

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
April 15, 2021**

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

Present: Mayor Devane
Deputy Mayor Nijjar
Trustee Squicciarino
Trustee Burger
Trustee Savarese
Cathryn Hillmann, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Binu Pillay, Superintendent of Building
Igor Sikiric, Deputy Superintendent of DPW
Lara Verbanac, Research Assistant to the Board

Absent:

Mayor Devane opened the Board Meeting at 8:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the Budget Hearing.

Minutes:

- Upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the Annual Board Meeting Minutes from April 5, 2021 were unanimously approved.
- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Burger, the Board Meeting Minutes from April 5, 2021 were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

License Renewals:

Landscapers: APPROVED

Dom's Landscaping – 141 Herricks Road, Garden City Park
Mezzauella Contractors – 36 Barrymore Blvd, Franklin Square
Mineola Landscaping – 27 Morningside Drive, Westbury

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Savarese:

Little League

- This year Little League has 3 minor teams, 2 major teams and 1 senior team.
- The minor and senior teams will be using the fields at Memorial Park for practice.
- The Little League opening game will be at Nuzzi Park on April 24, 2021.
- It was announced that Little League will not be having their annual parade this year due to Covid-19 concerns.

Parks and Recreation

- The basketball rims at Memorial Park have been repaired.
- New mulch was put down at the playgrounds in both Village Parks.
- Troop 298 installed 3 workout stations at Memorial Park, which are already being used by patrons.
- Estimates are being gathered for installation of fencing and turf for the potential dog park at Memorial Park.

A new Instagram account was created for the Village of New Hyde Park (@villageofnhp) that will be used to inform residents of happenings within the village as well as events that are going on. As of now there are 164 followers.

Department of Public Works

- The baseball fields in Nuzzi and Memorial parks have been cleaned up and 35 tons of new clay has been installed.
- Front steps at Village Hall have been completed.
- 30-40 pot holes have been repaired in the month of March in the Village.
- 75 street signs have been repaired or replaced in the month of March.
- 3 trees have been removed.
- The muni-meter from the lot at Holy Spirit has been moved to 3rd Avenue, along the rail road tracks.
- The tree trimming contract has been signed. Once works starts, an arborist will be helping determine which trees need to be looked at.
- There have been 62 requests submitted by residents on the MyVnhp app.
- Currently the DPW department has an open position for the sanitation crew.

Trustee Burger:

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 26 permits in total approved and issued from April 5th to April 15th.

Trustee Burger thanked the Eagle Scouts for the wonderful job they did at the park with the workout stations. He also invited everyone to support the Boy Scout Troop# 298 at the Car Wash they will be having, at the Lakeville Parking Lot on May 8th from 7 am to 3 pm.

Water Authority

Construction at Station 57 has been on track. Underground utilities are in place. An announcement will be made to the Village residents when the construction of the new structure will begin.

Veterans Affairs

- All events for American Legion Post #1089 have been canceled due to Covid-19 concerns.
- A change in leadership will be taking place with Commander John McGuire stepping down and Commander Bill Hothan taking over the post.
- Plans for Memorial Day are underway. On May 29th the American Legion will be holding a Car Parade. The parade will start at 9 am. Afterwards the ceremony will be held at Village Hall with the laying of the wreaths taking place at Memorial Park. Updates with specifics will be announced as plans are finalized.

LIRR

- Construction resumed on the LIRR on April 8, 2021 with the two most critical activities—the G14 substation and the S 12th Street pedestrian underpass.
- Because of the work stoppage order, the G-14 substation delivery for the prefabricated structure will be delivered overnight on March 16th. In preparation 3rd Avenue will be closed from Covert Avenue to S 12th Street. A Large crane has been set up to aid in unloading the 7 wide load trucks delivering substation materials.
 - The Village Board requested a wall be built instead of the perimeter fencing proposed by 3TC, however the wall request was disapproved by the MTA.
- The 12th Avenue underpass push, originally scheduled for April 24th was postponed to a later date. No final date has been set as of yet.
- There hasn't been much work done on the station house due to the work stoppage.
- No night work has been scheduled for the next several weeks.
- Wall construction is set to begin in late spring/early summer. During construction, 2nd Avenue or 3rd Avenue will be closed to traffic depending where the wall construction is taking place.
- Truck access for 3rd Avenue is being worked on. The Village Board has not received a final design as of yet.

Trustee Squicciarino:

Village Clerk's Report

Coin Collection	\$11,582.00
Munimeters	\$11,317.65
Parking Permits	\$1,220.00
Licenses	\$7,305.00
Building Fees	\$19,304.21
Court Fines – Traffic	\$48,594.00
Court Fines – Bldg.	\$7,500.00

Clerk's Office

On March 11th the American Rescue Plan Act was passed as part of the Stimulus Package that will offer relief to local governments. The aid would help with lost revenue on per capita basis, which will be calculated using the 2019 Census information. Based on preliminary calculation the Village would be getting around \$500,000 from the aid package. NYCOM recommends Villages and Town not include the potential aid money as part of the projected budget numbers for the year 2021-2022.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The money received in 2020 from the grant will be used to update the bathrooms at Village Hall to make them ADA compliant.

Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony on April 26th to welcome Park Place Restaurant and Bar to our community. The Village of New Hyde Park wishes owners of Park Place Restaurant and Bar lots of success and best of luck.

Luxury Pet Spa, a Village business, was featured in The Island Now paper. Owner Michelle Brice spoke of how initially, she was afraid of dogs and now she has a successful dog grooming business.

Deputy Mayor Nijjar:

The Village Board has received a lot of interest from residents in regard to the various committees.

Revitalization Commission

For the upcoming Earth Day the commission is planning to do planting around the Village. Additionally the Village Board is working with the schools to organize volunteers to participate in the Village's cleanup day.

Cultural Commission

Cultural Commission Chair Lisa Miranda along with Deputy Mayor Nijjar is working on organizing various events for the summer months. As events are set up they will be announced on the Village Website. Residents are encouraged to contact Deputy Mayor Nijjar or Village Clerk Hillmann if they want to contribute their time or ideas to the Cultural Commission.

Tree Committee

Tree planting will start next week. If you are interested in having a tree planted in front of your property contact the DPW department.

NHP Schools

The Village Board met with the Principal of New Hyde Park Memorial High School and the Superintendent of the NHP-GCP School District to speak about getting students involved in volunteer work around the Village. Both the Principal and the Superintendent had positive reactions to the idea.

Mayor Devane:

New Hyde Park Fire Department

- On April 24th a plaque dedication ceremony will be held in honor of Mark Farina, a former Village Family member and a volunteer fire fighter who was lost to Covid-19 during the height of the pandemic. At 11 am a mass will be held at Holy Spirit Church. Immediately following, a ceremony will be held on the walkway over the new Covert Avenue Bridge. Mayor Devane invited everyone to come to the ceremony and pay their respects to Mark Farina, who was not only a resident but also very involved in the Village.
- The Fire Department will participate in the Memorial Day Car Parade on Saturday, May 29, 2021.

Plans for the Memorial Day Parade are on the way and arrangements are being worked on with the New Hyde Park Road School for the 6th grade to join in and sing at the ceremony.

Nassau County Police Department

There have been complaints received that teens are gathering in cars around Williams Street. POP officers have been notified to monitor the situation surrounding the park.

Mayor Devane invited residents to contact him or Village Clerk Hillmann if they are interested in participating and being a part of Civilian Patrol. Anyone interested would be trained.

Mayor Devane, Trustee Squicciarino and Deputy Superintendent Sikiric met with Senator Kaplan in regard to the funding for DPW. They have invited her to come down to the garage and take a look at the facility. The conversation was productive and the Village Board is hoping monies can be secured to make improvements to DPW.

A big thank you to the Eagle Scouts for completing the work out stations at Memorial Park. The stations are already being utilized by park patrons.

Zoning Board of Appeals

There are two vacancies open for the ZBA Board. If anyone is interested please contact Village Hall.

Architectural Review Board

There is one vacancy open for the ARB Board. If anyone is interested please contact Village Hall.

LIRR Taskforce

The Village Board had a meeting with 3TC, MTA and LIRR about the status of the project and the upcoming schedule.

The Village Board is looking into available grants that can be used to update Marcus Christ Hall. Building Department Superintendent Pillay is gathering quotes for making the improvements necessary.

RESOLUTIONS:

20-109 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #20-27

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

20-110 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF NEW PART TIME LABORER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

- Upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the resolution to hire a new part time laborer for DPW was unanimously approved.

Old Business: no old business

New Business: no new business

The meeting was opened to public participation at 8:39 pm.

There being no further business, upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting closed at 8:47 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lara Verbanac

Research Assistant to the Board