

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
August 19, 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 Savarese
Cathryn Hillmann, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Binu Pillay, Superintendent of Building
Igor Sikiric, Superintendent of DPW
Lara Verbanac, Research Assistant to the Board

Absent: Trustee Burger

Mayor Devane opened the Board Meeting at 7:04 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the Special Use hearing.

Minutes:

Upon motion by Trustee Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Squicciarino, the Board Meeting Minutes from July 15, 2021 were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD:

- Cellini Lodge requests the usage of Marcus Christ Hall on October 7, 2021 from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, for their members' meeting. Expected number of attendees will be 50 persons. - **Approved**
- NHP Chamber of Commerce requests the use of our billboard to announce their annual Golf Outing on September 22, 2021. - **Approved**

Block Party Request: Approved

- Saturday, September 11, 2021 (rain date of September 12th) Millers Lane, between Jericho Turnpike and 2nd Avenue from 8:00 am to 11:00 pm.

Landscaping License: Approved

Martin R. Landscaping – 34 Douglas Street, Inwood
Green Line Landscaping – 73 Cortland Avenue, Hicksville
Aguerta Felicito Landscaping – 888 Garfield Street, Franklin Square

Carter License:

Persi Contracting – 804 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Savarese:

Parks and Recreation

- As of August 20, 2021 there will be no park attendant present at Nuzzi Park during the daytime hours. Because the Village is short on park attendants there won't be one on duty in Nuzzi Park until 5:00 pm every day.
- There was a concert at Memorial Park on August 18, 2021 featuring Pat Farrell and the Cold Spring Harbor Band. The concert was well attended.

Little League

- Little League has extended its permits through the fall for Memorial Park. The Boys Minors have finished playing for the season, while the Girls Softball is in the middle of their finals.

Department of Public Works

Superintendent Sikiric stated that:

- In a recent storm event, 8 Village trees were lost. DPW removed 8 tree stumps and made 25 tree trims.
- DPW has taken over the annex building and is doing clean up in preparation for the construction at the DPW facility.
- 20 potholes have been filled in the last month.
- Stop sign replacement is still ongoing. Two of the stop signs replaced are solar powered.
- The Village assumed responsibility of the LIRR parking lot at the corner of New Hyde Park Road and Plaza Avenue in July.
- The crew has been repairing sidewalks which were damaged in 2020 Storm Isaias.
- DPW received 50 requests on GoGov in June.
- Parks department has been cleaning up the parks, as well as being involved in geese control.
- In August DPW will be working on catch basin cleaning and repair.

The Village Instagram account (@villageofnhp) which is used to inform residents of happenings within our community, as of now we have 471 followers.

Trustee Burger: Absent

In his absence Mayor Devane reported:

LIRR

- **G-14 Electrical Substation**
 - EJ Electric continues work on the substation. This work is planned through 9/2021.
 - On August 2nd a small crane was placed on the corner of S 9th Street and 3rd Avenue. This was required to erect some additional electrical steel structure and equipment for the substation.
 - Work was originally scheduled to be completed by August 6th with the possibility of being extended to August 9th. The work was completed on August 13th.
 - Mayor Devane and Trustee Burger met with 3TC on August 11th to express their dissatisfaction, once again, for the lack of notification.
 - We apologize to the residents for the lack of information but we are doing our best and appreciate our residents keeping us well informed.
 - The Board met with MTA and 3TC on the G14 substation perimeter fencing – the Board agreed to eliminate sidewalks on S 9th Street by the substation so that bushes can be installed to hide the fencing.
 - Testing and commissioning of the site will happen towards the end of the year.

- The substation is expected to be up and running by 4Q 2021.
- **Station House and New Platform**
 - Work on the Station House and Platform is continuing. No date has been communicated from 3TC for when everything will be completed. I'm estimating late November 2021.
- **South 12 Street**
 - Work continues on the entrance ramps to the underpass
 - No scheduled opening date.
- **Night Work/Track Outage**
 - We are not aware of any night work or track outages at this time. There was one track outage this past weekend.
- **Wall Construction**
 - Wall construction transition is taking place from 3rd Avenue to 2nd Avenue. This will continue for the next few weeks.
 - No road closures except for some intermittent closures for deliveries.
 - There will be no parking on 2nd Avenue.
 - The fencing that will go on top of the wall is on order and will be installed at a later date.
- **Road Closures**
 - The team working on the station platforms has submitted for a road closure permit of 2nd Avenue, east of Herkomer Street to the parking lot, so the remainder of work at the Station House can be completed. This will take approximately 3-4 weeks.
- **Truck Access & Parking Plan – 2nd & 3rd Ave**
 - Our General Council has worked out a resolution for the truck access on 3rd Avenue. The corner at 3rd Avenue and the Cover extension will be re-done to allow for larger trucks.
 - No design has been submitted by 3TC nor a time frame when this will be conducted.
 - Some preliminary prep work has started.
- **High Rail Access**
 - The Mayor and Trustee Burger met with 3TC and the MTA on August 11th to discuss the high rail access gate.
 - MTA noted that they don't see any issue with the request by the Village to have the rail access gate match the fencing that will be put on top of the wall.
 - Design will be forth coming in mid-September.

Water Authority

- Station 57 Rehabilitation project including 1.4 Dioxane Removal is moving along. Foundation and walls for the various buildings have been constructed. The overall primary construction should be complete in October 2021. It is not clear if that includes the new perimeter fencing and landscaping.
- The Board is not aware of any new issues at the site, other than what was discussed and addressed since the last Board Meeting
- The Village Board will request an update on status and schedule of the project from Water Authority.

Veterans Affairs

- The American Legion will hold its next meeting on September 11th at Marcus Christ Hall. The American Legion will participate in this year’s street fair.

Trustee Squicciarino:

Village Clerk’s Report

Meters	\$10,718.00
Muni-meters	\$14,402.14
Parking Permits	\$600.00
Building	\$23,831.15
Covid-19 NY OSC Reimbursement	\$500,876.61
Court Fines – Traffic	\$54,345.00
Court Fines – Building	\$2,800.00

The money received for the Covid-19 reimbursement from NY State has restrictions on how the money can be utilized.

Clerk’s Office

- Fiscal year 2020-2021 is currently being audited. The Auditors started the audit this week.
- The Clerk’s Office is in the process of converting payroll which was done in house, to ADP.
- Restrooms at Village Hall are still under construction.
- The next project at Village Hall will be to work on the HVAC system with the monies received as part of a grant.
- The Village received grant money from Nassau County for updates to the bathrooms at Memorial Park and the ramp in front of Village Hall.

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and the Mary Ruchalski Foundation will be decorating the tree outside of Village Hall with gold lights to honor and bring awareness to the cause. The tree lighting will take place right before the next Staff Meeting on September 9th at 7:00 pm.

The Cellini Feast, which usually takes place at Tully Park was canceled this year, due to Covid concerns.

The Hillside Library is offering many online and in person classes that the residents can take advantage of. Visit their site for more information.

Deputy Mayor Nijjar:

Cultural Commission

- On July 28th, the Village held its first Multicultural Event at Memorial Park with great success. Depending on community feedback, the event may become an annual event.
- The Village will hold its first Family Movie Night next Friday, August 27th, at Memorial Park, starting at 7:00pm. Everyone is welcome.
- The 24th Annual Street Fair will be held on September 18th on Jericho Turnpike, from 10 am to 4:30 pm.

- The Halloween Parade will be held on October 30th on Jericho Turnpike at 10 am.
- The Diwali celebration will be held on November 6th.
- The Holiday Tree Lighting will be held on November 27th at Village Hall.

The Village Board thanked the volunteers who helped organize and run the multicultural event. Additionally they thanked All in One Party Rentals for donating equipment for the upcoming family movie night.

NHP Schools

- 7 volunteers from NHP Memorial High School started working for the Village in various capacities. Three are assigned to the Clerk's Office and two are assigned to the Building Department.

Mayor Devane:

- The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor, Cultural Committee and the volunteers who worked on the Multicultural Event held at Memorial Park. The event was a success and hopefully will be the first of many.
- The Mayor thanked Trustee Savarese for the Pat Farrell and the Cold Spring Harbor Band concert which took place at Memorial Park on August 18, 2021.
- The next upcoming event will be Family Movie Night, which will feature Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle, on August 27, 2021 at Memorial Park.
- On September 18, 2021, the Village of New Hyde Park will host its 24th Annual Street Fair on Jericho Turnpike from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm.
- On September 9, 2021, the Village of New Hyde Park, along with the Mary Ruchalski Foundation will be holding a tree lighting at Village Hall to bring awareness to the Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month.

Auxiliary Police

The Auxiliary Police is working on obtaining a new patrol vehicle. They put out a bid, but ultimately lost it. The Village Board is working with the Auxiliary Police to help in obtaining a vehicle.

New Hyde Park Fire Department

The NHP FD will be participating in the 24th Annual Street Fair on September 18, 2021.

On September 12, 2021, the NHP FD will hold a ceremony in their Headquarters Parking Lot to pay tribute to the 20th Anniversary of 9/11. The ceremony will start at 12:45pm.

Village Hall / Parks / DPW

- In September, the entranceway to Memorial Park will be updated, making the Central Boulevard entrance the main gate into the park.
- The construction of the Dog Park will start in mid-October.
- Park rules will be enforced and only Village residents will be able to use Village Parks.
- All organized games will have to be granted a permit as well as provide insurance in order to play at the park.
- The Village Board is cautiously optimistic regarding the grant money promised to upgrade the DPW facility, to come through.
- The Feral Cat Committee has been doing a great job in collecting cats and having them spayed and neutered. They trapped 4 cats in the last two weeks. The Town of Hempstead has been working with the Village in picking up the cats and dropping them off once they are spayed/neutered. The Mayor thanked all those involved along with the Town of Hempstead for their hard work.
- The Village's first neighborhood watch meeting was a success, with 15 people volunteering to join. The Village and the attorneys are working together to have the program launched.
- The Village Hall bathrooms are still under construction.

- The Village Board is looking into grants to update Marcus Christ Hall.

Upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Savarese, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting went into executive session at 7:43 pm. The executive session ended at 7:54 pm.

The Mayor wanted to remind everyone that there are upcoming events in the Village and residents are encouraged to join:

September 12, 2021 – Ceremony at the NHP FD Headquarters

September 18, 2021 – Village Street Fair

October 2, 2021 – Katie’s Run

October 30, 2021 – Halloween Parade

November 6, 2021 – Diwali Celebration

November 27, 2021 – Tree Lighting

December 2021 – Christmas Movie Night

Mayor Devane extended an invitation to any residents who want to get involved with the Village and volunteer their time to help put on the various events.

The Village of New Hyde Park has a Youtube channel (NewHydeParkTV). There are several events that are uploaded on the channel at this time. Residents are encouraged to subscribe.

The meeting was opened to public participation at 7:59 pm and closed at 8:14 pm.

RESOLUTIONS:

21-35 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #21-6

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

21-36 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 between the budgetary account codes from Shared Repairs, Mail Data, Refuse Diesel, and Fund Balance to Contractual, Central Garage, Munimeter Fees, Street Lighting and SS Benefits was unanimously approved.

Old Business: no old business

New Business: no new business

There being no further business, upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Nijjar, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting went into executive session at 8:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lara Verbanac

Research Assistant to the Board