

VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
May 20, 2021

This meeting was presented live and 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 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prior to the start of the board meeting POP Officer Costanzo from the 3rd Precinct made a short speech about the problems being encountered in our community and the safety measure that residents can take to protect themselves. Some reminders for residents are:

- Lock car doors, especially in the overnight hours.
- Don't give anyone your private information, especially your social security number. There has been reports of scams taking place since the start of Covid.
- If you have been a victim of the unemployment scam the PD suggests you contact the department of labor and freeze your credit report. Employers have been receiving the notification letters and should be the ones contacting the employee to notify them.
- If there are parties held in private homes, and minors are found to be drinking alcohol, the owner of the home who gave permission for the party can be charged, as well as anyone over 18 who is responsible for the party.
- If residents spot anyone riding around on ATV's or dirt bikes that have not been registered, they should contact the police.

Kerry Wilson and Steve Harriman from Realterm Energy gave a short presentation outlining the benefits of replacing the current street lighting throughout the Village with LED lighting. Their company is responsible for replacement of lighting in more than 300 municipalities in North America. Kerry and Steve outlined the savings that would come with replacement of all Village lights, including the cost of the project and the length of time it would take to break even. They suggested a test be done on one of the streets in the Village to see if the residents as well as the Village Board is satisfied with the outcome.

Minutes:

- Upon motion by Trustee Burger, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the Board Meeting Minutes from May 20, 2021 were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

The New Hyde Park Lions Club requests to use the Central Blvd Parking Lot to hold the annual Lions Club Christmas Tree Fundraiser from Friday, November 26th to Friday, December 24th, weekdays from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm and weekends from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm. - **APPROVED**

Block Party Request: APPROVED

- Saturday, June 19th (no rain date) South 5th Street between Jericho Tpke & 1st Avenue from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm

License Renewals:

Carters: APPROVED

Superior Waste Service – 442 Tate Street, Holbrook

Restaurant: APPROVED

Five Star Indian Cuisine – 247 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

Landscapers: APPROVED

ASC Landscaping – 41 Hudson Avenue, Roosevelt

LG Gardening – 92-25 212 Street, Queens Village

Jhony Landscaping – 149 Wellesley Street, Hempstead

Turf Tamer Landscaping – 20 Clarendon Drive, Valley Stream

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Savarese:

Little League

- Little League season is in full swing, with games being played several times a week.
- There are 50 players signed up for T-ball so far.

Parks and Recreation

- Cultural commission is planning several events in the Memorial Park this summer.
- The Village held its Earth Day at Memorial Park with a great turnout. The Lady Lions Club donated a tree which was planted. Thank you to DPW for all the help they provided during the Earth Day event.
- After receiving several proposals, a fencing company was chosen to replace the perimeter fencing at Memorial Park. Work will start in two weeks.
- Village Board is looking into pricing for updating the roof of the park house.
- Additionally, quotes are being gathered for redesigning the entrance to Memorial Park, moving the bocce court and installing the turf for the potential dog park.

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

Department of Public Works

The DPW crew has been fast at work keeping our parks clean, planting and trimming trees. They have also been making road repairs where needed.

Trustee Burger:

Building Report

- The last Village building court was held on May 19, 2021 at Village Hall. There were 14 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 illegal bedroom in cellar.
- The next Village building court will be held on June 16, 2021 at Village Hall, with 11 cases on the docket.
- There have been 53 permits in total approved and issued from April 29th–May 20th.

LIRR

- With the construction resuming on the LIRR, 3TC's three main activities at this time are the G-14 substation, wall construction and the S 12th Street pedestrian underpass.
- Since the delivery of the prefabricated structure work has been ongoing at the G-14 substation.
 - There was a crane on 3rd Avenue on May 18th and 19th to facilitate the installation of some equipment in the substation.
 - There will be a crane on 3rd Avenue between S 8th and S 9th Street to aid in the installation of utility poles on June 14th. Work will be done between the hours of 7 am and 4 pm.
 - A crane will be needed when installing the steel structure around the transformers. No date has been set as of yet.
 - The Village board is aware that the work is disruptive to the residents. The work at G-14 is slated to be completed by the fall of 2021.
- Work has resumed at the station and platforms. No date from 3TC on when work will be completed.
- The 12th Avenue underpass pedestrian walkway push is scheduled June 12th.
 - There will be a double track outage the weekend of the push.
 - There will be utility work done on 2nd and 3rd Avenues between S 11th and S 12th Streets.
- There is no night work currently planned.
- Wall construction has begun on 3rd Avenue between Premiere Boulevard and Covert Avenue. This week construction will continue towards S 12th Street. When the work is complete on 3rd Avenue the work will start on 2nd Avenue.
- Because of construction, there will be several road closures in the next several months. Notices will be sent out to the residents.
- Thanks to Superintendent Binu Pillay and Dept. Superintendent Igor Sikiric, a road closure permit is being put into place. The purpose for the permit is for the Village to be aware of closings in advance, for a traffic plan to be put in place and for the residents to be made aware of the street closure.
- The high rail access on S 11th Street is set to begin in June.
- The truck access on Covert Avenue and 3rd Avenue is set to be re-done so that larger trucks are able to make the turn onto 3rd Avenue.

Water Authority

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

Veterans Affairs

- The American Legion held its first in person meeting on May 15th since Covid started. Commander McGuire will be stepping down from his position and Commander Hothan will be taking over starting July 1st. Trustee Burger will become Vice Commander of the post.
- American Legion is looking for new membership. At this time the membership number is down to 90 people.

- Plans for Memorial Day have been finalized and invitations have been sent out. On May 29th 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. Because of Covid restrictions changing, a partial parade will be set up from Village Hall to Memorial Park.

Trustee Squicciarino:

Clerk’s Office

Village Hall has been painted and the outside steps have been repaired. Construction has started on the 1st floor bathrooms. Once completed, a new floor will be installed. Most of the funds for the repairs came from the 2020 CDBG grant.

Village Taxes

The 2021-22 taxes will be coming out May 31st. Taxes have to be paid in full by July 1st. No cash will be accepted this year, only check or credit card. On-line payments can be made via credit card or directly from your bank account. Fees will apply for all online payments. There is a drop box outside Village Hall that will be used for tax payment drop-offs.

Village Clerk’s Report

Meters	\$9,925.00
Muni-meters	\$9,420.75
Parking Permits	\$1,000.00
Licenses	\$2,670.00
Building	\$20,176.10
Court Fines – Traffic	\$46,018.00
Court Fines – Building	\$4,600.00

The Village is still awaiting a \$2,000 reimbursement from the Town of North Hempstead.

The next Village Board meeting will be on our summer schedule which is once a months for the months of June, July, August, and September.

May is skin cancer awareness month. Two sunscreen dispensers were donated to our Village parks from the CCMAC. We requested two more dispensers from the organization.

The Village is looking into starting up the Long and Lean classes once again now that the Covid restrictions are being lifted. Any updates will be announced on our website.

Chamber of Commerce

To encourage local shopping the Chamber is holding a Shopopoly game for anyone who wants to participate. Participants can submit their receipts for the categories outlined on the board game (on the Chamber website) and win prizes.

The Target opening at Lake Success has been delayed because of permit changes on the part of Target. Slated to open only the first floor, Target will now utilize the whole building.

Deputy Mayor Nijjar:

This is the first in person Board Meeting that the Village has held since the start of Covid.

Revitalization Commission

- There was a great turnout for Earth Day the Village celebrated on May 16th at 10 am, at Memorial Park. Participants received t-shirts. They planted flowers, cleaned up the park and the Lions Club donated a tree which was planted.
 - Thank you to Dan Westter who provided music during the event and DPW for all their help.

Tree Committee

Tree planting will start again in the fall. For anyone interested, contact DPW to request a tree be planted in front of their house.

Cultural Commission

- There will be a concert in the park on June 16th at 7:30 pm.
- In July the committee is looking into having a multicultural event at the park. The committee is looking for suggestions that residents would like to see. They are planning to have food trucks from various cultures for people to enjoy.

NHP Schools

- Volunteers from NHP Memorial High School have been chosen and there will be 7 interns that will intern at the Village in various capacities. The Board thanks Dr. Faccio, principal of NHP Memorial High School for setting this up.

Summer Camp

Applications for summer camp are available on line. With Covid restrictions changing, rain dates might be spent at Village Hall as opposed to being canceled. Keep checking our website for updates.

Mayor Devane:

Village Hall / Parks / DPW

- Village Hall is now open from 8:45 am to 4:15 pm. We ask that everyone still maintains certain protocols when entering the building, like staying 6 feet apart and wearing a mask for all those who are not vaccinated.
- The Village Street Fair is taking place on September 18th. A kickoff meeting will be held sometime next week. Chief Papa from the Fire Department and John Concannon from the Auxiliary Police will be there.
- Mayor thanked L. Verbanac for the effort of putting together the newsletter. The residents should receive it at the beginning of June.
- There are 5 new park attendants that were hired as part timers. Their job will entail walking the park, keeping it clean, resolving issues that arise, and more.
- DPW will be receiving \$3M, money secured through Senator Kaplan, for updates to the DPW facility.
- The Village will be submitting a grant proposal to NY Courts to obtain money for updates to the courtroom.
- The Village Board is looking into ways to update Marcus Christ Hall.
- The Village Board is gathering quotes for the update to the Memorial Park Entrance.
- The dog park at Memorial Park will be named after Trustee Barbieri who passed away several years ago and his service dog Hallie.

- There will be 7 interns from NHP Memorial High School volunteering their time this summer. They will be involved with our Instagram page, clips which will be posted on our website highlighting a Village resident, as well as clips outlining our history.

Nassau County Police Department

The Mayor held a meeting with the 3rd precinct. Inspector Bodin stated that ring doorbells are a plus for any resident. They catch a lot of crime that happens immediately in front of residences.

- NCPD will be keeping an eye on the group of people who regularly hang out on William Street by the park.
- There have been reports of homeless man urinating in the bushes in front of resident homes.
- The helicopter that was circling last weekend was looking for a missing person.

New Hyde Park Fire Department

- The FD will be participating in the Memorial Day Car Parade on May 29th.

The next work session will be on June 10th at 7:00 pm.

RESOLUTIONS:

20-127 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #20-30

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

20-128 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN BUDGETARY ACCOUNT CODES

- Upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the resolution to transfer unused appropriated funds from NYS Grant Justice Court to Judicial Supplies and Mail Data Supply.

20-129 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 Insurance Recovery to Shared Repairs VH.

20-130 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF NEW PART TIME LABORERS FOR DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

- Upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Burger, the resolution to hire 3 new part time laborers for DPW was unanimously approved.

20-131 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH DAVEY RESOURCE GROUP

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Burger, the resolution for the Mayor to enter into agreement with Davey Resource Group for an on-call arborist, for routine inspection \$90 and emergency inspection \$125, was unanimously approved.

20-132 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BRETT FENCE & CONTRACTING CORP.

- Upon motion by Trustee Savarese, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, the resolution for the Mayor to enter into a contract with Brett Fence and Contracting Corp to replace fencing around the perimeter of Memorial Park for \$2,885, was unanimously approved.

Old Business: no old business

New Business: no new business

The meeting was opened to public participation at 8:50 pm.

There being no further business, upon motion by Trustee Burger, seconded by Trustee Squicciarino, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting went into executive session at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lara Verbanac

Research Assistant to the Board