

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 27, 2020**

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

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.

Mayor Montreuil introduced the Eagle Scouts from Troop #544 who gave a presentation on the use of the American Flag and how to properly display it.

Minutes:

Upon motion by Trustee Burger, seconded by Trustee Squicciarino, the Board Minutes from February 6, 2020 were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

- A request was granted for the NHP Republican Club to use Marcus Christ Hall on Thursday, March 5, 2020 from 7–9 pm. Guest Speakers will be Nassau County Legislator R. Nicoletto and Assemblyman E. Ra who will speak on the new bail reform.
- A request was granted for the use of the E-board by the New Hyde Park-Garden City Park School District to announce Kindergarten Registration.

License Renewals: Approved

Landscaper License:

Alvarado Landscaping – 35 Old Stewart Avenue, Garden City Park

Junior Landscaping – 88-15 179 Street, Jamaica

J & R Landscaping & Design – 119 Crown Avenue, Elmont

M. Aguilar Landscaping – 499 Hawthorne Avenue, Uniondale

Sandro’s Landscaping - PO Box 40, New Hyde Park

Jose’s Lawn Care Corp - 46 Hill Avenue, Elmont

HAO - 1642 Jasmine Avenue, New Hyde Park

M. Ramirez Landscaping – 14 E. Greenwich Avenue, Roosevelt

Ron Nadolny Landscaping Inc. – 137 Locust Street, Floral Park

Scarpati Landscapes Inc. – 42 Salisbury Avenue, Stewart Manor

Abel Landscaping – 11 Farm Lane, Levittown
Jose Landscaping – 167 Dikeman Street, Hempstead
Fuschetto Landscaping Inc. – 81 James Street, Franklin Square
Hicks Nurseries – 100 Jericho Tpke, Westbury
Jose Antonio Escobar Landscaping – 468 William Floyd Pkwy, Shirley
We Care Tree Service – 2751 Grand Avenue, Bellmore
Precision Landscaping and Design Inc. – 64 Michel Avenue, Farmingdale
McNulty Outdoors Inc. – 99 Lakeville Road, New Hyde Park
Community Landscaping – 15 Elk, Hempstead
New Images Landscaping – 41 Madison Street, Franklin Square
Benavides Landscaping – 8 Holly Lane, Westbury
Charles Maleh Landscape and Design – 341-15 85th Road, Bellrose
Galdino’s Landscaping – 139-55 35th Street, Flushing
Lino’s Landscaping – 32-18 99th Street, East Elmont
Rosali Landscaping – 94-09 215th Street, Queens Village
Nation Wide Land-Service – 148 Patterson Avenue, Hempstead
Hines and Zaffarese Landscaping – 150 Broadway, Garden City Park
Martir R. Landscaping – PO Box 45, Lawrence
MM Bari Landscaping Inc. – 1058 Lydia Lane, Franklin Square
Rose and Thorn Landscaping – 696 Lenore Lane, Elmont
Nedy’s Landscaping – 727 Jerusalem Avenue, Uniondale
Antonio Lopez Landscaping and Gardening – 95 Lucille Avenue, Elmont
Mario and Aleydi Landscaping Inc. – 21 South Lerisa Street, Bethpage
Julio Lawn Care Inc. – 18 Bedford Avenue, Elmont
M&L Gisonda Inc. – 785 3rd Avenue, Franklin Square
Rosario Castellano Landscaping – 35 North 11th Street, New Hyde Park
Ciampa Landscaping and Construction Inc. – 187-39 87 Road, Jamaica Estates
Mezzaucella Contractors Corp. – 36 Barrymore Blvd., Franklin Square
Ramalhete and Sons Landscaping Inc. – PO Box 418, Williston Park
Victor Landscaping Inc. – 92-07 Springfield Blvd, Queens Village

Trustee Coppola:

Little League

The new season for Little League is about to begin. There will be a meeting on March 5th prior to the Special Use Hearing with the Village Board. The Little League Parade was approved and will be held on April 18th. The original route of the parade had to be changed because of the New Hyde Park Road closing.

Nassau County Police

- Trustee Coppola thanked the Nassau County and 3rd Precinct Police Department for their daily presence in the area, especially the S 12th Street train crossing. He was very pleased with the good job they have been doing and the help they have been providing the residents of the Village.

Auxiliary Police

He thanked the Auxiliary Police for all the support they provide the Village of New Hyde Park.

Community Day

- The date has been set for Community Day, which will be held in Memorial Park on September 26, 2020. Trustee Coppola, Village Clerk/Treasurer Hillmann, and Lara Verbanac met with Northwell Health who will be the official sponsors of the event. They will be present at the event and will offer services including free flu shots to the attendees.
- In regards to Community Day the Mayor announced that any resident interested in volunteering for Community Day should contact Trustee Coppola or Lara Verbanac. Trustee Squicciarino added that if residents have any suggestions on how to make Community Day better they should get in touch with the organizers.

Fire Department

- Annual subscription mailers have been sent out and residents can make annual donations to the New Hyde Park Fire Department.
- They ask that residents stay vigilant and safe, especially with the seriousness of the Coronavirus.
- He warned that the paper masks that people are wearing are not going to provide protection from the Coronavirus. The NHPFD has specialized masks (N-95) which are made to better fit over people's faces.
- He encouraged everyone to wash their hands for 20 seconds and use tissues when sneezing.
- There is a lot of unknown about the Coronavirus and the news is making people panic.

National Grid will be working on Jericho Turnpike between New Hyde Park Road and Lakeville Road. The work will be done at night with periodical closure of one eastbound or one westbound lane. They have not provided a timeline for the project. Trustee Burger added that PSEG and National Grid were supposed to be doing work on Jericho Turnpike for an extensive amount of time. PSEG has postponed their work for now. Their work would have required lane closures during the daytime hours. Mayor Montreuil added that the Village Board protested the work because of the New Hyde Park Road closure and he will be speaking with the CEO of National Grid to see if the work can be reconsidered for the time being. Superintendent Tom Gannon added that 3TC and MTA reached out to National Grid when they noticed that workers were closing one of the lanes during the daytime hours. Subsequently the lane was opened up.

Mayor Montreuil added that he met with the County Executive and commended Commanding Officer Inspector Musetich and the 3rd Precinct Police Department for the great work he and his officers have been doing since the closure of New Hyde Park Road.

Trustee Pallisco:

Zoning Board of Appeals

The last meeting was held on February 12th, where the following case was presented:

- 104 Hillside Boulevard – the applicant is seeking to construct two second story additions, a construction of a roof over an existing rear patio, and a 36” brick wall to be added to the perimeter of the patio.
- 1631 Jericho Turnpike – the applicant is proposing to operate a fitness training center. Village code dictates that for such use there be adequate parking spaces provided.
- 16 S 6th Street – the applicant is seeking approval to subdivide the existing parcel in order to alter the existing building for use of a banquet hall. Based on Village code it requires a total of 21 off-street parking spaces. Additionally the applicant seeks approval from the Board of Trustees as a Special Use for the serving and consumption of food on the premises. The Special Use hearing will be held next week prior to the Village Board Meeting.

The next Zoning Board meeting will be March 11th, with two cases on the docket.

Architectural Review Board

The last meeting was held on February 5th, where the following case was presented:

- 1302 Washington Avenue – originally tabled decision for the applicant seeking a second story, was approved when amended plans were submitted for consideration.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 4th.

Trustee Burger:

Building Report

- Village Court was held on Wednesday, February 19th. There were 12 cases heard involving illegal use of a single-family home, property maintenance, pool installation without a permit, violation of special exception, illegal signage, illegally parked on lawn, excessive noise, and failure to maintain a proper worksite.
- The next Village Court will be held on March 18th with 12 cases on the docket.
- There was no Special Use application submitted for consideration at the last board meeting on January 16th. And one Special Use application that was heard tonight prior to the Board Meeting.
- There have been 34 permits in total approved and issued from February 5th to February 27th.

Veterans Affairs

There are no meetings scheduled for January and February with the American Legion Post #1089. Then next meeting will be held in March. There will be ‘A Day at the Races’ event held on March 14th at the Northport Veterans Home. Refreshments will be served to the attendees.

Water Authority

There was a Board Meeting on February 24th. Station 57 Rehabilitation Project including 1,4-dioxane removal will be kicking off most likely March 2020. Bid packages to be completed and released in late February.

LIRR

New Hyde Park Road closed on February 3rd and will stay closed for 7 months. It is scheduled to open Labor Day weekend.

- Excavation on New Hyde Park Road has begun.
- Old station platforms have been demolished.
- Piles are being driven in and the Village Board has received some noise complaints from residents near the construction zone because some of the work was being done during the night.
 - 3TC has weekly telecoms with Trustee Burger and Mayor Montreuil informing them of when night work will be done.
 - Residents living near the construction zone should be getting leaflets announcing the work.
 - There is a noise mitigation plan that states that night work can be done if notified and the noise level should not exceed 80 decibels.
 - A total of 12 noise and dust meters have been deployed throughout the area.
 - Noise Mitigation Blankets have been deployed per the mitigation plan.
 - Several residents have asked for surveys of their homes to include the installation of vibration monitors if deemed necessary.
 - Trustee Burger requested to see the meter reading report.
- There have been issues with idling trucks near the construction zone. 3TC has been addressing the matter with the Area Managers. Additionally Superintendent Gannon spoke to NYS DEC to notify them of the

violation. The POP officers were also notified so they can ticket the drivers who do not follow the law by not shutting their trucks down while waiting.

- The traffic mitigation plan has been working well. There is slightly more traffic this past week with school back in session. The Village Board will have to look into placing some ‘don’t block the box’ signs and striping on Covert Avenue. Especially intersections like 1st Avenue where drivers are having a hard time merging onto Covert Avenue.
- An issue was raised with 3TC regarding the removal of the VMS signs. They were removed after only 7 days and Trustee Burger is working on getting some of those back.
- There is still a punchlist of items that 3TC has to work on in regards to Covert Avenue.
 - Work on Covert Avenue has been slacking because attention has moved over to New Hyde Park Road so Trustee Burger will be setting up a meeting with 3TC to discuss the open items.
 - Graffiti has been removed from the underpass but the job was not done to the Village Boards satisfaction. There is still discoloration on the walls. A spec was sent to 3TC outlining the inhibitor that NYC is using when dealing with graffiti. 3TC is looking into it. The Mayor added that the product used must have been acetone based and ate through the graffiti and into the wall, therefore a shadow is visible on the wall. 3TC will be painting the wall to obscure the visible shadow. Additionally the Village is working with Nassau County to determine who will be responsible for the underpass in the future, given that Covert Avenue is a County Road.
- There has been some activity at the electrical substation. A transformer was removed, however the Village Board has not received a design yet.
- Architectural renderings were received by the Village Board regarding the new station platform designs. The Village Board is not thrilled with the designs. The renderings are too modern and not what the Village Board envisioned for the New Hyde Park rail road station. The Village Board will be meeting with 3TC to discuss changes and the final aesthetics of the station. The Mayor added that aesthetics are important to the Village. Even though the LIRR is looking to have all the stations have a similar look and feel the Village would like it to look more like Stewart Manor. The Village Board does have a say in the design of the station and 3TC seems amenable to listen.

The landscaping design was sent by 3TC for the Village Board to review. However during the Mayors meeting, held once a month, a topic arose about replacing the trees cut down by the project and how the replacement of trees and the area where they will be replanted was not what the Board envisioned. Trustee Pallisco will be setting up a meeting with 3TC to discuss the plan in detail.

Trustee Squicciarino:

Village Clerk’s Office

Coin Meter Collection	\$14,186.37
Court Fines	\$32,058.00
Issued Licenses	\$8,690.00
IPS Vouchers	\$16,800.00
Muni Meter Revenue	\$1,784.75
Parking Permits	\$3,220.00
Village Taxes Paid in February	\$24,987.03
Parking Reimbursement 3TC	\$70,121.00 (pending)

Additionally she shared parking ticket figures.

- January total for expired meter – 397 tickets

- January total for overtime parking – 94 tickets
- The Clerk’s Office is currently finalizing the tax roll. It will be available April 1, 2020.
- Little League will be starting April 1st. They will be using Memorial and Nuzzi parks.
- The E-board in front of Village Hall is not working and will be replaced. The new E-board will cost almost \$20 Thousand.
- Car Wash applications can be submitted starting March 1st.

Library

Upcoming Programs:

Free Tax Preparation (low income) – Saturdays, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 28, and April 4, 11 from Noon to 3 pm

Long and Lean will begin March 2nd and will run through the spring every Monday and Thursday from 10:30 am to 11:30 am. If you want to join, sign the registration sheets available at the beginning of every class.

Department of Public Works

Superintendent Tom Gannon commented that because of the mild winter we have been fortunate. It would have been difficult to navigate and clean up snow with the closure of New Hyde Park Road.

The DPW team removed 85 tree stumps in the Village. New trees will be planted in late-April weather permitting.

Mayor Montreuil:

Mayor Montreuil announced that the Village Board will be putting out an RFP for trash incineration. Our current provider will be raising the rates and the Village Board will be looking for a new provider. Our current rates have been locked until the end of 2020.

RESOLUTIONS:

19-97 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #19-21

19-98 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN BUDGETARY ACCOUNT CODES (NATIONAL GRID)

New Business:

There was none.

Old Business:

There was none.

Public Participation:

A resident inquired if cardboard has to be recycled and how should it be done. Superintendent Gannon explained that cardboard should be recycled with newspapers. After the RFP is released and a decision made about our new provider there is a possibility of change. Any change will be announced.

Resident Rosemary Hudson inquired if the Village will be purchasing new trash cans for Jericho Turnpike. The Mayor explained that the trash cans were removed because residents who live in apartments were throwing their house trash into public trash cans. There were cans left at large intersections and near bus stops. Houses with apartments must have proper trash receptacles for their tenants. The building department has been fining owners who did not provide them. Removing trash cans from Jericho Turnpike was the only way to manage the problem. Ms. Hudson asked if the Village can look into getting cans that have smaller slots so that large bags full of trash cannot be dumped inside. The Mayor and Board will look into that.

Another resident questioned if the Village Board has looked into composting. Superintendent Gannon stated that the Board has not looked into it but it definitely can. Additionally he shared that another municipality has tried to compost but the smell was too strong and the residents complained. The resident stated that the smell can be mitigated based on what is put in it for composting.

Resident Bess Giordano inquired why the vibration sensor installed by the right of way did not detect the vibration that was created by the construction even though her house was shaking. Trustee Burger inquired if she had gotten a survey, that way if there is any damage she can get compensated by 3TC after the construction project has been completed. Another resident added that she had a sensor installed in her home that kept indicating that it was 'within normal range'. She had a survey and an insurance inspection but no follow-up from 3TC since the beginning of January.

Resident Diane Bentivegna:

- Questioned if the application of the inhibitor to remove the graffiti can be affected by the temperature outside. The day it was applied it was 25F. Another resident commented that it should not be applied in temperatures lower than 40F because it will not work as it was intended.
- Inquired if the Fire Department trains in crisis situations such as chemical disasters. If the third track starts transporting dangerous chemicals and there is a derailment. Trustee Coppola will be speaking to the Chief to inquire. Trustee Pallisco added that most derailments happen near a track switch and New Hyde Park does not have any track switches. There is one switch in Bellerose Terrace and another one by Tanners Pond Road. Additionally freight trains are not allowed to pass through New Hyde Park faster than 30 MPH.
- Inquired if residents can donate to the tree fund to memorialize a family member. Trustee Pallisco shared that every year the Lion's Club donates funds to plant trees.

Mayor Montreuil added that he will be speaking with Travis Brennon from 3TC regarding the landscaping plan. The Village Board wants to plant trees supplied by 3TC not only by the construction zone but disperse them throughout the Village, if the number of trees are more than are needed near the rail road station.

Resident Bess Giordano questioned if the tree that was cut down by 6th Avenue and the right of way will be replaced. Mayor Montreuil would like to replace all the trees that have been cut down during the construction period.

A resident inquired if one of the two electric poles will be removed that sit in front of her house as was promised by 3TC. Trustee Burger will look into it for her.

Resident Diane Bentivenga inquired what is next for the Village once the construction project is complete. The Mayor explained that the first thing will be the landscaping plan that will be worked on. He will also meet with

Nassau County to determine who will be responsible for the underpass. She also inquired if there are any plans for the corridor. Mayor Montreuil stated that an RFP will have to be released to obtain a consulting company to help with planning the corridor.

A resident inquired if drivers will be able to turn onto Clinch Avenue after the construction has been completed. Mayor Montreuil informed him that there will be a dedicated left turning lane for Clinch Avenue. Once the project is complete New Hyde Park Road will have 2 southbound lanes, 2 northbound lanes and one left turning lane onto Clinch Avenue. The big concern for the Village has always been that cars get stuck on the track while turning onto Clinch Avenue. With the new underpass that will not be happening any longer.

A resident was concerned that if the speed bumps are installed on S 12th Street it will do a lot of damage to cars. The Mayor informed the resident that even though the Village Board has considered speed bumps they have not been installed. They will only be installed if the need arises to make it uncomfortable for drivers who are using the road as a cut through. Additionally the speed bumps are portable so they can be placed on the road and removed at any time.

Resident Diane Bentivegna wanted to thank the 3rd Precinct Police Department and the MTA Police for being present and enforcing traffic by the S 12th Street rail road crossing. The Mayor added that they have been present every day since New Hyde Park Road closing and requested their superiors allow them to stay longer to mitigate traffic.

A resident informed the Village Board that she spoke to Judy White who informed her that the requested windows on the platforms shelters will be installed next week. However she stated that she was told that the Village is supposed to take care of the lack of lighting by S 12th Street. Mayor Montreuil informed her that the Village is taking care of the lighting problems by the S 12th Street rail road crossing and 3TC is responsible for the lighting by the new platforms.

The resident also inquired if the mulch by the swings in Memorial Park will be replaced. The indentations under the swings are too deep and small kids have a hard time getting on the swings. Deputy Mayor Squicciarino informed her that it will be replaced before the parks open for the season. Additionally the resident wanted to know if self-latching gates can be installed by the playground so small kids don't wander out into the street. The Village Board will look into the self-latching gates.

A resident questioned if there are water issues in New Hyde Park. Trustee Burger explained that the Water Authority is working on a new filtration system, a project that will cost \$15 Million, which will remove the 1,4-dioxane from our water. The project will be kicking off this year.

Trustee Pallisco reminded the residents that there is a collection box in the Village Hall if anyone needs to discard their American Flag.

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 9:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lara Verbanac

Research Assistant to the Board