

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
March 18, 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
Igor Sikiric, Deputy Superintendent DPW
Binu Pillay, Superintendent of Building Department
Cathryn Hillmann, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Lara Verbanac, Research Assistant to the Board

Absent: Thomas P. Gannon, Superintendent of DPW

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

Before the start of the meeting Deputy Mayor Squicciarino and Trustee Burger presented Mayor Montreuil, Trustee Coppola, and Trustee Pallisco with a plaque commemorating the many years of service, hard work and dedication to the Village Board and the people of the Village of New Hyde Park.

- Deputy Mayor Squicciarino and Trustee Burger spoke of each departing member of the Board and their accomplishments through the years. Mayor Montreuil had been with the Village for 20 years, Trustee Coppola for 22 and Trustee Pallisco for 19 and they will be missed.
- Additionally Village Clerk Hillmann, Presiding Officer Nicolletto, ZBA Board Member Santo Cipolla, James Zabatta, former Chamber President Jeanette Frisina, former Mayor Lofaro, and others spoke to each departing member of the Village Board, and thanked them for their service.
- Mayor Montreuil thanked the Village Board and the Village Family for allowing him to serve the Village of New Hyde Park for the last 20 years. Trustee Coppola and Trustee Pallisco also expressed their thanks to the Village residents and the Village family.

Minutes:

Upon motion by Trustee Coppola, seconded by Trustee Burger, the Board Meeting Minutes from March 4, 2021 were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

License Renewals:

Dry Cleaners: APPROVED

TLC Family Dry Cleaners – 1519 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

Restaurant Permit: APPROVED

New China – 1525 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

New Chef Wang – 1902 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park
Angry Gnome – 1217 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park
Yesterday’s Diner – 443 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

Dance Hall: APPROVED

Angry Gnome – 1217 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

Games: APPROVED

Angry Gnome – 1217 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

Landscapers: APPROVED

Julio Lawn Care – 18 Bedford Ave, Elmont
Junior Landscaping – 88-15 179 Street, Jamaica
JP Landscaping – 29 Lincoln Blvd., Hempstead
Roberto’s Lawn Care and Landscaping – 257 Covert Avenue, Floral Park
Omar’s Landscaping – 27 Longfellow Avenue, Westbury
Rafael’s Landscaping – 392 Mulberry Lane, West Hempstead
Gonzales Landscaping – 990 Wilson Blvd, Central Islip
Eagle Lawn Service – 225 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park
American ELM Landscaping – 122 Laurel Drive, New Hyde Park
Victor Landscaping Inc. – 3 Locust Wood Blvd., Elmont
Acosta Landscaping – 73 Evans Avenue, Hempstead
Carlos Landscaping – 162 Haig Road, Valley Stream
Benavides Landscaping – 8 Holly Lane, Westbury
N. Perez Landscaping – 159 N. Bayview Avenue, Freeport
Rivas Landscaping – 19 Sammis Place, Hempstead
Brother Landscaping – 176 Beverly Road, Hempstead
Illusions Landscaping – 625 Uniondale Avenue, Uniondale
Paul Tramatano Landscaping – 15 Clayton Avenue, Floral Park
Joe D Landscaping – 32 Canyon Lane, Westbury
Nilton Gonzalez Landscaping – 572 Paff Avenue, Uniondale
Four Seasons Landscaping – 45 Marcus Avenue, New Hyde Park
Marcus Cabral Landscaping – 556 Hilda Street, East Meadow
Velasquez Landscaping – 3 Commerce Avenue, Amityville
J&C Landscaping – 526 Cedar Street, Uniondale
Figuroa Landscaping – 339 Laurel Road, West Hempstead
Hines and Zaffarese Landscaping – 150 Broadway, Garden City Park
B&B Landscaping Contactors - 249 Marcus Avenue, New Hyde Park
Brant’s Landscaping – 1229 Theodora Street, Elmont
Rose and Thorn Landscaping – 696 Lenore Lane, Elmont
Nedy’s Landscaping – 727 Jerusalem Avenue, Uniondale
Jose Figuroa Landscaping – 275 Caryl Drive, Lawrence
Paniccia Landscaping – 11 W. Hitchcock Avenue, Floral Park
Gabriel Marmol Landscaping – 74 Evans Avenue, Freeport
Community Landscaping – 15 Elk Street, Hempstead
Oscar D. Landscaping – 613 Krull Street, Uniondale
We Care Tree Service – 2093 Hancock Avenue, Bellmore
Alfredo Landscaping – 26 William Street, Hempstead

Precision Landscaping & Design – 64 Mitchel Avenue, Farmingdale
RMC Landscaping – 100 Old Broadway, Garden City Park
Joe Mannino Landscaping – 217 Gildford Court, West Hempstead

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Coppola:

Little League

It was announced that Little League will not be having their annual parade this year due to Covid-19 concerns. The Little League season will begin April 1st. The Village Board wishes them a successful season.

New Hyde Park Fire Department

- Annual subscription mailers will be sent out shortly where residents can make an annual donation to the New Hyde Park Fire Department.
- Residents are reminded to dig out the fire hydrant in front of their home during snow storms.
- Everyone is encouraged to check their smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and replace batteries. If detectors are 10 years old or more they should be replaced.

Auxiliary Police

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

Nassau County Police Department

- Trustee Coppola thanked the 3rd Precinct, Officer Jesse Cooper, Officer Mike Costanzo and the Police Inspectors who have served our community over the years.
- Residents are reminded to lock their car doors and remove valuables from their cars. Car break-ins are still on the rise in our area.
- They are also reminded keep an eye out for porch pirates, who steal delivery boxes left on the front porch.
- Residents are encouraged to call 911 if they see anyone suspicious on their property who is not supposed to be there.

Trustee Coppola thanked the Village Board and the Village Family for allowing him to serve the Village of New Hyde Park for the last 22 years.

Trustee Pallisco:

Zoning Board of Appeals

- The last meeting of the Zoning Board was scheduled to be held on March 10, 2021 but with no cases on the docket it was canceled.
- The next meeting of the Zoning Board is scheduled for April 14, 2021. There are no cases on the docket at this time.

Architectural Review Board

- The last meeting of the Architectural Review Board was held on March 3, 2021. The following case was heard:

- 402 Brown Place – The case is still pending for the applicant seeking approval for a change in materials.
- The next meeting is scheduled to be held on April 7, 2021, with one case on the docket:
 - 402 Brown Place – The case will be reviewed for the applicant seeking approval for a change in materials.

LED Lights

The Village Board is looking into replacing the sodium street lights with new LED lights throughout the Village. The sodium street lights are out of date and replacement parts are hard to come by. Installing LED lights would save the Village thousands of dollars in energy costs.

Tree Committee

Any resident interested in having a tree planted in front of their home can contact the Department of Public Works and sign up for one. To date there are 30 residents seeking new trees be planted in front of their property.

Milena’s Garden Center will be planting in the center mediums on Jericho Turnpike this upcoming week, as well as around Village Hall, for the spring season.

Reminder to everyone that April 26, 2021 is Earth Day and April 30, 2021 is Arbor Day. Trustee Pallisco encouraged everyone to get involved.

Trustee Pallisco thanked the Village Board and the Village Family for allowing him to serve the Village of New Hyde Park for the last 19 years.

Trustee Burger:

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. The ceremony will be held at Village Hall, however there will be no parade. The Legion is thinking of putting on a car parade. Plans have to be made with Nassau County and will be announced as soon as they have been worked out.
- A Mass will be held in Holy Spirit for Memorial Day.
- The American Legion lost three aging members in the last couple of months.
- Commander John McGuire will be stepping down from his position which will be taken over by Commander Bill Hothan on June 30, 2021.

Building Report

- The last Village building court was held on March 17, 2021, via telephone conference. There were 16 cases on the docket, involving property maintenance, violation of special exception, working without a permit, illegal use of a single family home, illegally parked on lawn, and placing snow on street.
- The next Village building court will be held on April 21, 2021 at Village Hall, with 10 cases on the docket.
- There have been 11 permits in total approved and issued from March 4th to March 18th.

Trustee Burger thanked all exiting Board Members and wished them the best of luck, as well as congratulating the newly elected members of the Board.

LIRR

- There has been one accident and one tragic event that took place at the LIRR construction sites in the last two weeks, which has prompted MTA to put out a work stoppage until all investigations into the incidents have been completed.
 - At the Willis Avenue crossing, there was a wall collapse of a partially demolished building. No construction crew was hurt in the collapse.
 - At the Mineola station pedestrian bridge, a worker was electrocuted when a crane touched a live wire, electrifying the bridge. The worker is in critical condition. The Village Board wishes her and her family all the best.
- G-14 substation construction is ongoing.
 - The delivery date for the prefabricated structure originally set for March 19th, was changed due to the work stoppage order. The date has been pushed back by a week. New dates for delivery will be announced on the Village Website.
- Platforms have re-opened at the New Hyde Park train station.
 - Construction is continuing at the station house.
 - The platforms can now accommodate a 10 car train. The full platform will be reopened once S 12th Street has been completed.
 - A new commuter lot has opened on the corner of Plaza Avenue and New Hyde Park Road.
 - There is also available parking on 2nd Avenue and 3rd Avenue.
 - Residential parking lots are still located on S 12th Street. The walk to get from one side of the platform to the other is quite long. The pedestrian bridge is set to open in September.
- No night work has been scheduled for the next several weeks.
- Wall construction is set to begin within the next month, from Premier Boulevard to Covert Avenue. The south side of the wall is set to be completed first and then work will begin on the north side.
- Truck access and parking plan for 2nd and 3rd Avenues are currently being updated. The corner of 3rd Avenue and Covert Avenue extension will be changed in order to accommodate larger trucks from making a turn onto 3rd Avenue.

Water Authority

Construction at Station 57 has been on track with no new developments.

Trustee Burger detailed the route of the materials being delivered to the G-14 substation. The detailed route will be posted on the Village website. Materials will be trucked in via 7 trucks during the nighttime hours while installation will be done during the daytime. Trustee Pallisco questioned why New Hyde Park Road is not being used. Trustee Burger will look into that.

Trustee Squicciarino:

Village Clerk’s Report

Coin Collection	\$6,911.00
Munimeters	\$7,397.55
Parking Permits	\$7,000.00
Licenses	\$7,305.00
Building – National Grid	\$122,150.00
Building Fees	\$12,740.60
Zoning	\$300.00
Interest on Account	\$1,054.75

Court Fines – Traffic	\$33,781.25
Court Fines – Bldg.	\$5,500.00

Village Hall

- The side entrance staircase has been completed. Before it’s opened to the public hand railing has to be installed. Two new planters were built alongside the new stairs.
- Estimates are being gathered to update the bathrooms at the Village Hall to be ADA compliant. The monies used will be from last year’s CDBG grant.

Upcoming changes to scheduled meetings:

- An additional staff meeting will be added in on March 25th between the exiting members of the Village Board and the newly elected members.
- Swearing in of newly elected officials will be on April 1st.
- There will be a staff meeting on April 8th.
- Budget hearing will be held on April 15th and it will be adopted on April 29th.

MyVnhp

Trustee Squicciarino reminded residents to download the MyVnhp app from the app store and use it when requesting trees, reporting pot holes, receiving alerts and all other Village needs.

Schools

The NHP-GCP school district will hold a budget hearing on April 12th. Sewanhaka school district will hold a budget hearing on April 13th.

Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony on April 26th to welcome Park Place Restaurant and Bar to our community.

Hillside Library

Residents can go online to sign up and reserve a time to browse the aisle. The library is also offering a variety of virtual programs and events. All residents are encouraged to sign up.

Parks and Recreation

On April 22nd park facilities will open at Memorial and Nuzzi Parks. Park attendants will be on site if needed by the park patrons.

Mayor Montreuil added that residents should be aware that dogs are not allowed in Village parks.

Mayor Montreuil:

The Mayor held a zoom meeting with the residents of Millers Lane in regard to traffic on their street. Eight residents were present and it was discussed to make Millers Lane a one way southbound street. A survey will be sent out to all residents of Millers Lane as well as the surrounding streets and a public hearing will be held to find out residential opinion.

Department of Public Works

Per Deputy Superintendent Sikiric:

- Memorial and Nuzzi parks have been aerated and seeded. Maintenance was done in preparation of the facilities opening at both parks.
- Pothole repair on Village streets is on the way.
- Old and outdated signs are being replaced around Village streets, in particular near the railroad station.
- The staircase in front of Village Hall has been repaired. Railing is to be installed next week.
- The Village landscaping company will be planting bushes and flowers next week at Village Hall.

Trustee Burger suggested that when DPW is surveying the streets needing repair, all repairs that are the direct result of the LIRR construction project, should be noted. It will then be submitted to 3TC for reimbursement. Deputy Superintendent Sikiric stated that those repairs will be tracked separately.

Dvirka and Bartilucci has been commissioned to do a Village wide survey of all the roads. Per the survey the Village will be able to determine which roads need repair, as funds become available.

Village Board is working with the MTA on an amendment to the original MOU in regard to truck turning radius from Covert Avenue onto 3rd Avenue, as well as parking along the railroad and the new parking lot. The amendment should be revised shortly. The MOU revision will also include the funding for the DPW garage. That would include \$2 Million from the project, and \$3 Million still owed by NYS. The Village will be sending out the bid for the garage construction in the near future.

Mayor Montreuil thanked Clerk-Treasurer Hillmann for having Village Hall painted. The new paint job looks bright and cheerful. He also thanked Superintendent Pillay for getting the estimates for the restroom and stair repair at Village Hall.

RESOLUTIONS:

20-93 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #20-24

- Upon motion by Trustee Pallisco, seconded by Trustee Burger, the resolution to pay the bills, was unanimously approved.

20-94 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE CLERK-TREASURER TO ADVERTISE A PUBLIC HEARING

- Upon motion by Trustee Coppola, seconded by Trustee Pallisco, the resolution to advertise a public hearing to repeal the local law allowing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in general municipal law 3-C, was unanimously approved.

20-95 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE CLERK TO ASSUME THE LIENS FOR UNPAID TAXES

- Upon motion by Trustee Pallisco, seconded by Trustee Burger, the resolution to assume the liens for unpaid taxes on 25 parcels in the amount of \$44,030.84 up to and including March 19, 2021, was unanimously approved.

Old Business:

New Business:

Public Participation:

A resident stated that the freight trains going through New Hyde Park station have been moving at a slow rate of speed, to prevent damaging the rails. Because the Brookhaven landfill is closing the number of trains passing through our station will increase by tenfold. The resident suggested the trains in the future stay at the slow rate of speed to prevent damages to our tracks as well as vibrations. Trustee Burger will ask for more information at the next meeting with the MTA in regard to the freight trains passing through.

Resident Ann Stevenson thanked the Board members leaving and welcomed the newly elected members of the Board. She questioned if the New Chef Wong's restaurant is under new ownership. Per the application submitted to the Clerk's Office, the ownership of the restaurant has not changed.

There being no further business or public participation, upon motion by Trustee Coppola, seconded by Mayor Montreuil, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting ended at 9:31 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lara Verbanac

Research Assistant to the Board