

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK  
REGULAR MEETING  
October 20, 2022**

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

Mayor Devane opened the Board Meeting at 7:03 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Devane thanked everyone for their prayers for Abigail and Connor Tso that were requested at the September meeting. They are both doing well.

**BOARD MINUTES: APPROVED**

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar seconded by Trustee Savarese, the Board Meeting Minutes from September 15, 2022 were unanimously approved.

**COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:**

The Police Report for September 2022 was submitted by the Nassau County Police Department on October 12, 2022.

**Landscaping Renewal: APPROVED**

- German Collado Landscaping 157 Church Street, Freeport, NY 11520

**REPORTS:**

**Tr. Savarese:** Parks and Recreation, Little League, Public Information, Dept. of Public Works, and Tree Committee

**Tr. Burger:** Building Department, LIRR, Veterans Affairs, Noise Abatement

**Tr. Squicciarino:** Board of Assessors, Chamber of Commerce, Clerk's Office, Library, Business Development, Community Development (CDBG)

**Deputy Mayor Nijjar:** Revitalization Commission, Cultural Commission and Schools

**Mayor Devane:** Auxiliary Police, Fire Department, Nassau County Police, Facilities LIRR Task Force, Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning and ARB Board

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**22-57 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #22-10**

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

## **22-58 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF NEW FULL TIME EMPLOYEE RESEARCH ASSISTANT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

- Upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the resolution to hire a new full-time employee was unanimously approved.

### **TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

#### **Trustee Savarese:**

Trustee Savarese attended the Ronald McDonald House fundraiser organized by The Katie McBride foundation prior to the meeting. Trustee Savarese regarded the house an unbelievable organization. The services provided to the families of the children going through the toughest fight are remarkable. If you can, please help them out.

Trustee Savarese also wished Mayor Devane a Happy Birthday.

#### **Public Information**

We currently have over 1100 Instagram followers. If you have not yet followed us, please consider it as it provides updates, notices and events throughout the Village as well as MTA/LIRR updates. These are also posted on our website, electronic billboard, and app.

#### **Parks and Recreation**

Friday, September 30th was the final concert of this season. Lampshade for Hiding put on a great show and have already committed to next years Street Fair.

Park ID's can be obtained at Village Hall on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:30am -2:00 pm.

The children's playground excavation has begun.

#### **Little League**

Two boy's 10U teams are undefeated. The 12U team will head into the playoffs. The girls 9U team played up in a new division and are coming together nicely. The girls' junior team has had a competitive fall season. T-ball team. T-ball will be cancelled on 10/22 due to the Halloween Parade.

#### **Neighborhood Watch**

Is ongoing and we are currently looking for many more volunteers. Residents see the car out there and know we are looking out.

At next month's Board Meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup>, Nassau County 3<sup>rd</sup> precinct Inspector Ciaccio and a P.O.P. officer will be in attendance at 8:00 pm to discuss current goings on.

#### **Department of Public Works: Igor Sikiric, Superintendent**

- The 2022 Road Improvement project is almost complete. The contractor will be finalizing all repairs and installing sod in the disturbed areas within next few weeks.
- Department of Public Works performed 20 tree trimmings.
- Department of Public Works has repaired 15-20 pot holes.
- Department of Public Works is currently dismantling the Children's Playground.
- The fall tree planting will consist of 30 new trees.

- The fall 2022 tree requests are completed for the season. Any requests made now will be added to the Spring/Fall 2023 list.
- Leaves pick up will continue every Wednesday through December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- There will be no sanitation pick-up on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. Entire Village will be picked up on Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Department of Public Works is continuing field maintenance for the fall leagues.
- The Water Authority advised there will be hydrant flushing in the southwest portion of the Village on October 30<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 pm to 7:00 am. The Water Authority will be placing door hangers to notify residents. There is the possibility of brown water during the hydrant flushing.

## **Building Department - Binu Pillay, Superintendent**

### **Zoning Board of Appeals**

- Last hearing was conducted on October 12<sup>th</sup> with 2 cases on the agenda whereas both were approved.
- The Next meeting was scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup>. Since no applications have been submitted the meeting has been cancelled.

### **Architectural Review Board**

- The last meeting was held on October 5<sup>th</sup> where one case was heard and the decision was reserved.
- The next meeting is scheduled on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Village Court**

- The last Village building court was held on October 19<sup>th</sup> at Village Hall. There were 11 cases on the docket; property maintenance, violations of Special Use Agreements, rental occupancy violation and parking on lawn. The next Village building court will be held on November 16<sup>th</sup> at Village Hall, with 15 cases on the docket.
- There have been 66 permits in total approved and issued between September 15<sup>th</sup> and October 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **Trustee Burger**

### **Long Island Railroad (LIRR) 3<sup>rd</sup> Track Project**

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Track Project is NOT Complete!**

- Regardless what you may have heard in the media or by Governor Hochul, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Track Project is not complete.

#### **G-14 Electrical Substation**

- On October 19<sup>th</sup>, the Village finally received an updated estimate. Once it is reviewed and approved by the Village, the work should begin within two to three weeks.
- The landscaping will be pushed to the spring as it will be too late to plant at that point.

#### **South 12<sup>th</sup> Pedestrian Underpass**

- Most of the issues have been addressed except for the façade. Another mock-up is being worked on.
- The Village is growing frustrated as we have not received any further updates from 3TC.

#### **Wall Construction – Fencing**

- The wall construction is almost complete. The exception being a section by 2<sup>nd</sup> and Covert Avenues. The emergency gates also still need to be installed.

- The architectural fencing installation is close to completion. Again, the exception being the area where the section of the wall is missing and the high-rail access gate.
- The high rail access gate is in the final design stage and will be installed later this year. The Village is waiting for an update from 3TC.

### **Roads**

- The Village has not received any updates from 3TC in over a month.
- The Village understands that milling on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues will begin in the next few weeks. Striping will follow, we just do not have a date as yet.
- The Village is working with the MTA and 3TC on a number of roads that the Village wants repaved due to the construction.
  - *4<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Will be estimated and funded by CBF - Community Benefit Fund)*
  - *Stewart Avenue (Between Covert Avenue and the NHP DPW Facility) The Village is waiting on an estimate and will also be funded by CBF- Community Benefit Fund.*

### **LIRR Track Work – Service Outages**

- A double Track outage is scheduled for 10/29. There will not be any service in New Hyde Park beginning at 11:00 pm Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> through Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 am.

### **Nightwork/Road Closures**

- Intermittent night work within ROW during double track and around 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues once paving begins.

### **Track Noise**

- The Village met with the MTA and Residents in late September
  - Weld needs to be completed on the North Track. The date is to be determined.
  - Ballast will also be added to the center track and the weld will be checked.
  - Fixes potentially to be done during double track outage on the weekend of 10/29 – waiting on confirmation from MTA

### **NHP Road Safety Concerns**

- Regarding speed, pavement marking to be completed with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue restriping. The Village is concerned it is getting late in the season.
- Left turn signal (protected signal) at New Hyde Park Road and Plaza Avenue.
  - The County has approved the install of the left turn protected signal. The Village is just waiting on a schedule to get it installed.

### **Signage on Covert Avenue Extensions**

- The Village will review the signage that was installed on the North and South side of the Covert Avenue extensions.
- Wrong Way signage was installed at the request of the Village. This request was based on a walk through back in January of 2020. The Village observed numerous vehicles traveling the wrong way on the Covert Avenue extensions at the opening of Covert Avenue. Over time the Village will re-evaluate as the community adapts to the new traffic pattern.

If you see problems – don't hesitate to call the Hotline 516-203-4955 or email [communityoutreach@lirrexpansion.com](mailto:communityoutreach@lirrexpansion.com)

**Water Authority**

- The well at Station 57 Rehabilitation project including 1.4 Dioxane removal is still not operational.
- The Water Authority has not yet received Nassau County Department of Health (DOH) approval to go operational. The Water Authority did receive 2 successful clean water tests for well 57 in September and is waiting on Department of Health approval.
- Except for the gates, the fencing is complete. The site is slowly being cleaned up and landscaping and paving is being done.

**Veterans Affairs/American Legion Post 1089**

- The Post’s Birthday Dinner is tonight, October 20<sup>th</sup> at Saint Annes K of C Hall, 263-15 Union Turnpike, Glen Oaks
- The next meeting will be on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 am in Marcus Christ Hall.
- The Veterans Day Ceremony will be on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 am. We request everyone be at Village Hall at 10:30 am.

**Noise Abatement**

- The next two TVASNAC meetings will be held on October 24<sup>th</sup>, and November 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The committee is continuing to work on getting Daily Noise Levels down to 55 dBA. It is currently hovering at 60 to 65 dBA.
- TVASNAC is pushing for more noise monitors.
- The Town of Hempstead has been working on acquiring noise data information from FAA noise monitors. If the FAA does not release the data, TVASNAC will be looking to hire a private company to conduct noise studies in our area. A letter writing campaign has begun in an attempt to have the FAA respond to an update on the Part 150 study (Noise and Health Issues). This campaign will continue into 2023 after the Congressional elections.
- Residents are urged to file online noise complaints at [www.hempsteadny.gov/TVASNAC](http://www.hempsteadny.gov/TVASNAC). Or Hempstead residents should call 1-800-225-1071. North Hempstead residents can dial 311.

**Kate Hillmann, Village Clerk/Treasurer**

**Village Clerk’s Report**

Meters	\$16,366.11
Muni-meters	\$23,533.07
Building	\$30,752.34
Interest on Accts	\$3,747.16
Court Fines-Traffic	\$50,133.00
Court Fines – Building	\$2,800.00
State Aid	\$148,904.00

**Community Development Projects**

Handicap Access Ramp.  
 Counters in the Clerk’s Office and Building Department \$56,000.  
 Flooring – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Floors \$32,000.

**Grant from Senator Kaplan’s Office**

\$100,000 – HVAC on the first floor, basement and second floor.

**Marcus Christ Hall**

- The Village Clerk has completed and submitted a Grant in the amount \$450,000 to Senator Kaplan's office.
- The Village Clerk received an email today which confirmed a \$250,000 grant from Nassau County Legislature, Presiding Officer Richard Nicoletto's office. This grant money can be utilized right away.

**Other items:**

- The New Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce will be holding a Food Drive through December 16, 2022.
- The Village of New Hyde Park will be holding a Toys for Tots Drive through December 7, 2022.
- There will be boxes for both drives at Village Hall.

**Trustee Squicciarino:**

**Newsletter**

- Lara has the Fall Newsletter completed and at the printers. The residents should be receiving it within the next two weeks.

**Swift 911**

- The Village would like to utilize the Swift 911 email notification system for all announcements; sanitation changes, upcoming events, hydrant flushing, etc. If you have not done so already, please go to the Village website and enter your email address.

**Long and Lean**

- Long and Lean will be coming back on November 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00 am – 11:00 am. The location is to be determined due to the construction at Village Hall.

**The Library**

- The library is participating in the Great Give Back by collecting donations to support families at the Ronald McDonald House during medical treatment! Please donate non-perishable food items, cleaning products and kitchen items.

**Katie's Concert**

- The Katie McBride Foundation will be hosting their 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Katie's Concert on November 21<sup>st</sup> at Chaminade High School (Activity-Athletic Center) 311 Jericho Turnpike, Mineola, NY Tickets: \$75 per person which includes dinner catered by Prime Fine Catering, beer and wine open bar, and great raffles! Advanced ticket purchase required at [www.KatieMcBrideFoundation.org](http://www.KatieMcBrideFoundation.org).

**New Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce**

- NHP Chamber has a new member-Welcome Dominick's Deli!
- The November Luncheon Meeting will be on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at "Your Mother's House" 12:30 pm. \$20.00 per person.

**Tax School Information**

- If you no longer pay taxes through escrow and received your 2022/2023 tax bill, the school tax increase is just 2% but the change in the Assess Value is creating fluctuations which may make it higher. Remember you always have the right to grieve your taxes.

**Senior Program**

- The official kick-off event for this program will be a Senior Luncheon on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> 11:30am – 1:00 pm. Laura Trentacoste, our Senior Coordinator will be hosting this event and registration is required in order to plan accordingly. Please call Village Hall or email [seniorprograms@vnhp.org](mailto:seniorprograms@vnhp.org) to register.

### **AA+ Rating**

- The Village has a call in with S&P regarding our rating, our past rating has been AA+ and we hope to maintain that which will help with the preparation for the Bond out to bid at 1.4 million.
- Closing documents can be submitted through mid-November.

### **Urban Forestry**

- At the last staff meeting, the board received a presentation from the DEB Group which will provide a transitionary; a whole computer layout indicating target areas in need. The Emerald Ash Borer beetles are creating a problem with our Ash Trees. Knowing these details allows us to take a more accurate inventory of the trees as well as applying for funding.

### **Residential Rehab money is still available.**

### **Deputy Mayor Nijjar**

Is compelled to be the voice of the people behind the scenes. All of the events that take place in the Village are due to the hard work of many individuals. Brainstorming, planning, delegating, ordering food, decorating, entertainment is just a small portion of what has gone into each event for the past eighteen months. There are so many people we count on; everyone who calls with input, who volunteers their time. A shoutout to Dan “the man” of High Voltage Productions and Send in the Clowns. You all make a difference.

The first annual Columbus Day parade on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. Thank you to all that helped and thank you to all the sponsors, especially our Grand Marshall Remo. Gino’s of New Hyde Park, Umberto’s of New Hyde Park, Sansone Foods and Dominick’s Italian/American Deli.

### **NHP Schools**

- Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> was the New Hyde Park Schools Homecoming Parade. The Board marched with their own float. The Village has a great partnership with the High School. Dr. Faccio is amazing.
- Memorial High School partnered with the New Hyde Park Fire Department held a disaster drill. I was a full-blown disaster event. The children need to see what to do and how to do it. It was well received and very informative.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Halloween Parade. We will meet in the Lakeville Road parking lot at 9:30 am, the parade will kick-off at 10:00 am and will end at Village Hall parking lot. There will be games and prizes for all ages. The Board will be dressed in costume and their will be a pie eating contest. Bring your pre-carved pumpkin to enter the contest.
- Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> is the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Diwali celebration 5:00 pm at Marcus Christ Hall. New this year will be an essay contest. Essays were submitted by neighborhood students to their respective school Principals’ office. There will be a prize for the winner of each group; kindergarten, will create a drawing and grades 1 and 2 and grades 3 through 6 will create a one-page explanation. The choice of topics is; What is Diwali and what does it signify? What is your favorite way of celebrating Diwali? Do you have a favorite Diwali memory? The winner will be announced at our Diwali celebration.

- Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> is the Veteran's Day Ceremony at 10:45 am sharp.

### **Mayor Devane**

- Mayor Devane stated that he was so impressed when he walked into Village Hall all decorated for Halloween. Thank you, Milena Garden Center, but most importantly, thank you to the Cultural Commission. They have gone above and beyond. So, thank you Christie Cosuanco, Dhanya Sanichara and Eve. Great job. The Village has a friend named Christina who spent hours making not one, but two massive spider webs. Christina came at night and laid out this web on the lawn. Three guys did everything possible to get this web on the building. These are the type of people willing to help and we are grateful.
- Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> was the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Street Fair and it was a great success. Thank you to Igor, Lara and Patty. Craft-a-fair complimented the professionalism of the team. Igor thank you for your participation in this. You had a quarter of the workforce and no one lacked services.
- Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> was our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Columbus Day Parade and was a fantastic day. Our Grand Marshall was Remo Scarapacchia. One of the nicest, hardworking, and humble individuals I know. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct officers requested to lead Remo in the parade to honor him. Thank you to our great sponsors; Gino's of New Hyde Park, Dominick's Italian American Deli, Umberto's of New Hyde Park, Sansone Foods and of course Remo's Deli. Great work John Nicastro and Diane Bentivegna. It was a wonderful gathering of the community.

### **Neighborhood Watch**

- Neighborhood Watch is looking for members. Be a visible deterrent to anyone that might need it; be it a senior citizen or a young lady out on a nightly stroll. Say hello, make sure they are safe while wearing visible indicators you are from the Village.

### **The New Hyde Park Fire Department**

- Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> the New Hyde Park Fire Department is hosting a recruitment drive from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Estates Engine Company located at 1021 Lakeville Road, New Hyde Park
- The Junior Fire Department has been a phenomenal success with over 45-50 members.
- On Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> the Junior Fire Department will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's.

### **Village Hall**

- New wiring has been installed in the Clerk's Office, Building Department and downstairs.
- New boiler, new HVAC and new windows on the first floor. 4 windows in the Clerk's Office were not fire rated. To be fiscally conservative, the windows were closed up and filled with brick.
- Asbestos has been removed from both the Clerk's Office and the Building Department.
- The stairwells will be completed.
- Second Floor flooring will be retiled and hi-hat lighting will replace the single chandelier.
- The handicap ramp construction is underway.
- The shingles on the side entrance will be replaced.
- The Village is adding an 86-foot fence between the property next door and the parking lot.

## **Marcus Christ Hall**

- Plans are being drawn to submit to the County and State for grant monies; 250k from Nassau County and 450k from Anna Kaplan's office.
- At least one tree and the shrubs will be excavated by Department of Public Works. These have to come down in order to be able to align with Village Hall.
- The last official function will be the Tree Lighting on November 26, 2022.
- November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> will be clean out days. All organizations will come and clean out their belongings.
- November 30<sup>th</sup> will begin asbestos removal.
- Excavation of the building will take place in December. There is a possibility that the cost of the building excavation will be donated.

## **Memorial Park**

- The Village has issued 1,972 Park IDs to date. When accounting for grandparents, grandchildren and guests, close to 4,500 people have access to the park.
- Excavation of the children's playground began on October 17<sup>th</sup>. The Department of Public works will save the Village \$10, 000 to \$15,000 by doing a large portion of the work.
- The park will accommodate children of all abilities. The Village is utilizing the same company that did New Hyde Park Road School playground and we anticipate having a full plan next month which will include a senior sitting section within the children's section.
- The Village is in discussion with the Bocce Ball group regarding the possibility of an additional court. We are not there yet but discussions are ongoing.
- The Village is also looking into possibly installing a new office and new bathrooms at the park next year.
- The Village is completely aware of the underutilization of the big field and there are ongoing discussions on ideas for future use.
- On November 28<sup>th</sup> the water and sprinklers will be turned off and the sprinklers will be blown out. The Village will have to close the bathrooms and the dog park as there will be no way to maintain them.

## **Department of Public Works**

- A 5.1-million-dollar Grant Money was negotiated in 2017 by the previous administration. Those plans, if we did them today would probably cost about 9 million dollars.
- We spoke with those that made the 5.1-million-dollar plans and they came back now at 7 million dollars. The Village went to someone else and they came back at 6.8 million dollars. We can not move forward short 2 million dollars.
- Reality of what is needed; the administration building will need to house the Department of Public Works Superintendent, the Department of Public Works Foreman, bathrooms and a breakroom. Also needed is a mechanics bay, a structure for salt and a structure for trucks.
- The Village is constantly looking at ways to cut costs, therefore the Village is looking at possible ways to refurbish the facility.

## **Miller Bros.**

- The Village met with the owner of the facility and our Village attorney to discuss the potential for a mixed-use building. This discussion will go on over many months. The owner Dean, the Village board and the head of ARB, Ken Garvin will all come together to try and make it work.
- I had a long conversation with the Mayor of Mineola in which a statement he made started a thought process. He said, "Street retail is dead". Keep that in mind as discussions continue.

## Upcoming Events

- October 22<sup>nd</sup> is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Halloween Parade. We will meet in the Lakeville Road parking lot at 9:30 am and will kick off the parade at 10:00 am. We will proceed East on Jericho Turnpike to Village Hall where there will be games and contest for both adults and children.
- Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> is our Diwali Celebration in Marcus Christ Hall at 5:00pm
- Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> is our Veteran's Day Ceremony at 10:45 am sharp on the front lawn of Village Hall. To honor our Veteran's, eastbound Jericho Turnpike from Herkomer Street to New Hyde Park Road will be closed to street traffic. The ceremony will take place rain or shine. We hope you can all come out.
- Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup> is the Village of New Hyde Park Tree Lighting Ceremony at 3:00 pm at Marcus Christ Hall. This will be the last official event at Marcus Christ Hall.

## Safety Press Conference

- Senator Schumer, Senator Kaplan, the Fire Department attended the press conference regarding traffic safety. There will be an audit and we are hopeful improvements can be made. Please be safe when driving.

**Old Business:** no old business

**New Business:** no new business

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 9:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Patricia Santomauro*

Secretary to the Board