

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 16, 2020**

**Present:** Mayor Montreuil  
Deputy Mayor Squicciarino  
Trustee Pallisco  
Trustee Burger  
Thomas P. Gannon, Supt. DPW & Building Department  
Cathryn Hillmann, Village Clerk-Treasurer  
Lara Verbanac, Research Assistant to the Board

**Absent:** Trustee Coppola

Mayor Montreuil opened the Board Meeting at 8:10 pm following the Pledge of Allegiance.

At Mayor Montreuil's request Deputy Mayor Donna Squicciarino was asked to lead the Board Meeting.

**Minutes:**

Upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Pallisco, the Board Minutes from January 2, 2020 were unanimously approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:**

- A request was granted for the Katie McBride Foundation to hold the annual 5K Katie's Run Fundraiser on Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. The run/walk will begin at the NHP Funeral Home and end in Memorial Park, where the post-race activities will also take place.
- A request was granted for the NHP Little League to use the William Gill Theatre on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 12 pm for uniform pick up.
- A request was granted for the NHP Little League to hold their annual parade on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. The parade will travel west on Jericho Turnpike to Covert Avenue, turning south on Covert Avenue, then west on Stewart Avenue to Nuzzi Park.

**License Renewals:**

**Restaurant: Approved**

Gino's of New Hyde Park – 1113 Jericho Turnpike  
Chef Wang – 1902 Jericho Turnpike  
Dunkin Donuts – 61 Jericho Turnpike  
Nova Asian Bistro Inc. – 1215 Jericho Turnpike  
The Inn at New Hyde Park – 214 Jericho Turnpike

**Dance: Approved**

Gino's of New Hyde Park – 1113 Jericho Turnpike  
The Inn at New Hyde Park – 214 Jericho Turnpike

**Trustee Coppola:** Absent – No report was given

**Trustee Pallisco:**

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

Because no cases were submitted in time for the January 15<sup>th</sup> hearing the meeting was canceled.

The next meeting for Zoning Board will be February 12<sup>th</sup>, with one case on the docket.

- 104 Hillside Boulevard – the applicant is seeking approval to construct two second story additions and a roof over the existing rear yard brick patio. The applicant is also requesting 36” brick walls to be added to the perimeter of the patio.

**Architectural Review Board**

The following cases were presented at the January 8<sup>th</sup> hearing:

- 645 Stewart Avenue – approval was granted to applicant seeking permission to add a second story to his residence.
- 1302 Washington Avenue – a decision was tabled for the applicant seeking a second story addition due to the changes suggested by the ARB. Amended plans will be submitted before the next meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Beautification Committee**

Trustee Pallisco thanked a local business owner Joe Palazzolo for his generous donation toward replacing the Christmas wreaths with new Christmas Lights and Snowflakes for next season.

**Trustee Burger:**

Prior to giving his reports he encouraged the Village residents present at the Board Meeting to sign up for ‘Katie’s Run’ and participate in the event.

**Building Report**

- Village Court was held on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. Seven cases were heard involving illegal use of a single-family home, working without a permit, and a pool installation without a permit.
- The next Village Court will be held on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Eight cases will be heard.
- There was no Special Use application submitted for consideration at the last board meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- There have been 29 permits in total approved and issued from January 2<sup>nd</sup> to January 16<sup>th</sup>.

**LIRR**

- Along the right of way utility poles were placed. Pictures were taken and counts were done that will be checked against the original plans and pole drawings.
- Wall construction continues on the South side from 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue heading east. During the construction period about 10-12 trucks will be entering and exiting the construction zone. The trucks should be staged off site. If residents notice staging taking place within the area they should call Village Hall to report it.
- New Hyde Park Road is scheduled to close on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be closed for approximately 7 months. It will be a complete road closure without a temporary bypass road. The Village Board is not happy about the

closure, but after the last meeting with 3TC all options were reviewed and because of safety concerns it was decided that closing the road would be safer.

- The temporary road which was originally planned would have been closed 40% of the time so excavation could be done; therefore constant road closures would become too confusing to the drivers.
- Several months will be saved on the construction schedule with full closure of New Hyde Park Road cutting it down from 9 months to 7 months.
- Station remodeling and platform work originally scheduled for 2022 will start ahead of time since 3TC will be able to work on the station at the same time they work on the New Hyde Park grade crossing.
- The Village Board and 3TC are working on extensive outreach informing the public of the New Hyde Park Road closure, as well as reaching outside of our community to inform transient drivers to avoid the area. Additionally media outlets like News 12 and Newsday have been contacted. Detour signs will be placed further out and utilization of the Electronic Messaging Boards like the ones found on the LIE and Sothern State Parkway will be utilized.
- Temporary station platforms will be opening on February 3<sup>rd</sup> coinciding with the New Hyde Park Road closure which will push the station westward between S 12<sup>th</sup> Street and Covert Avenue.
- The negotiation with Holy Spirit Church for the use of their parking lot is in its final stages. The Village Board is confident it will be ready in time for February 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- In regards to the S 12<sup>th</sup> Street traffic mitigation the Village Board is working with 3TC and Stantec on various options including:
  - The Village Board received some updated Traffic Mitigation Plans that are being reviewed.
  - Speed bumps have been purchased and will be placed on S 12<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - Turning lanes will be added on the corner of S 12<sup>th</sup> Street and Jericho Turnpike.
  - The Village Board is also working with DOT on signal timing to alleviate congestion.
- Trustee Burger encouraged the residents to pay attention to e-blasts, check the community outreach website and especially the Village Website for new information.
- Work continues on Covert Avenue. Trustee Pallisco and Trustee Burger were out with 3TC to review open items, including looking into the replacement of the 30 trees that have been lost since the construction project started. The trees will be replaced based on their girth.
- There is no update on the Electrical Substation. As it was last reported the construction is not scheduled to start until September 2020.

### **Water Authority**

There will be a board meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup>. Station 57 Rehabilitation Project including 1,4-dioxane removal will be kicking off this year. Estimated value of the project will be \$15M.

### **Veterans Affairs**

There are no meetings scheduled for January and February with the American Legion Post #1089. Next meeting will be in March. There are 3 upcoming events:

- February 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4 Chaplains Ceremony at Notre Dame Church
- February 15<sup>th</sup> – Nassau County American Legion Military Ball
- March 14<sup>th</sup> – Day at the Races of Northport Veterans Home

**Trustee Squicciarino:**

**Village Clerk's Office**

Coin Meter Collection	\$8,669.51
Court Fines	\$34,667.00
IPS Vouchers	\$26,542.00
Parking Permits	\$13,750.00
2019/20 Taxes Paid	\$2,277.57
Interest Penalties Paid	\$126.00
3TC Parking Rev. Reimbursement	\$43,816.00 (pending)

February 18<sup>th</sup> is Tax Grievance Day for 2020/21. Office hours for the Tax Assessor will be from 9 am to 4 pm with evening appointment from 6 pm to 9 pm. All evening appointments must be scheduled in advance.

Our next Board Meeting will be on February 6<sup>th</sup>. The Village's auditor, Bill Barrett will give a short presentation of last year's findings.

The 2020 Greater New Hyde Park Chamber President Gala was held at The Inn at New Hyde Park welcoming their new president Rina Gulati and bidding farewell to their departing president Jeanette Frisina. Mayor Montreuil, Trustee Squicciarino and Trustee Pallisco attended.

**Library**

Upcoming Programs:

Yoga – Monday and Wednesday's at 7 pm through the end of February

Author Deborah Burns Talk and Book Signing – January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm

Zumba – Mondays at 5:45 pm through the end of March

Superintendent Tom Gannon reported that in anticipation of the snow storm being reported for this upcoming weekend DPW is preparing their trucks with plows and salt.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**19-74 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #19-18**

**19-75 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN ACCOUNT CODES**

**19-76 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A BUDGET OFFICER AND ESTABLISHING THE TENTATIVE BUDGET HEARING DATE**

**19-77 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE CLERK-TREASURER TO ADVERTISE A SPECIAL USE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020 AT 7:30 PM**

**New Business:**

There was none

**Old Business:**

Right before the Christmas break the Village Board received notification from Legislator Richard Nicoletto that the Village will be receiving a \$75,000 grant which will be used to purchase an emergency generator for the Village Hall.

## **Public Participation:**

A resident of the Village thanked Mayor Montreuil for speaking with EJ Electric in regards to the construction noise late the previous night. EJ Electric stopped about 30 minutes after the Mayor spoke to them. The resident also questioned whether the wooden poles that were placed over night are in the plans. Trustee Burger stated that wooden poles were in the original plans submitted to the Village.

Additionally the resident is concerned that the 3TC storage center on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue needs to be moved because it poses a hazard with drivers coming down S 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Since trucks are being loaded there drivers have no way of getting around and their only option is to turn into oncoming traffic. Superintendent Tom Gannon stated that a request was sent to 3TC to clear the area.

The resident also wanted to know why tractor trailers are using roads other than 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue which was designated as a tractor trailer route. No police is present to give out tickets when the trucks are utilizing roads they aren't supposed to. Additionally the trucks sit there and idle for long periods of time. New York State Law states that trucks are not allowed to idle for more than 5 minutes.

Mayor Montreuil stated that EJ Electric was given a summons for excessive noise. The Village Board will be looking into the truck traffic.

Resident Sam Khoury thanked Trustee Burger for sharing the traffic design plan for Plaza Avenue. Trustee Burger stated that he will be speaking with 3TC in regards to a left turn Mr. Khoury was concerned about in the traffic design plan. Mr. Khoury believes that the pedestrian maps that were shared by 3TC are insufficient because they don't detail entrances and handicap ramps so people can get on to the temporary platforms. Additionally there was no map provided for local traffic to be able to maneuver around the closure, for example UPS or FedEx deliveries. Trustee Burger stated that there is an inset for the immediate area around the construction zone but it has too much detail. 3TC and Stantec will have to provide a cleaned up version of the map to be released to the public.

Additionally Mr. Khoury wanted to know if the temporary parking lots that were mentioned will be outlined on the maps 3TC will provide, especially the Church parking lot. Since Holy Spirit Church has many parking lots people may mistakenly use the wrong one. Trustee Burger stated that flyers will be handed out to commuters to direct them to the right parking lot.

A resident questioned why robo-calls weren't sent out to announce the 3TC presentation on December 21, 2019. She felt that if the community received robo-calls there would have been more public participation. Mayor Montreuil stated that the 3TC presentation has been placed on the Village website. The Mayor also attended the Lakeville Estates Civic Association who invited 3TC to give the same presentation they gave at the Village Board Meeting. Mayor Montreuil spoke to the POP officers from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, who were also in attendance, about the police presence that will be needed around the construction area, especially once New Hyde Park Road is closed and the temporary station opens to the west. There will be more activity, confusion and traffic congestion in that area. Additionally the Village attorneys are looking into whether or not it would be possible to contract out other police units, for example Floral Park Police Department.

A resident inquired why the MTA Police doesn't enforce traffic when it's their project. Trustee Burger stated that the Village Board has in the past addressed those concerns with the MTA but their jurisdiction is only within the right of way. A resident who is in the transportation industry added that their jurisdiction is within a mile of the right of way. Trustee Burger will be checking with the MTA to confirm.

A resident asked if the temporary parking lots that will be opening up in February will all be voucher lots. Trustee Squicciarino stated that the parking lot at Holy Spirit Church will be a commuter lot (voucher/kiosk), not resident parking.

A resident wanted to know if there is an update on a meeting she hoped to set up with Showbiz Trucking to discuss them parking their trucks in front of her house. Mayor Montreuil recalled that when the meeting was to be set up not everyone was available so he will circle back and speak to Showbiz Trucking to get some dates where everyone is available to meet. Showbiz is interested to meet with the people residing near their business.

Resident Mike Morrissey is concerned why the trucking company in his neighborhood does not utilize the storage building that is designated for them. There is space in the building but instead all their trucks and cars are parked outside on the streets. Mayor Montreuil informed Mr. Morrissey that the Village Attorneys and the Building Department investigated and determined that the building is being used in accordance with its permitted use.

Resident Diane Bentivegna wanted to confirm that there will be no traffic light placed on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Covert Avenue. The Mayor stated that the Village Board is still requesting a light at that intersection. After the closure of New Hyde Park Road and the traffic increase on Covert Avenue, the intersection will be re-investigated. Ms. Bentivegna is concerned that something tragic will happen on that corner because Nassau County keeps denying the Village their request to place a light there. The Mayor stated that a traffic light was first requested about 10 years ago and denied by Nassau County. More recent there was another analysis done and the light was denied again because Nassau County determined that not enough traffic travels the road to warrant a light. The Village placed a four way stop sign in that intersection but now traffic stalls because everyone has to stop. For that reason Mayor Montreuil requested that 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct send officers to that area to enforce traffic.

Ms. Bentivegna also inquired if anything was going to be done about the blind spot on the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Covert Avenue. Trustee Burger stated that aside from signage that will be placed there, a mirror will also be installed at that corner to help with the blind spot. Mayor Montreuil added that a pedestrian crosswalk will be added on to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.

Ms. Bentivegna also inquired if drivers will be allowed to go down 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues once New Hyde Park Road is closed to traffic. Mayor Montreuil stated that traffic will be allowed to turn onto those Avenues, however those Avenues will not be used for through traffic. 3TC will be placing a sign at Stewart Avenue that will direct everyone away from New Hyde Park Road except for residents who live on 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues. A traffic study was done on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue showing that an average 6 cars an hour travel the road but with the closure of New Hyde Park Road the number would rise to 127 cars per hour. For that reason the New Hyde Park Road detour signs will be placed at Stewart Avenue. The Village Board is looking into various ways to prevent cut-through traffic near the construction area and will be meeting with numerous agencies to determine who will have jurisdiction when issues arise during the construction period.

Mayor Montreuil stated that when he was at the Lake Success Civic Association meeting he made it clear that when New Hyde Park Road construction starts, drivers should avoid the New Hyde Park area if possible. Newsday was present to do a story on the closure and hopefully the word will get out so drivers are discouraged from using New Hyde Park as a cut-through from North Shore to South Shore, and vice versa. Additionally the truck traffic that usually travels New Hyde Park Road is being detoured onto Covert Avenue which the Village Board does not agree with. Trucks should be detoured onto Nassau Boulevard and not Covert Avenue. Trustee Burger added that the Village Board is requesting 3TC utilize signs on the highways to inform drivers to avoid this area.

Mayor Montreuil announced that from January through June 2020 National Grid will be doing work on Jericho Turnpike and periodically closing one lane. The Mayor expressed his concern to the New York State DOT in charge

of Jericho Turnpike who believes that the work being done by National Grid should not cause a problem. The Mayor will be meeting with DOT again to express his concern.

There was a discussion by several residents on whether or not the Village has enough Code Enforcement officers. Superintendent Gannon stated that there are 3 officers, 2 that cover the daytime hours and 1 who works overnight.

A resident stated that she came across 4 meters covered with white garbage bags which she removed. Superintendent Gannon stated that those are spots 3TC is utilizing and the bags should not be removed. The Mayor added that 3TC pays for the usage of those spots.

A resident requested that the week New Hyde Park Road closes, the area should be patrolled by Nassau County Police. The Mayor and Board will be discussing that at the upcoming interagency meeting. Another resident wanted to know if there will be responsibilities assigned when various issues arise. The Mayor stated that is one of the reasons the meeting will be taking place; to get all the people involved in one place to discuss all the potential problems, how they will be handled, and by whom.

A resident inquired what the plan was for S 12<sup>th</sup> Street going north from Stewart Avenue, after New Hyde Park Road is closed. Trustee Burger stated that the detour plan has traffic being routed either to Covert Avenue, Nassau Boulevard or Denton Avenue. Drivers won't be routed to S 12<sup>th</sup> Street and speed bumps will be installed to discourage people using S 12<sup>th</sup> Street as a cut through road. Trustee Burger and Mayor Montreuil did discuss placing one way signage on 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues to prevent drivers to cut across to get onto S 12<sup>th</sup> Street. The resident also inquired how rodents will be handled if they start appearing near the construction area. Trustee Burger commented that there is a Rodent Control Plan in place. Mayor Montreuil added that if any rodents are spotted residents should call the 3TC hotline and report it so that more traps can be placed to control the infestation.

A resident requested that when the station is completed, the platform shelters should not be closed off on all four sides because it will become a place where homeless people can take residence. Mayor Montreuil stated that 3TC and the MTA have not provided the final plans for the station and platform. The Board has requested to see the plans before works starts. When the meeting was held about a year ago the Board requested that the New Hyde Park Station have a similar look to Stewart Manor but no final plan has been submitted to the Village Board.

A resident inquired what can be done if she gets house damage because of the vibration near the construction zone. Trustee Burger instructed that she should put in a survey request with 3TC to get her house inspected. That way if there is damage caused by the construction project, 3TC will be responsible to fix the damage. Superintendent Gannon added that she might not have received the initial survey paperwork from 3TC because she is not immediately located next to the construction zone but she has a right to reach out to them and inquire about it.

Resident Bess Giordano commented that when the project is complete the damage done to the homes may not be visible right away but may appear later on once 3TC is gone. What rights do the residents have then? Mayor Montreuil stated that in the Community Benefit there is a \$10 million reserve for problems that surface after the project is complete.

There being no further business or public participation, upon motion by Trustee Burger, seconded by Trustee Pallisco, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting ended at 9:34 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Lara Verbanac*

Research Assistant to the Board