

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
February 4, 2021**

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

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

Absent:

Mayor Montreuil opened the Board Meeting at 8:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Upon motion by Trustee Burger, seconded by Trustee Squicciarino, the Board Meeting Minutes from January 21, 2021 were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

License Renewals:

Dry Cleaners: APPROVED

Green Tree Dry Cleaners – 1309 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

Restaurant / Public Assembly: APPROVED

Elsie Lane – 29 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

Taxi: APPROVED

BLU Taxi – 1201 2nd Avenue, New Hyde Park

Tow Car: APPROVED

Tip Top Auto Body – 150 Denton Avenue, Garden City Park

Grand Auto Body – 98 Denton Avenue, Garden City Park

A1 Grand Auto Body – 105 Herricks Road, Garden City Park

Used Cars: APPROVED

SM Motorsports – 140 Lakeville Road, New Hyde Park

Landscapers: APPROVED

Rosali Landscaping – 94-09 215th Street, Queens Village

Frank Landscaping – 100 Westbury Blvd., Hempstead

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Coppola:

Trustee Coppola wanted to thank the Department of Public Works for the work they did during the latest snowstorm.

Auxiliary Police

The Village Board thanks the Auxiliary Police who continue to patrol our area and keep our residents safe.

New Hyde Park Fire Department

Residents are reminded to dig out the fire hydrant in front of their home during snow storms. The faster the Fire Department can get to the hydrant the quicker they can respond during an emergency.

With Covid-19 still active in our community everyone is reminded to continue to practice social distancing, wash their hands and wear masks.

Little League

There has been no new updates for Little League at this time.

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 February 6, 2021, with one case on the docket:
 - 21 N 10th Street – Approval was granted to the applicant proposing a subdivision to construct two single family homes.
- The next meeting is scheduled to be held on March 3, 2021, with one case on the docket:
 - 632 5th Avenue – The applicant is proposing a subdivision to construct two single family homes.

Beautification Committee

A class is being offered for anyone interested in becoming a master gardener. It's being offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension for a cost of \$30.

Tree Committee

The Village of New Hyde Park submitted its application for the 2021 \$10 - \$15 Thousand Tree Grant. An announcement will be made if the Village is awarded the grant. Comes out in the spring.

Noise Abatement Committee

The three local noise abatement committees, PlaneSense4LI, TVASNAC, and Quiet Skies continue to fight to reduce the noise congestion coming from planes flying into JFK. PlaneSense4LI has a survey on their website that they invite everyone to read and provide comments on.

Trustee Burger:

Trustee Burger thanked DPW for the hard work and long hours during the latest snowstorm that hit the Village the previous weekend.

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 16 permits in total approved and issued from January 21st to February 4th.

Water Authority

- Demolition to the building at Station 57 was completed and debris from the site is being carted away.
- The trees removed from the site due to the construction will be replaced. There was a landscaping plan submitted to the Board of Trustees.
- The first building to be completed will be for Air Stripping.

The Village Board is looking into grants that can be applied to update the outside of Village Hall.

As it was announced previously, an emergency generator grant has been received for \$75 thousand to be used at Village Hall.

Veterans Affairs

All events for American Legion Post 1089 have been canceled due to Covid-19 concerns. Plans for Memorial Day are on the way. Announcement will be made as the date approaches.

LIRR

- Work continues on S 12th Street.
 - 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 around September 21, 2021.
- There was night work planned for February 8th which has been moved to daytime hours during February 25th.
- 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.
 - No updates have been received on the parking lot safety issues.
 - The Village Board requested that incorrect signage for entry into the parking lot, be corrected before the lot is handed over to the Village of New Hyde Park.
- Construction continues to move forward on both the station house and the platforms.
 - Decorative windows for the waiting area on the platforms have been installed.
 - There will be a track conversion re-commissioning on February 22nd. Eastbound track will be renamed Track 2, future third track will be Track 2, and westbound track will be Track 3.
- G-14 substation construction is ongoing.
 - There will be a scheduled outage in Mid-March when the substation materials are to be delivered and assembled.
 - The prefabricated structure will be trucked in via 7 trucks (2 carrying transformers, 5 carrying substation materials).
 - The truck route will be posted on the Village Website once it has been received.
 - Delivery of the materials will be done during the nighttime hours while the installation of the substation will be done during daytime.
- 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 currently being worked on.
 - Modifications have been provided to Stantec by 3TC to modify the Covert Avenue Extension and allow larger trucks to enter the area on 2nd and 3rd Avenue.

Trustee Pallisco added that the storm basin on Stewart Avenue is being used as a staging area by 3TC. Noise monitors have been installed for the area. Noise has been only impacting residents in the vicinity of 10th and 11th Street by Stewart Avenue. Staging is only being done during the daytime hours.

Mayor Montreuil added that the Building Department has a new Superintendent, Binu Pillay. The Village and Board would like to welcome him to the Village Family.

Trustee Squicciarino:

Village Clerk's Report

Coin Collection	\$6,590.60
Munimeter Revenue	\$7,748.55
Parking Permits	\$27,510.55
Licenses	\$6,770.00
Building Fees	\$13,607.43
Zoning Fees	\$900.00

The Village tentative tax roll has been uploaded to our Website for anyone who is interested to view it. The final will be uploaded in April.

Tax Grievance

Residents are reminded to grieve their taxes by February 16, 2021. Tax Assessors office will be open until 8 pm that evening. Appointments are needed in order to visit the Tax Assessor during the evening hours.

Presiding Officer Nicoletto will be holding a property assessment grievance workshop for any homeowner who disagrees with the new tentative property tax assessment. Workshop will be held online and is limited to 300 people.

General taxes, which were due February 10th, have been extended to March 12th.

Residential Rahab

For anyone who thinks they qualify to receive residential rehab money to make repairs to their home, should contact Village Clerk Hillmann.

Deputy Squicciarino thanked DPW for their hard work during the storm, as well as Village Clerk Hillmann for securing cots and blankets and having them set up at Marcus Christ Hall, for the DPW employees who wanted to rest between snow plowing shifts. Thank you to Deputy Superintendent Sikiric and DPW sanitation who picked up trash even in the midst of a storm.

Hillside Library

The library is having a Valentines for Vets donation drive in the month of February. Items being collected are cards, personal care items and clothes.

Chamber of Commerce

The Village Board welcomes Cheryl Fajardo, the new Chamber president who was sworn in at the presidential gala held in January.

Mayor Montreuil:

Department of Public Works

- The Village Board is deeply grateful for the work the DPW department put in during the storm. Deputy Superintendent Sikiric had to deal with another challenge from Mother Nature, as well as DPW's new foreman, Keith Feldman.
- Cleanup can sometimes be challenging when residents shovel their snow into the street.
- Village roads were plowed noticeably better than County roads.
- There had been no major power outages during the storm.
- There hadn't been many fire calls during the days of the storm. DPW cleared a path for the Fire Department trucks and ambulances when calls did come through.
- Thank you to Clerk Hillmann who secured cots and blanket for the DPW employees at Marcus Christ Hall.

Deputy Superintendent Sikiric thanked everyone for their acknowledgment of his team and their hard work. He especially wanted to acknowledge Foreman Keith Feldman for organizing the plowing and Clerk Hillmann for setting up Marcus Christ Hall.

Mayor Montreuil added that several men in the DPW department had to quarantine after coming into contact with COVID. Thankfully all were out of quarantine just in time for the snowstorm.

Deputy Mayor Squicciarino added that the Village Board and the Clerk's Office has started work on next year's budget, which will be discussed and approved on April 1st.

RESOLUTIONS:

20-71 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #20-19

20-72 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF FULL TIME LABOR FOR DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

20-73 A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING RATE OF PAY FOR INSPECTORS AND CLERKS ON VILLAGE ELECTION DAY

20-74 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPT. OF DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS TO SALVAGE EQUIPMENT

Old Business:

New Business:

Trustee Burger wanted to acknowledge Mayor Montreuil for the active role he took on with the LIRR project. There is a lot of work that is done behind the scenes that he has been involved in. Thank you Mayor Montreuil for your hard work.

Public Participation:

Resident Sam Khoury questioned:

- Whether the Village was aware that striping on S 12th Street near Jericho Turnpike is peeling off the road. He has reported it via the app. Mayor Montreuil stated that now that S 12th Street is permanently closed the striping will be removed and the lanes will be changed back to the way they originally looked.
- Who is responsible for the overflowing garbage at the top of the staircase of the New Hyde Park overpass. Deputy Superintendent Sikiric stated that the trash cans are LIRR property. He will notify the 3TC.

Trustee Coppola questioned the snow cleanup at the Covert Avenue underpass. Mayor Montreuil stated that the underpass was plowed better than New Hyde Park underpass.

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 8:47 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lara Verbanac

Research Assistant to the Board