

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK  
REGULAR MEETING  
April 29, 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 8:11 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the Budget Hearing.

**Minutes:**

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Burger, the Board Meeting Minutes from April 15, 2021 were unanimously approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:**

**Car Wash Application: APPROVED**

The New Hyde Park Wildcat Soccer Club requested to hold a car wash on Saturday, June 19, 2021 at the Lakeville Parking Lot from 9 am – 4 pm.

**Landscapers: APPROVED**

GB Landscaping – 159 Spruce Street, West Hempstead  
Jose’s Lawn Care – 46 Hill Avenue, Elmont  
JAA Landscaping – 147-10 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Flushing  
Lino R’s Landscaping – 32-18 99<sup>th</sup> Street, East Elmhurst  
Santos Landscaping – 45 Hagen Street, Brentwood  
Lutz Lawn Care – PO Box 907, New Hyde Park  
Marco Quevedo Landscaping – 363 Sapir Street, Valley Stream

**TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

**Trustee Savarese:**

**Little League**

- Opening game was held on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Savarese was honored for being asked to throw the first pitch.
- 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.

## **Parks and Recreation**

- DPW has been cleaning up and working on the fields in both parks.
- On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, Earth Day, DPW planted 35 trees in the Village of New Hyde Park, including both parks.
- Estimates are being gathered for installation of fencing and turf for the potential dog park at Memorial Park.
- Village Board is looking into redesigning the entrance to Memorial Park and is currently gathering quotes for the update.
- The Village is looking for more park attendants, for anyone interested they should contact Village Hall.
- The Parks and Recreation Commission is still looking for volunteers for anyone who is interested.

The Village Instagram account (@villageofnhp) which is used to inform residents of happenings within our community is garnering followers.

## **Trustee Burger:**

### **Building Report**

- The last Village building court was held on April 21, 2021 at Village Hall. There were 19 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, illegal bedroom in cellar and altered house without ARB approval.
- The next Village building court will be held on May 19, 2021 at Village Hall, with 8 cases on the docket.
- There have been 30 permits in total approved and issued from April 15<sup>th</sup> – April 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **LIRR**

- Construction has resumed on the LIRR on April 8, 2021 with the two most critical activities—the G14 substation and the S 12<sup>th</sup> Street pedestrian underpass.
- The G-14 substation delivery for the prefabricated structure arrived and was lifted into place on April 15-16. In preparation 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue was closed from Covert Avenue to S 12<sup>th</sup> Street. A Large crane was set up to aid in unloading the 7 wide load trucks delivering substation materials.
  - The work will be ongoing to hook up electrical at the new substation.
  - MTA hopes to have it operational by the end of year.
  - Possible small crane will be placed on S 9<sup>th</sup> Street to aid in work at the substation. The Village Board feels the work can be done during the daytime hours and is discouraging 3TC to do it at night.
- Work hasn't resumed at the station and platforms. No date from 3TC on when work will be completed.
- The 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue underpass push, originally scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup> was postponed to June 12<sup>th</sup>.
- There will be night work scheduled for track work, no set date released as of yet. Potential night work proposed on May 15<sup>th</sup> was requested by Village Board to be changed to daytime work.
- Wall construction is set to begin in mid-May. The work is set to take 16 weeks and will be starting from Premiere Blvd. to Covert Avenue. Once completed crews will start on the south side along 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue toward South 12<sup>th</sup> Street and will then move to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.
- Truck access for 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue is being worked on. The Village Board has not received a final design as of yet. The Village Board and the MTA are working on finalizing agreements.

**Water Authority**

Construction at Station 57 has been on track. Construction of the new station house will start within the next month.

**Veterans Affairs**

- Plans for Memorial Day have been finalized and invitations have been sent out. On May 29<sup>th</sup> the American Legion will be holding a Car Parade and Ceremony. The car parade assembly will start at 9 am on Hillside Blvd. It will travel down Jericho Turnpike, stopping at Village Hall for a short Wreath Laying Ceremony and then proceed up New Hyde Park Road to Memorial Park for the Memorial Day Ceremony. The Honor Flight WWI and WWII members will participate, along with the NHP Fire Department.

Trustee Squicciarino suggested that robo calls be sent out for Memorial Day.

**Trustee Squicciarino:**

**Village Clerk’s Report**

Court Fines – Traffic	\$48,594.00
Basement Floor Reimbursement	\$12,475.00
Workman’s Comp	\$4,954.00

**Clerk’s Office**

The Clerk’s Office is looking at proposals to update the office system. The various systems are being analyzed to see which would fit best.

**Residential Rehab**

Funds are still available for residential rehab to anyone who is in need of making repairs to their house. For more information contact the Clerk’s Office.

**Chamber of Commerce**

A ribbon cutting ceremony for a new Village Business ‘Flowers by Gus’ was postponed by the Chamber of Commerce. The Village of New Hyde Park wishes the new business owner best of luck.

On May 5<sup>th</sup> Sewanhaka School District will be holding their Budget Hearing.

On May 10<sup>th</sup> the NHP-GCP School District will be holding their Budget Hearing.

On May 18<sup>th</sup> (7-9pm) voting will be held for the school budget, as well as the school board elections and the library budget.

**Deputy Mayor Nijjar:**

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

**Revitalization Commission**

Will be celebrating Earth Day on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 am, at Memorial Park. Participants will be planting flowers, cleaning up the park and the Lions Club will be donating a tree to be planted.

DPW Deputy Superintendent Sikiric added that DPW planted 35 on the official Earth Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. All additional tree plantings will take place in the fall. They removed 6 trees that were diseased and performed 15-20 tree trims. The new stump removal contractor will start in May.

## **Cultural Commission**

Cultural Commission Chair Lisa Miranda along with Deputy Mayor Nijjar is working on creating an events calendar for the upcoming concerts and multicultural events being planned for the summer months.

## **NHP Schools**

- The Village Board will be meeting with Sewanhaka High School on Monday.
- The New Hyde Park Road School principal Mrs. LaRegina has been working with the Village Board to organize the 6<sup>th</sup> grade music department to sing at the Memorial Day Ceremony.
- The Village Board spoke with New Hyde Park Memorial High School Principal and the Superintendent of the NHP-GCP School District 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 24<sup>th</sup> a plaque dedication ceremony was 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 was held at Holy Spirit Church. Immediately following, a ceremony was held on the walkway over the new Covert Avenue Bridge. Mayor Devane thanked the DPW department for setting up the area ahead of time, as well as Auxiliary Police for their help during the event. The event was organized by Protection Company who Mark was a member of.
- The NHP Fire Department will be donating a bronze statue to the Village of New Hyde Park which will be placed in the pocket park at Central Avenue Lot. It will commemorate the members who have had 50 years of service with the NHP Fire Department.

### **Auxiliary Police**

The Mayor will be meeting with Unit#212 to see if there are any needs for the next year the Village can help them with.

### **Nassau County Police Department**

The Mayor will be holding a meeting with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct POP officers to discuss the needs of our community.

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. The conversation was productive and the Village Board remains cautiously optimistic.

### **LIRR Taskforce**

- During the delivery of the G-14 substation complaints were received in regard to the parking on S 9<sup>th</sup> Street by the employees working for the LIRR. Per Mayor Devane he granted permission to the employees to park on S 8<sup>th</sup>, S 9<sup>th</sup>, S 10<sup>th</sup> Streets during the time the materials were being unloaded and assembled.
- Mayor Devane stated that the Village Board has to maintain a relationship with 3TC and the MTA until the project is completed, which will most likely be until the end of this year.
- Residents were informed that they should not be engaging with the employees when they encounter a problem but should contact the Village.

### **Village Hall / Parks**

- Quotes are being gathered to see if any updates and improvements can be made to Marcus Christ Hall.
- New hallway flooring will be installed at Village Hall within the next few weeks.
- Aside from the new entrance for Memorial Park and the dog park, there will be a new gable roof for the office. The Village Board is open to suggestion.
- Park attendants are still needed and residents are encouraged to apply.
- Committee positions are still available for anyone interested.

### **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.

Mayor Devane thanked Village Clerk Hillmann for her work on the Village Budget. He thanked Superintendent of Building Pillay for working on and gathering quotes to make updates within the Village. Additionally he thanked Deputy Superintendent Sikiric and his crew for the hard work they do for the Village.

Deputy Mayor Nijjar announced that we will have summer camp this year. Interviews will be held for camp counselors within the next week. If all positions get filled there are park attendant positions available for any counselors interested.

### **RESOLUTIONS:**

#### **20-113 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #20-28**

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

#### **20-114 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN BUDGETARY ACCOUNT CODES**

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Burger, the resolution to transfer unused appropriated funds from Cobra to Benefits: Medical.

#### **20-115 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN BUDGETARY ACCOUNT CODES**

- Upon motion by Trustee Savarese, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, the resolution to transfer unused appropriated funds from Insurance Recovery to Refuse: Personal Service.

#### **20-116 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF NEW PART TIME LABORERS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

- Upon motion by Trustee Burger, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the resolution to hire 2 new part time laborers for DPW was unanimously approved.

#### **20-117 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE CLERK TREASURER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CANON SOLUTIONS AMERICA**

- Upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, the resolution to lease two new copy machines to be installed at Village Hall at a cost of \$255 per month was unanimously approved.

#### **20-118 A RESOLUTION AMENDING SECTION 198-1, SCHEDULES AND CHARGES, OF THE VILLAGE CODE**

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the resolution to adopt a change to the building permit late filing fee from \$200 to 1x the original building permit, was unanimously approved.

**Old Business: no old business**

**New Business: no new business**

The meeting was opened to public participation at 8:55 pm.

There being no further business, upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Burger, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting closed at 9:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Lara Verbanac*

Research Assistant to the Board