

VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
October 21, 2021

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

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

Absent: Trustee Squicciarino
Trustee Burger

Mayor Devane opened the Board Meeting at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Upon motion by Trustee Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the Board Meeting Minutes from September 16, 2021 were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD:

Marcus Christ Hall Rental: APPROVED

- Cub Scout Pack 544 is seeking to rent Marcus Christ Hall on November 12th and December 10th to hold their monthly meetings from 6:30 pm to 10:00 pm.
- Cellini Lodge is seeking to rent Marcus Christ Hall on October 25th from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm and December 2nd from 6:30 pm to 10:00 pm

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Savarese:

Parks and Recreation

- Brett Fence submitted a quote to replace the fencing at Memorial Park around the baseball field and basketball court.

Little League

- Fall baseball started.
- The boys' team is undefeated so far.
- Registration for next year will begin in November.

The Village Instagram account (@villageofnhp) which is used to inform residents of happenings within our community, as of now has 600 followers.

Some dates the Village Board is looking into for next year are:
Gladiator Golf Outing – September 16, 2022
Street Fair – September 17, 2022
Village Golf Outing – October 17, 2022

Department of Public Works

Superintendent Sikiric stated that:

- Vegetation was removed in front of Village Hall so that electrical outlets can be installed.
- Road work has started a couple of weeks ago.
- There has been pothole repair on 6th Avenue.
- Two new stop signs were installed in the Village.
- Road striping in the Village is 75% complete.
- October 12th was a double sanitation day. October 3rd and October 12th will be double sanitation days due Election Day and Veterans Day.
- Three trees were removed from Memorial Park.
- Three trees were removed from Central Lot.
- Clean up has been taking place on 2nd and 3rd Avenue.
- Streets have been getting swept on a weekly basis.
- Leaf collection will begin on November 1st.

Trustee Burger: Absent

In his absence Mayor Devane reported:

LIRR

- **G-14 Electrical Substation**
 - EJ Electric will be doing Night Work starting October 21st.
 - Duration will be 2 Weeks and will include weekends
 - Work was condensed to 2 weeks vs. original 4 week schedule
 - Perimeter Fencing & Landscaping
 - Board agreed to eliminate side walk by the substation to allow for landscaping.
 - 3TC received recommendations from Village Board and McNulty Outdoors to plant steeplechase arborvitae.
 - Testing and commissioning of the site will be toward the end of the year.
 - The substation is expected to be up and running by 4Q 2021
- **South 12th Street, Station House and New Platform**
 - Work on all 3 sites has been ongoing and expected to be completed in late December 2021. Re-opening should take place in winter of 2022.
 - Roof of the station house is to be painted a blue gray next week, making it uniform with the platform roof and other new stations along the corridor.
- **Night Work/Road Closures**
 - G-14 night work will begin October 21st.
 - No road closures are planned at this time except for rolling closures on 2nd Avenue.
- **Wall Construction**
 - Village noted to 3TC that the 2nd Avenue wall construction doesn't seem to be moving forward. It was expected that the wall was going to be completed by now.
 - 3TC is investigating the delay.

- The fencing that will go on-top of the wall is now on contract and procurement is in process.
- **High Rail Access**
 - Residential fencing is under contract. No design for high rail gate has been submitted yet. Currently there is a temporary gate up. 3TC will update the Village Board of the progress.
- **Construction Debris**
 - 3TC followed up on a site clean-up based on photos and discussions with Trustee Burger.
 - Mayor Devane met with a Resident on 3rd Avenue in regard to the debris in the area.
 - 3TC will reach out to the site superintendent with Village concerns.
- **New Hyde Park Road Safety**
 - There have been two fatalities at the entrance to the underpass since its opening.
 - Village Board notified 3TC and MTA requesting a review of the underpass and to look for safety enhancements.
 - Nassau County Police accident reports have been acquired.
 - The review of the accident reports show no cause that the design or construction played any contributing factor but rather a situation of circumstance.
 - Trustee Burger and Mayor Devane met with Presiding Officer Richard Nicoletto and County DPW on September 22nd to see if they can help with the safety issues of New Hyde Park Road.
 - Follow-up meeting with the County and 3TC will be held on October 26th.
- **3rd Track Project Score Card**
 - Village Residents are urged to rate 3TC performance and complete the MTA Score Card. Depending on the rating, it will determine 3TCs incentive/bonus for their performance. Deadline to submit is this Friday, October 22nd.
 - Link: <https://lirrexpansion.com/2021/10/05/3rd-quarter-2021-community-scorecards-available-online-we-want-your-feedback/>
 - If you see problems – don't hesitate to call the Hotline 516-203-4955 or email communityoutreach@lirrexpansion.com

Water Authority

- Station 57 Rehabilitation project including 1.4 Dioxane removal has experienced a delay because of material delivery issues and Union interference issues. The delay has pushed the preliminary completion date of October 2021 to a new targeted completion date of December 2021.
- Foundations and walls for the various buildings have been built and equipment installation has started.

Veterans Affairs

- American Legion Post # 1089 meetings are being held on the 2nd Saturday of every month, at 10 am, at Marcus Christ Hall.
- Next meeting dates will be October 13th and December 11th.
- Post #1089 Birthday Dinner will be held tonight, October 21st.
- Veterans Day ceremony will be held at Village Hall on October 11th.

Noise Abatement

- Richard Pallisco has been appointed to the Noise Abatement Committee.
- The committee is advocating the use of the glide slop rather than the step-down method for aircraft arriving at JFK Airport. This will allow aircraft to remain higher when flying over our communities and reduce noise caused by engine thrust.
- Residents are urged to file online noise complaints at www.hempsteadny.gov/TVASNAC. Additionally, Hempstead residents can call 1-800-225-1071, and North Hempstead residents can dial 311.

Trustee Squicciarino: Absent

No report was submitted.

Deputy Mayor Nijjar:

Deputy Mayor Nijjar wished Mayor Devane a Happy Birthday.

Cultural Commission

- The Halloween Parade will be held on October 30th on Jericho Turnpike at 10 am. Lining up will start at Lakeville parking lot at 9:30 am.
- Diwali Celebration will take place at Marcus Christ Hall on November 5th at 4:30 pm.
- Veterans Day celebration will take place on the front lawn of Village Hall on November 11th at 10:45 am.
- There will be a Holiday Drive-In Movie held in the parking lot by the LIRR. The date has not been set yet.

NHP Schools

- The Memorial HS homecoming day parade will take place on October 23rd. The parade will begin from the Lakeville parking lot.
- The NHP Road School will be collecting Halloween costumes for kids who do not have one. There is a drop box in the lobby of the school for anyone who would like to donate a costume.

Mayor Devane:

Past Village Events

- The Mayor announced that the street fair held on September 18th was a great success. He thanked street fair organizer Lara Verbanac for putting it together. Additionally he thanked DPW for the many hours of work they put in the day of the fair.
- A post street fair meeting was held, where the group discussed if anything should be done differently for next year.
- The Mayor thanked the sponsors, local merchants, the Police Department and Fire Department for their participation in the street fair.
- Katie's Run held October 2nd was a great success. Several Board Members participated in the run/walk.

Upcoming Village Events

- On October 30th, the Village of New Hyde Park will host its first Halloween Parade. People will be lining up at the Lakeville parking lot at 9:30 am. There will be events for kids held on the front lawn of Village Hall. The Fire Department will have a truck parked in the Village Hall parking lot for kids to climb on. The Mayor thanked all those involved in decorating Village Hall.
- Diwali Festival of Lights will be held on November 5th at 4:30 pm at Marcus Christ Hall.
- The Village is hoping to have other events in the future like Chinese New Year Celebration and Saint Patrick's Day Parade.
- The Veterans Day Celebration will be held on November 11th on the front lawn of Village Hall at 10:45 am.
- The Annual Village Tree Lighting will be held on November 27th at 3:00 pm.
- The Village is hoping to have its Drive-In movie on December 11th. Auxiliary police will be checking IDs at the entrance to the parking lot. Village residents will be admitted first into the lot.

Nassau County Police Department

The Village came across an illegal social club at 608 2nd Avenue. Parties were held in the building until 5 am. The Police Department were called to the scene. The Mayor thanked the Police Department for their professionalism in dealing with the unruly patrons of the social club.

Village Hall / Parks / DPW

- Village attorneys are currently reviewing the paperwork and licenses needed to get the Neighborhood Watch program off the ground. There will be one Village vehicle designated for neighborhood watch.
- Trees have been cleared out in Memorial Park, making room for the dog park. Construction will be starting soon. The dog park will be named after Trustee Donald Barbieri trusted service dog Hailey. The dog park will be similar to the one at Tully Park. The bocce ball court will be relocated to make room for the dog park.
- The bathrooms at Memorial Park will be updated using grant money received from the state.
- Entrance to Memorial Park will be updated. Thank you Superintendent Pillay for designing the new entrance. Six flag poles will be added to the entrance of the park where flags of the 6 branches of military will be displayed.
- ID's will be required to enter Village Parks starting next year.
- The FD statue will be installed into the pocket park in the Central Lot next spring. It will acknowledge all 50 year members of the Fire Department.
- The handicap ramp at Village Hall will be updated to be ADA compliant using a grant received from the state. Additionally new lighting will be installed in front of the building.
- The Village DPW department is still awaiting funding from the state so that updates to the rundown DPW facility can be made. When the construction starts Nuzzi Park will be closed for the duration of the construction. It will then be restored once the construction is complete.
- The Village Hall bathrooms are still under construction. The fixtures are getting installed this week.
- The Village Board is looking into updating Marcus Christ Hall, which has not been updated since 1987. It would take \$350K - \$700K to make updates to the hall.

Superintendent Pillay presented to the board the drawings of the new Memorial Park entrance.

A Village resident that lives by the LIRR gave a presentation showing the conditions they live with during construction.

The Mayor stated that the Village is open to dedicating other pocket parks in the Village, provided the organizations involved pay for it.

The Mayor announced that the Village Board meeting will now be held on the third Thursday of every month and Village Staff meetings will be held on the second Thursday of the month. If there becomes a need for more than one Board and one Staff meeting a month then another meeting will be added.

The Feral Cat Committee now has 48 members. They are working with the TOH and the TONH on the trap and neuter program. The Mayor thanked them for their hard work.

The Mayor invited those that have issues with the way things are done in the Village to join a committee and help make changes for the future.

RESOLUTIONS:

21-55 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #21-10

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

21-56 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF A NEW PART TIME LABORER FOR THE DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS/PARKS

- Upon motion by Trustee Savarese, seconded by Trustee Nijjar, the resolution to hire a new part time laborer for the Department of Public Works was unanimously approved.

Old Business: no old business

New Business: no new business

The meeting was opened to public participation at 8:37 pm and closed at 8:55 pm.

There being no further business, upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Savarese, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting went into executive session at 8:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lara Verbanac

Research Assistant to the Board