

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
January 21, 2021**

This meeting was presented via Zoom Remote Conferencing due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

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

Absent: Trustee Coppola

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 Trustee Burger, seconded by Trustee Pallisco, the Board Meeting Minutes from January 7, 2021 were unanimously approved.

Mayor Montreuil introduced Bill Barrett, Village of New Hyde Park auditor from Rynkar, Vail & Barrett to present the findings of the 2019-2020 fiscal audit. Bill Barrett outlined the audit findings including Management Analysis, Village Financial Statement, Balance Sheet, and Income Statement. Mr. Barrett concluded that the audit findings were unremarkable and the Village of New Hyde Park is in excellent financial position.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

License Renewals:

Carter: APPROVED

Liotta and Sons Inc. – 3699 Long Beach Road, Island Park
Certified Carting Inc. – 30 Harold Ct., Bay Shore
S&M Prompt Rubbish Removal Service – 228 Miller Ave, Freeport
AM Waste Services – 40 Eads Street, West Babylon

Restaurant / Public Assembly: APPROVED

Dunkin Donuts – 601 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park
Gino's of New Hyde Park – 1113 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park
Nova Asian Bistro – 1215 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park
The Inn at New Hyde Park – 214 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

Taco Bell #3180 – 1650 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

Dance Hall: APPROVED

Gino's of New Hyde Park – 1113 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

The Inn at New Hyde Park – 214 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Coppola: Absent. No report provided.

Trustee Pallisco:

Zoning Board of Appeals

- The last meeting of the Zoning Board was scheduled for January 13, 2021. With no cases on the docket, the meeting was canceled.
- The next meeting of the Zoning Board is scheduled for February 10, 2021, with one case on the docket:
 - 500 N 3rd Street – The applicant is seeking approval to maintain a second above grade kitchen that was being utilized by their mother under a special exception permit. The applicant is now requesting that their son utilize the space.

Architectural Review Board

- The last meeting of the Architectural Review Board was held on January 6, 2021, with three cases on the docket.
- The next meeting is scheduled to be held on February 3, 2021, with two cases on the docket:
 - 21 N 10th Street – The applicant is proposing a subdivision to construct two single family homes.
 - 402 Brown Place – The applicant is seeking to build a 2nd Story addition with interior alterations.

Beautification Committee

An additional donation was received from Joe Pallazzola bringing his total donation amount to \$5,000 to be used for the purchase of new holiday lights.

NHP Museum

- Mildred Tassone and Carol Nowakowski are currently working on a video presentation of the LIRR Project.
- Ellen LaRegina, former Village Public Information Officer, donated articles, pictures and posters to the NHP Museum.

Mayor Montreuil thanked Trustee Pallisco for the work he has been doing with the NHP Museum.

Trustee Burger:

Building Report

- The last Village building court hearing was held on January 20, 2021, via telephone conference. There were 22 cases on the docket, involving property maintenance, violation of special exception, working without a permit, illegal use of a single family home, power washing vehicles on Sunday morning, legalize and maintain a finished cellar, vending truck with no permit, and illegally parked on lawn.

- The next Village building court will be held on February 17, 2021 via telephone conference, with 14 cases on the docket.
- There have been 21 permits in total approved and issued from January 7th to January 21st.

Water Authority

- Demolition to the building at Station 57 was completed and debris from the site is being carted away. There has been some noise complaints while jackhammers were used during demolition.
- The trees removed from the site due to the construction will be replaced once the project is complete. There was a landscaping plan submitted to the Board of Trustees.
- Architectural style fencing will be installed which will match the same fencing used by the LIRR upon completion of their project.

Veterans Affairs

All events for American Legion Post 1089 have been canceled due to Covid-19 concerns. The Legionnaires are looking to the future and the next event to be schedule for Memorial Day. A Memorial Day mass will be held at Holy Spirit Church.

LIRR

- Work continues to move forward on the 3rd Track Project.
- Work continues on S 12th Street.
 - Installation of shoring piles was done in December 2020.
 - Pedestrian passageway will be prefabricated and will be pushed into place on April 21st. There will be a double track outage that weekend so the work can be completed.
 - MTA and 3TC announced that the pedestrian underpass should be opened to the public in September 2021.
 - There is no night work scheduled for January 2021.
 - There will be a track outage on the weekend of January 30th and again February 20th.
- There has been no new updates regarding the New Hyde Park Road underpass and the Plaza Avenue Parking Lot.
 - A flashing crosswalk sign request placed with Nassau County has been rejected. Residents are encouraged to contact the County and voice their concerns.
 - The ‘do not block the box’ sign request for the corner of S Park Place and New Hyde Park Road has been approved by Nassau County.
 - No updates have been received on the parking lot safety issues.
 - The Village Board requested the damaged asphalt in the parking lot be fixed before the parking lot is handed over to the Village for future operation.
- Construction continues to move forward on both the station house and the platforms.
 - The 10 car platforms are scheduled to open in March 2021 with the full 12 car platform opening after the completion of construction at S 12th Street, in September 2021.
- Wall construction is slated to start in late February or early March. The wall pieces are prefabricated and will be brought in by rail, so there will be no truck traffic when the wall construction starts.
- Truck access and parking plan for 2nd and 3rd Avenues are still a problem.
 - MTA and 3TC claim that no modifications can be done to the existing truck access.
 - Village Board is pushing for a solution and an updated design.
- Residents reported an issue at the G14 Substation on January 7th. Vibration equipment was used to remove the remainder of the shoring piles, however the residents were not made aware that the work was going to be happening.

- The Village Board requested the MTA send a detailed description of all future work so that residents can be alerted in advance.
- In February a prefabricated structure will be trucked in so that the substation construction can begin. MTA will send out a letter outlining the details of the delivery of materials, and how the prefabricated items will be staged and installed.
- Installation of the substation will be done during the daytime hours.
- Track route will be posted on the Village website.

Mayor Montreuil added that the truck route is still tentative and will be finalized by the MTA shortly.

- The materials are not being shipped by rail because they are too wide.
- Other substation installations on Long Island went smoothly.
- 3TC does not have a lot of control over the sub-contractors who are working the substation, therefore they were not aware of the lack of communication with the residents.
- There is now an onsite supervisor who is the Village’s contact person, when issues arise in the future.

Trustee Squicciarino:

Village Clerk’s Report

Coin Collection	\$10,690.00
Munimeter Revenue	\$10,026.40
Court Fines	\$30,253.50

Village Top Revenue Earners for the year are:

1. Taxes
2. Court Fines
3. Munimeter Collection
4. Coin Meter Collection
5. Per Capita (Revenue received from NY State)
 - It was announced that there is an expectation of a 20% cut of Per Capita revenue from the state for the year 2022.

Chamber of Commerce

Because of Covid-19 the Presidential Gala for 2021 was held virtually on January 21st at 6 pm. The new Chamber president was sworn in as well as the installation of new officers. Mayor Montreuil was recognized by County Executive Laura Curran and swore in several new officers.

Tax Grievance

Residents are reminded to grieve their taxes by February 16, 2021. Tax Assessors office will be open until 8 pm that evening.

Deputy Mayor Squicciarino encouraged everyone to download the GoGov app launched by the Village. Residents are reminded that they can document anything they see in the Village that they feel needs to be looked into, repaired, etc. Additionally they are able to report illegal rentals by using the app.

Mayor Montreuil:

Department of Public Works

- Since the start of the year, DPW has been doing road repairs, which will continue through the end of the month. There were several storm basin repairs done as well.
- Village parks have been cleaned up and 4 extra trash cans have been installed, per residential request.

The Harley Davidson application has been withdrawn by the applicant. The applicant has experienced financial difficulties and is going out of business.

- The Mayor wanted to thank the Village Board for their due diligence during this long and contentious process. The Board kept the project on track and all steps taken by the board were done in a timely matter. The process which usually takes 12 months, was substantially longer due to the time the applicant took responding to the Environmental Impact Statement.
- Because the applicant is no longer moving forward with the project, the Village didn't get left with a half completed project due to the financial difficulties the business is in.

The Master Plan will take about 12 months to complete. The consultants hired will be collecting data from the residents as well as learning what resident desires are for the area.

The owner who previously proposed to build an apartment building on 12th Street came back with a new request. He is requesting being allowed to build a storage facility on the property. The application will have to go to Special Use and Zoning Board for approval.

RESOLUTIONS:

20-67 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #20-18

20-68 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RECEIPT OF THE OUTSIDE VILLAGE AUDIT AND PUBLICATION OF A LEGAL NOTICE

20-69 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RECEIPT OF THE OUTSIDE COURT AUDIT AND PUBLICATION OF A LEGAL NOTICE

20-70 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE CLERK-TREASURER TO ADVERTISE A PUBLIC HEARING

Old Business:

New Business:

Mayor Montreuil announced that 2021 Elections are coming up in March. Mayor Montreuil and Trustee Coppola will not be seeking re-election. Trustee Pallisco will be running for re-election. For any questions residents can contact the Village Clerks office or visit the Village website.

Public Participation:

Resident Dr.Gupta questioned:

- The fluoride in the water and was referred to visit the Water Authority of Western Nassau County for more information as well as join their next Board Meeting.
- The Village reserves. The Mayor explained that the reserves are used as a rainy day fund.
- The PPE support from the government. The Mayor explained that the TOH received \$103 Million in support and Villages are to apply for Covid related expenses. Whatever is not covered by the fund can be submitted to FEMA.

Resident Sam Khoury questioned:

- The installation of the metal poles by the G-14 Substation. Trustee Burger explained that the poles are for utility purposes.
- The cones that are blocking the sidewalk at the Covert Avenue underpass. Trustee Burger explained that the cones are there to prevent people from using the sidewalk because the sidewalk ends. There had been instances where people used the roadway to get to the other side of the underpass. The Village plans to place permanent bars at that location.

Resident Andrew Faglio thanked the Village Board for working with the County to place the 'do not block the box' on the corner of South Park Place and New Hyde Park Road. Additionally he questioned:

- Why did the apartment building get turned down via Special Use and not the Harley Davidson. The Mayor stated that Harley Davidson was within what was allowed to be built in the business zone where as the apartment building was not. That was the reason the EIS was prompted when Harley Davidson applied.
- If the Village Hall will be spruced up. Trustee Pallisco stated that the Village is looking into various quotes.

Resident Kim Huemmer-Kane questioned:

- If 3TC violated the MOU for the G14 Substation, what can be done about it. The Mayor stated that the incentive program for 3TC has been suspended, however residents are still encouraged to fill out the community scorecard for future purposes.
- The letters to be mailed out to the residents previously mentioned by Trustee Burger, are being sent out too late. Mayor Montreuil agreed with Ms. Huemmer-Kane.
- Why is the G-14 substation staging taking place in the commuter lot during the nighttime hours. Trustee Burger stated that all staging will take place during the daytime hours.

Resident Hale Elifoglu questioned:

- What we should expect if the self-storage building goes up on S 12th Street with respect to the development of the area, as well as about the green space in the zoning code. Mayor Montreuil stated that the reason for the master plan is to figure out what the desire of the residents is for that area of our Village. The comprehensive mater plan would outline all that.

Resident Diane Bentivegna questioned:

- Why the application was accepted for a four story building if the zoning code for the overlay was temporary. The Mayor stated that the zoning code was general, not specific to what was allowed. It was put though the process to see what public opinion was.

Resident Najwa Buatti stated:

- That there has been truck issues on the streets by Plaza Avenue, especially on S 18th Street. Residents are frustrated. Mayor Montreuil reiterated that all truck should be traveling via New Hyde Park Road. The Village Board will contact the 3rd Precinct to send someone over and enforce traffic. Additionally the Building Department will visit the neighboring businesses to remind them that all delivery trucks must use New Hyde Park Road.

There being no further business or public participation, upon motion by Trustee Burger, seconded by Trustee Squicciarino, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting ended at 10:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lara Verbanac

Research Assistant to the Board