

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 5, 2019**

Present: Mayor Montreuil
Deputy Mayor Squicciarino
Trustee Coppola
Trustee Pallisco
Trustee Burger
Janet Bevers, Research Assistant to the Board
Lara Verbanac, Research Assistant to the Board

Absent: Cathryn Hillmann, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Thomas P. Gannon, Supt. DPW & Building Department

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.

Prior to proceeding with the Public Board Meeting, Mayor Montreuil announced that at 7:30 pm this evening, a Special Use Public Hearing was held to hear an application to rebuild a second floor damaged by fire and perform interior alterations and add a new front portico at 146 N. 12th Street. Mayor Montreuil asked if anyone in the audience arrived late and missed the Special Use Hearing. Three (3) residents raised their hands to indicate that they had missed the previous hearing. Mayor Montreuil provided a brief overview of the applicant's presentation and informed the residents that there were no objections or comments raised from the public at the public hearing. The Village Board voted and granted a special use permit for the applicant. Mayor Montreuil asked the three residents if they had any comments or objections to the special use application for 146 N. 12th Street. There were no objections or comments raised by the three residents.

Minutes:

Upon motion by Trustee Coppola, seconded by Trustee Squicciarino, the Board Minutes from November 7, 2019 were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

- A request was granted for the NHP Republican Club to use Marcus Christ Hall on Monday, December 16th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Tr. Coppola:

Auxiliary Police

Commander Concannon from Auxiliary Police Unit #212 was introduced and spoke about being present at the Veterans Day Ceremony. The Unit members will also be present at the Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 7th. Commander Concannon cautioned residents to be careful now with the cold weather approaching. The Unit will be patrolling more often. Unit cars have been parked on resident streets at the request of the Board. Some residents complained that the Unit cars were parked on their block. Tr. Coppola added that seeing Unit cars parked on the street encourages drivers to slow down. He also thanked Commander Concannon and all his Unit members for the

great service to the community and a special thanks from the American Legion Post #1089 for being present at the ceremony.

Nassau County Police

Residents were reminded that with the Holidays approaching there will be an increase of package deliveries. They were reminded to take packages into the house and not leave them outside or in their cars. They were reminded to lock their cars and to call the police if they see anyone suspicious lurking around their residence.

Fire Department

Tree fires are common during the Holiday season. Dry trees have a low flash point. Keeping trees away from fire places, candles, old lights, will prevent fires. If there is an emergency such as stroke, heart attack, etc. residents are encouraged to call the Fire Department. They will send an ambulance. The first few minutes are very important in a medical emergency.

Tr. Pallisco:

Zoning Board of Appeals

The following case was heard at the November 13th hearing:

- 1501 Belmont Avenue – an application seeking approval to subdivide the 80’ x 100’ property into two 40’x 100’ properties. After the division, the existing house that will remain will have a total side yard aggregate of 13.7’ where 15’ is required.

The next meeting for Zoning Board is December 11, 2019

Architectural Review Board

The following case was presented at the December 4th hearing:

- 1501 Belmont Avenue – an application for construction of a single-family home was approved.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2020.

Noise Abatement

The runway at JFK was recently re-opened after new LED lights, signs, cables and navigational aids were installed. Additionally, high speed taxi lanes and faster runway exits were created. The new updated runway can now accommodate larger airplanes as the runway was widened by 33%. The runway was paved with concrete instead of asphalt which will improve durability and strength of the runway and will add a 40-year lifespan to the runway. This project was the successful collaboration between the Port Authority, FAA and the Airlines. The Village is affiliated with three noise abatement groups TVASNAC, PlaneSense, and Quiet Skies. These groups are focused on mitigating air traffic and noise pollution.

Beautification Committee

- The Holiday lights have been installed along Jericho Turnpike. A special thanks to DPW for decorating Village Hall and Marcus Christ Hall.
- On Wednesday, December 4th a Tree Grant was submitted for 2020 to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. If awarded the Village could receive up to \$11,000 in tree purchases.

On November 26th, the New Hyde Park Lions Club distributed over 100 turkeys and canned goods to local churches, including Holy Spirit, Notre Dame and Gloria Dei. Students from the Music Department of New Hyde Park Memorial High School fundraised to purchase the groceries.

The New Hyde Park Lions Club has set up the tree lot across from Village Hall and will sell trees throughout the Holidays.

The Greater NHP Chamber of Commerce Holiday party will be held at Jonathan’s Restaurant on December 19th.

Tr. Burger:

Members of Cub Scouts Pack #489 were introduced and invited to ask the Board questions.

Building Report

- Village Court was held on Wednesday, November 20th. Nine (9) cases were heard involving illegal use of a single-family home, working without a permit, property maintenance, and a noise complaint.
- The next Village Court will be held on December 18th. Six (6) cases will be heard.
- There has been no new Special Use Permit Application submitted. Two weeks ago, the DEIS for Harley Davidson was discussed. Earlier tonight a Special Use Permit Application for 146 N 12th Street was discussed and approved.
- Twenty-three (23) permits in total have been approved and issued from November 20th-December 4th.

LIRR

- 3TC continues its work on the 3rd Track Project. Covert Avenue has been opened since October 12th. The 2nd and 3rd Avenue bridges have opened. The underpass staircases have been completed and opened for pedestrian use. 3TC closed one lane last week to apply the Anti-Graffiti spray coating on the walls of the underpass.
- Tr. Pallisco and I are working through a punch-list of 15 items, including underpass work, property maintenance, and property repair to previous or better condition.
- Complaints were received regarding the bright yellow flashing lights on Covert Avenue so shutters will have to be installed to mask them.
- Construction on New Hyde Park Road has been delayed until February 2020. Mayor Montreuil and I continue to have weekly calls with 3TC. Topics to be discussed are the challenges of navigating the construction area, complaints about unclear delineations on NHP Road as well as unclear line striping during the rain.
- 3TC and the LIRR are still evaluating a complete closure of NHP Road with no bypass road once the construction begins. The Village plans include a bypass road but the MTA has safety concerns. 3TC will temporarily close the bypass road during excavation. These issues will be discussed with 3TC at the next meeting on December 19th.
- 3TC has been invited to the December 19th Board Meeting to provide an update on the 3rd Track project.
- The Village Board is requesting a more in-depth traffic study for New Hyde Park Road then was done for Covert Avenue, including a more solid mitigation plan and an in-depth construction schedule showing time saved if New Hyde Park Road is closed full time.
- The completion of the temporary platform has been pushed back to mid-January.
- The empty lot at Covert Avenue will be constructed into a temporary parking lot. Additional alternative parking locations are being scouted.
- When work on New Hyde Park Road starts, South 12th Street will be more congested. The Board wants to divert traffic away from New Hyde Park Road. Announcements on 1010 WINS and other traffic information platforms will be utilized.
- The electrical substation construction scheduled for September 2020 has been pushed out further.

Water Authority

The Station 57 Rehabilitation Project will be kicking off in 2020. Three new wellhead treatments will be installed to remove the 1.4 dioxane from our water supply. A bid is going out so that construction can start in the spring of 2020. The Water Authority will have to coordinate with the Village once construction is on its way.

Veterans Affairs

Thank you to all who were involved and attended the Veteran's Day ceremony.

American Legion Post #1089 is looking for new membership. Their members are aging and the Post is seeking new members. December 7th is Pearl Harbor Day. The American flag at Village Hall will be lowered at sunrise to Half-Staff and will be raised to Full-Staff at sunset right before the Tree Lighting Ceremony begins. North Hempstead Supervisor, Judi Bosworth sent a letter thanking everyone for participating in the Annual Veterans Donation Drive.

Tr. Squicciarino:

Village Clerk's Office

Verizon Fios franchise Fee	\$11,038.31
Coin Meter Collection	\$13,202.94
IPS Vouchers for October 2019	\$24,864.00
Building Permits	\$17,403.53
Camp Expense Reimbursement (TONH)	\$2,000.00 (pending)

- The Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on Saturday, December 7th at 3:00 pm at Marcus Christ Hall. There will be a magic show, performances from the New Hyde Park Memorial High School band and Chamber Singers, refreshments, and a visit from Santa.
- The Village Financial Audit has been completed. The Audit was clean with no major issues.
- R-Permits are on sale at the Clerks office. The office will be open until 8:00 pm on December 11th so residents can purchase parking passes.

Library

Upcoming Programs:

Yoga is offered for \$32 (8 classes)

Holiday Cookie Decorating class will be held on Friday December 6th.

Monthly blood pressure screening once a month on Saturdays, through June 2020.

New Hyde Park Museum

The Museum streams a podcast on the last Monday of every month at 9:00 pm. Please tune in if you are interested.

Some garbage receptacles on Jericho Turnpike will be removed. Receptacles in busy areas like bus stops will remain.

Muni-Meters will go live on Monday, December 9th. The directions on usage will be handed out by the LIRR station. A resident expressed that the two meters located near the resident parking lot will confuse muni-meter users who will in turn park in the wrong lot and take spaces away from Village residents. Mayor Montreuil stated that this issue will be researched further.

The Town of North Hempstead gave approval to Target to open a store in the old Sears building at the Lake Success Shopping Center. The Target store will include Starbucks and CVS. No definite date has been set.

Mayor Montreuil:

The Harley Davidson public comment period is still open through December 23, 2019. All comments that are submitted must be addressed by the applicant in the final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Village Board and Village consultants will review the EIS and a public hearing will be held.

Mayor Montreuil reported that he attended a ribbon cutting ceremony for ProHealth Care / Center for Back and Neck

Pain in Lake Success who offer treatment without prescribing opioids to their patients. The Mayor added that with the opioid crisis in this country, treating patients with less drugs is a good step in trying to combat the opioid health crisis.

RESOLUTIONS:

19-65 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #19-14

19-66 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF FULL TIME PARKING METER ATTENDANT FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPT.

New Business:

There was none.

Old Business:

- Mayor Montreuil reported on the parking survey for N 12th Street. A request was made for alternate side parking Monday through Sunday at all times. Village Clerk-Treasurer Hillmann received 17 out of 20 surveys sent out. 70% of completed surveys oppose a change in parking rules on N 12th Street. Based on the survey results the Village Board is not making any changes at this time. Mayor Montreuil thanked residents for their participation in the survey.

Public Participation:

Mayor Montreuil reported that there have been many power outages in the last few months. The Mayor requested PSEG provide a report of the outages over the last few months, including length of time of the outages, when the outages occurred, the root cause, number of customers impacted, and corrective actions. PSEG is gathering the data and the Mayor will meet with them to get the results. The Mayor added:

- On Monday there was a power outage that encompassed Village Hall and several surrounding streets after a lever arm malfunctioned and caused a transformer to fail. Repair trucks were seen on New Hyde Park road and Jericho Turnpike and also at 2nd Avenue and S 12th Street.
- Residents should be receiving robo-calls from PSEG when there are planned outages, especially if the outages are going to be longer than 5 minutes.
- Resident Diane Bentivegna commented that the only time she received a robo call from PSEG was after the Mayor met with PSEG. She also reported that she had several electrical surges and burnt out sockets. It took PSEG over 30 minutes to arrive even though it was an emergency call. The fire department arrived and cleared the house before PSEG arrived. PSEG told her that it will take her street (which is the last street in the village) off the electricity grid because the circuits have been overloaded. PSEG Claims Department will take her repair receipts and will refund her the money spent for repairs.
- Mayor Montreuil will provide an update once he receives the results from PSEG.

Mayor Montreuil discussed the recent brown water some of the residents have been complaining about. Tr. Burger will reach out to the Water Authority in regards to this issue. Tr. Burger explained that when fire hydrants are opened up it stirs up residue and the surrounding areas can experience brown water. A fire hydrant cannot be opened without permission from the Water Authority. The Village has received reports that 3TC had sometimes utilized the fire hydrants along the LIRR station without obtaining proper permits for usage. Residents can call the Water Authority to see if they have permission to do so. Additionally, flushing by the Water Authority can result in brown water. The Water Authority has the flushing schedule posted on their website.

Resident Sam Khoury thanked Tr. Burger for following up on the Plaza Avenue traffic pattern. Mr. Khoury commented on the following:

- Once the grade crossing is completed will there be parking on Plaza Avenue. Tr. Burger will research and respond back.
- He expressed his concern about the double yellow line visibility problem on New Hyde Park Road. The email he received from 3TC Community Outreach was not very explanatory and indicated that the road will be back to 2 lanes soon. Tr. Burger and the Mayor will research and report back.
- During the Harley Davidson Public Hearing Mr. Khoury felt that residents opposing the project were the ones being blamed. He wanted to make it clear that the comments made about the age of the riders is not what residents were concerned about; rather it is the motorcycle noise. He wanted to know if the residents will have a chance to comment once the EIS is presented. After the EIS is issued the Board and the public will have an opportunity to review.
- Regarding noise levels at the Olde Trading Post, how does the code enforcement determine the violations? Mayor Montreuil explained how the sound level is measured.

Resident Bess Giordano saw a ‘Do Not Block Side Street’ sign and asked if signage will be placed on additional streets. Mayor Montreuil indicated that the Board was working on additional signage and painted boxes.

Resident Mike Morrissey expressed concern with heavy traffic early in the morning on Covert Avenue when construction starts on New Hyde Park Road. He added that traffic has been over a mile long every morning before 9 am. If 3TC/LIRR change the plans for full closure of New Hyde Park Road the traffic will only get worse. Tr. Burger explained that the signals sequence on Covert Avenue have been changed to alleviate the traffic backup. The traffic patterns are being monitored and Mayor Montreuil and he will continue discussing it with 3TC. Tr. Burger added that they want to try and keep traffic away from the construction area.

Mr. Morrissey also added that the temporary platform that is being built is taking up all the parking spots around the Post Office. He added that it was Christmas time and people have to park a block and a half away in order to go into the Post Office.

Resident Bess Giordano commented that there were 3-4 utility poles on the Right of Way that were moved temporarily on the Village street side, on the other side of the green fence. Now there is a wall there. She asked if the poles were being taken down and replaced. There is already an overabundance of poles on her street. The Mayor said it will be reviewed further. Tr. Burger has the project drawings including the placement of the utility poles and he will take a look to see the reason for those particular poles. Tr. Burger added that he will do a walkthrough at the site and if the poles are to be removed, it will be added to the punch list.

Ms. Giordano requested a permanent fence placed at the dead end of 6th Avenue because it’s being used as a pathway by workers and can be used by anyone unless it’s permanently blocked. Ms. Giordano addressed these issues to Judy White.

Resident Giordano commented that she has seen cars back-out of the new lane in front of the houses by the underpass. Mayor Montreuil commented that some people are still unfamiliar with the new configuration of the roadway in this area. This part of Covert Avenue that takes you to 3rd Avenue is a one-way street and not a through road, so no one should be backing up a car to exit the lane. Even residents living in this area should make the right turn and go around. The Mayor added that he has also heard about people making a u-turn into the underpass. It will take some time for people to get used to the new traffic configuration in this area.

Resident Ms. Bentivegna asked what the large round things are along 2nd Avenue. Mayor Montreuil explained that those are forms that will be put into the ground and be filled with cement to become the foundation for the wall that will be built.

Dr. Marty Zatz spoke about the parking issues on N 12th Street. His dental practice is located on Park Avenue and in the past he has addressed the Board regarding the parking problems near his office. The alternate side parking on

Park Avenue is contributing to people parking cars further up north on N 12th. Since there is a business district on Jericho Turnpike customers and visitors should be encouraged to park closer to Jericho Turnpike. Dr. Zatz requests that the alternative side parking be eliminated on N 12th Street between Jericho Turnpike and Park Avenue, including the no parking restrictions on Park Avenue. That would allow people to park closer to Jericho Turnpike.

Residents, Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan, reported that since the signs went up on Park Avenue, LIRR commuters park on N 12th Street and residents can't park in front of their own homes. Another resident added that those cars aren't parked there for a short period of time, they stay there all day and no tickets are issued. Another resident mentioned that a car parked on the corner of N 12th Street and Lowell Avenue is never ticketed even though it's parked there every day. The resident was upset they get ticketed over night while others don't. Tr. Coppola explained that since streets are empty during the night it's easier for the Code Officer to spot an illegally parked vehicle.

A resident commented that she liked that there is no parking on the street at night; but she does not appreciate that she is unable to park on her street during the day as if she was living in Queens.

Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan commented that parking has gotten worse in the last six months.

Mayor Montreuil explained that during the day code enforcement targets hot spots when it comes to parking. Otherwise a lot of residents would get tickets for leaving their car out on the street for longer than 4 hours. Residents would get caught up. A code enforcement officer cannot discriminate even if they knew that the car belonged to a resident. The challenge is that when one problem gets fixed, for example the parking situation on Park Avenue, the parking problems get spread out elsewhere. The Village Board will have to take a look at the parking situation. The problem has been that Jericho Turnpike does not have enough commercial parking. And the people living close to Jericho Turnpike have the same rights as every other resident of the Village and should have access to their curb too. The Mayor said that he looked into designating business parking, for example 'for dental office only', but by law it is not possible.

Dr. Zatz pointed out that by implementing alternate side parking on Park Avenue, 50% of parking spots were eliminated while the demand for parking has stayed the same. Therefore, people are moving up the block and parking in front of residences. He requested that the Board eliminate alternate side parking on Park Avenue. Dr. Zatz stated that he has already lost 5 patients and their families because of problems they have finding parking. It is difficult for him to run a small business to support his family. He is requesting the Board reconsider and identify a solution to alleviate some of the parking difficulties.

Resident Rosemary Hudson commented that if alternate side parking on Park Avenue is revoked it will be impassable if cars are parked on both sides of the street. N 11th Street has parked cars all day and no one there can park in front of their house. Her concern is that if parking regulations are changed on Park Avenue it will be hard to drive up and down that street with a car approaching.

A resident suggested the Village purchase property on Jericho Turnpike that could be used for parking. She would be willing to take a tax increase to see that happen. Mayor Montreuil shared that The Board is looking into ways of solving some of the parking difficulties.

Resident, Mr. Duhl of N 12th Street disagreed with suggestions of eliminating alternative side parking on Park Avenue as he believes doing so would only push off the problem to the street he resides on. He reported that starting about 4:30 pm his street fills up with patrons of the local restaurants who park illegally, sometimes blocking driveways. He believes that eliminating the alternative side parking will only exacerbate the problem with parking they already have. Because of these parking problems, a survey was sent out. Mr. Duhl felt that the survey was unclear and many people didn't answer it correctly for that reason. He suggests that all of N 12th Street should have alternative side parking at all times. There is not ample parking for the restaurants located on Jericho Turnpike between Ingraham Lane and N

11th Street, so patrons park on residential streets. At the bare minimum Mr. Duhl requests alternate side parking. The rest of the residents that live on N 12th Street did not agree with that suggestion, and would rather it stay that way it is then become alternate side parking at all times.

The Mayor explained that parking changes are a delicate game. If one section of a particular street is changed it will affect another. That is why the Village Board is vigilant on the decisions they make and how it will affect the residents. Tr. Coppola proposed a more rigorous code enforcement and the Mayor agreed with him. Mayor Montreuil warned that being a resident will not preclude anyone from getting a ticket if they are in violation of the parking code.

A resident asked for an update on the new DPW building. Mayor Montreuil spoke to Senator Kaplan who is working vigorously to obtain government funding on behalf of the Village. The Mayor said he is very encouraged that it is progressing.

There being no further business or public participation, upon motion by Trustee Coppola, seconded by Trustee Squicciarino, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting ended at 9:23 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lara Verbanac

Research Assistant to the Board