning Board decision, not a Village Board decision. Supt. Gannon commented that the nature of the business at 249 Jericho Tpke. is a drop-off and pick-up operation. Mayor Montreuil explained that the ZBA operates under established code and guidelines, the hearings are public, and residents are welcome to attend and voice their opinions on applications.

A resident of Brooklyn Avenue remarked that there have been 7 cars parking on his block all day, and no tickets are being issued. And, the resident claimed that he parked on the street for 2 days and received no tickets or tire markings. Mayor Montreuil added that this will be discussed with Code Enforcement.

Tr. Burger:

Building Department

Building court will be held on August 21 and there are approximately 10 – 12 cases on the docket.

LIRR 3rd Track Project

The Mayor's most recent letter to residents contains a lot of information on the LIRR Mainline construction. The push bridge structure for the 3 tracks will take place this weekend August 23 – 26. A viewing station will be set up for spectators to watch the process.

3TC has expressed an interest in participating and donating to Community Day.

3TC estimates that Covert Avenue will re-open in early October. In the meantime, residents should remain vigilant and careful navigating through the work site.

Detour Plan – traffic issues on S. 12th Street continue. The Board is considering these options:

1. No through trucking signs on S. 12th Street
2. Speed bumps on S. 12th Street
3. No left turn from S. 12th Street to 2nd and 3rd Avenues
4. Temporary traffic signal at South 12th Street at the railroad crossing
5. Creating two turning lanes on S. 12th Street at Jericho Tpke.
6. No through traffic northbound on S. 12th Street from Stewart Avenue

NCPD continues to issue ticket in and around S. 12th Street

There have been delays getting a 3TC sub-contractor to paint a "Do Not Block the Box" at New Hyde Park Road. This is due to a failed drug test.

A question was raised at the July Board meeting regarding the height of the raised tracks. The tracks will be raised 2 ½ to 3 feet and up to 5 feet. The new bridge will be high enough to accommodate tractor trailers.

Utility work continues on New Hyde Park Road and 2nd Avenue. Thanks to Tr. Pallisco and resident Diane Bentivegna, the Village Board was notified that Plaza Avenue and Clinch Road were closed before 3TC notification arrived.

It is important that residents complete the 3TC quarterly performance surveys, especially if there are delays in getting updated communications from 3TC.

The new utility poles are projected to be 100 – 120 feet high. There is a meeting tomorrow at Westbury with Mr. Roche, MTA Executive, Mayor Montreuil and Village Attorney Trentacoste to discuss the utility poles. The Village is still pushing for the installation of underground utility lines and are seeking help from Nassau County Legislator Nicoletto and Senator Kaplan to get this done.

Steve Drenze is working to complete the alarm system integration at the temporary fire house.

A complete re-design of the electrical substation is expected in the fall 2020.

The new South Tyson Bridge will be lifted in place this weekend. There will be outages on the Hempstead Line this weekend.

Veterans Affairs

There were no meetings scheduled this summer. The next meeting is September 19th. Membership is declining and there will be an article in the Summer Newsletter seeking new membership. It's time for the younger generation to step up. Details can be found on the American Legion website.

Water Authority of Western Nassau County

As previously reported, New York State has implemented legislation to institute new standards to remove 1,4-dioxane in drinking water. The Water Authority is looking at using UV lighting to filter out the toxin. There are 20 wells in our district and only nine of those wells do not need treatment to remove 1,4-dioxane. The cost for just our district is estimated at \$15 million. There is a meeting next week on Water Station 57 on 2nd Avenue.

Tr. Squicciarino: Absent. In her absence, Tr. Pallisco provided the following report:

Park and Recreation

The last day of summer camp was Thursday, August 8th. The program counselors were thanked for the great job they did. There was a record amount of children enrolled this year - 78 in the morning session and about 90 in the afternoon session.

The final show of the summer concert series takes place tonight and will be a Plaza Theatrical production of Cinderella, held at Memorial Park.

Long and Lean adult exercise class resumes September 16th, Monday and Thursday, 10:30 am – 11:30 am.

Chamber of Commerce

A networking event will be held at American Community Bank on Thursday, September 19th from 6 – 9 pm. Light refreshments will be served.

Schools

Schools will be open by the time the Board meets next. Everyone was reminded to drive safely.

Mayor Montreuil:

Dept. of Public Works

A meeting will be held next week with Senator Kaplan to discuss the DPW grant funding.

LIRR 3rd Track Project

The MTA declined my request for extra coverage at the S. 12th Street grade crossing citing no resources available. The MTA suggested extra signage may help.

A temporary traffic signal at S. 12th Street and the 2nd or 3rd Avenue might be a solution and will be discussed at the meeting tomorrow with the MTA Executive. The possibility of getting a traffic signal installed on Covert and 6th Avenues before Covert Avenue opens is diminishing.

As reported previously by Tr. Burger, 3TC wanted to close New Hyde Park Road in order to cut 5 months off the construction schedule. Nassau County and Garden City agreed, the Village Board denied the request. After further analysis by Tr. Burger, it was determined that at best, 3TC could perhaps achieve a 3 month work savings,

which is not enough to justify closing down New Hyde Park Road completely and re-routing traffic onto Covert Avenue , S. 12th Street or Nassau Blvd.

At the meeting tomorrow, the MTA will be asked to provide more details on the new utility poles.

RESOLUTIONS:

19-34 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #18-36 AND #19-06

New Business:

Tr. Coppola reported that The Greater New Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce and The New Hyde Park Lions Club will host their annual golf outing fundraiser on September 25th.

Old Business:

- Emergency generator for Village Hall – no update provided.

Public Participation:

Resident Bess Giordano suggested “do not block the intersection” stripping be done at 6th Avenue as cars get backed up often.

Resident Rosemary Hudson remarked that stripping cannot and should not be painted on every intersection in the Village.

Resident Robert Femminella commented that the process to remove 1,4-dioxane takes more than UV lights. Tr. Burger acknowledged and explained that the pilot program includes more steps and will be done in a new building and a tank two stories high. The Water Authority reports that our water is safe to drink.

Resident Diane Bentivegna asked who is paying for the 1,4-dioxane clean-up. Tr. Burger indicated that water authority customers will pay, but the Water Authority may go after some of the companies that contributed to this problem for financial relief.

Resident Mr. Duhl commented that the Village Board is concerned about the impact to available parking on Plaza Avenue when the road closed yet the Board doesn't seem to care about the lack of parking on Jericho Tpke and its impact to residents on Brooklyn Avenue. Mr. Duhl added that the parking survey recently mailed to residents was insulting. Mayor Montreuil remarked that the survey was intended to get public input other than just his input.

Resident Michael Morrissey complained that cars are traveling the wrong way on Plaza Avenue to access the new parking lot. Mr. Morrissey also complained that truck traffic continues on his block.

Resident Diane Bentivegna reported that many people are getting flat tires from nails left behind from the LIRR Mainline construction. Tr. Burger commented that this will be addressed to 3TC. Mayor Montreuil stated that 3TC is required to perform daily road clean-up and this is something that can be included in the 3TC quarterly performance surveys.

A resident on 1st Avenue asked the status of the new street sweeper. Supt. Gannon explained that the new sweeper is undergoing its first service maintenance.

Resident Robert Femminella complained about over-weight trucks travelling on his block. He asked who is responsible for inspecting and monitoring the dangerous diesel particulate matter emanating from idling trucks. He added that the new business between S. 4th and S. 5th Street is a problem. Mayor Montreuil stated that he asked Supt. Gannon to schedule a meeting with the new business owner. Mayor Montreuil asked Mr. Femminella to help formulate a plan on how to resolve issues between business owners and residents.

A resident on 1st Avenue complained about helicopters flying low and he reported some near misses. Mayor Montreuil explained that he recently sent a letter to Congresswoman Rice seeking her help to mitigate aircraft noise and volume over New Hyde Park and suggested that helicopters be re-route away from a LIRR track route to a water route.

Resident Michael Morrissey and Bess Giordano suggested that tracking systems be implemented along the LIRR tracks to monitor and record freight train traffic, construction noise, and possibly even diesel emissions.

There being no further business or public participation, upon motion by Tr. Coppola, seconded by Tr. Pallisco, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting ended at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Janet Bevers

Research Assistant to the Board