

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
November 17, 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
Peter Trentacoste, Village Attorney
Patricia Santomauro, Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Mayor Devane opened the Board Meeting at 7:15 pm following a Special Use Public Hearing. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the hearing.

BOARD MINUTES: APPROVED

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar seconded by Trustee Savarese, the Board Meeting Minutes from October 20, 2022 were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

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

Carter License Renewal: APPROVED

- AVF Development Corp. – 50 2nd Avenue, Garden City Park, NY 11040

Peddler Permit Application: APPROVED * Monday through Friday 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm hand delivery. After 5:00 pm, drop in mailbox

- New Hope Community Church – 1400 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park, NY 11040

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:

22-62 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #22-12

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

22-63 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF NEW PART TIME LABORER FOR THE DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the resolution to hire a new part-time laborer was unanimously approved.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Savarese:

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 my VNHP app.

Parks and Recreation

Renovations are ongoing for the children's playground.

We are winterizing bathrooms at both Memorial and Nuzzi parks. On November 28th both the bathrooms and the dog park will be shut down as the water needs to be shut off for the winter.

Little League

- The boy's 12U team lost to Garden City in the semi-finals 3-1. The boys 10U teams played each other and the White Team came out on top. All other teams finished on a positive note and are looking forward to next season.
- The New Hyde Park indoor clinic started Saturday, November 12th.
- Registration for Spring has started and is available online at www.newhydeparklitleleague.com. The link can also be found on the Village website.

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.

Department of Public Works: Igor Sikiric, Superintendent

- The past month we have been responsible for the removal of the Children's playground; all the concrete, metal and plastic tubing. Scrap metal will go to the scrap metal yard, all others will be disposed of accordingly.
- Leaf collection had a slow start but as of this past Monday, November 14th all pickups have been following the normal schedule and will continue through Wednesday through December 7th.

- The events the Department of Public Works have assisted with the past month are; Halloween, Diwali and Veteran's Day.
- There will be no sanitation collection on Thursday, November 24th. The entire Village will be picked up on Friday, November 25th.
- All major road work projects have been completed. The contractor was able to complete an additional three (3) roads within its original budget. All sod will be installed by the end of the month.
- Winterization of Memorial Park will be completed by the end of the month; taking down the fencing by the bocce ball court, tennis court and basketball court in which it will be stored for next year.
- Department of Public Works also assisted the Clerk's Office and Building Department with the relocation from the basement back to the first floor.
- Department of Public Works purchased five (5) new pieces of equipment in the beginning of the year. We received two (2) pieces of equipment recently; a John Deer Gator which will assist with the maintenance of Jericho Turnpike and along 2nd and 3rd Avenues. We also received a Caterpillar 926 Wheel Loader which will be used for transfer operations of recyclables and yard waste.

Building Department - Binu Pillay, Superintendent

Zoning Board of Appeals

- Last hearing was scheduled on November 9th. Since no applications were submitted, the meeting was cancelled.
- The Next meeting is scheduled for December 14th with one application on the agenda.

Architectural Review Board

- The last meeting was held on November 2nd where four cases were heard; two (2) were approved, one (1) did not appear and one (1) the decision was reserved for the next meeting.
- The next meeting is scheduled on December 7th with three (3) cases on the agenda.

Village Building Court

- The last Village building court was held on November 16th. There were eighteen (18) cases on the docket; property maintenance, violations of Special Use Agreements, working without a permit, excessive noise from automobile and parking on lawn. The next Village building court will be held on December 21st at Village Hall, with thirteen (13) cases on the docket.
- Rental Registrations are ongoing. These are completed every 2 years for odd and even numbers.
- There have been 51 permits in total approved and issued between October 20th and November 17th.

Trustee Burger

Long Island Railroad (LIRR) 3rd Track Project

3rd Track Project is NOT Complete!

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

G-14 Electrical Substation

- The Village Board reviewed the updated estimate and did not agree on the landscaping cost. Fire Department is required to approve fire hydrant relocation. The drawing were provided at the Fire Commissioners meeting on November 15, 2022
- The landscaping will be pushed to the spring as it will be too late to plant at that point.

South 12th Pedestrian Underpass

- Most of the issues have been addressed except for the façade. Another mock-up is being worked on.

Wall Construction – Fencing

- The wall construction is almost complete. The exception being a section by 2nd and Covert Avenues. The bridge emergency egress gates also still need to be installed.
- The high rail access gate final design is complete and is in the process of going through approval signatures at the MTA and installation is anticipated in late December.

Roads

- The Village understands that milling on 2nd and 3rd Avenues will begin in the next few weeks. Striping will follow, we 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.
 - *4th 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

- The Village is not aware of any service outages in the near future although there is always the potential for track work.

Nightwork/Road Closures

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

Track Noise

- The Village met with the MTA and Residents in late September
 - Weld and Ballast issues potentially will be fixed the weekend of the double track outage on October 29th. The Village is waiting on confirmation from the MTA.

NHP Road Safety Concerns

- Regarding speed, pavement marking to be completed with 2nd and 3rd 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 Wrong Way signage is to be relocated

If you see problems – don't hesitate to call the Hotline 516-203-4955 or email 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 delay here is a material issue.

Veterans Affairs/American Legion Post 1089

- The Veteran’s Day Ceremony was held on Friday, November 11, 2022. Thank you to everyone involved in the set up. Patty, The Cultural Committee, Igor and the Department of Public Works as well as Diane Bentivenga.
- The cleaning out process of Marcus Christ Hall has begun.
- The Mayor announced some upcoming veteran initiatives;
 - Bravo Foxtrot United Veterans Inc. – Helping Homeless Vets and getting them back on their feet.
 - In the new year the Legion will also meet with Diane Bentivegna and **America's Vet Dogs** to learn how we can educate our community and work together on a project that just may enable us to genuinely help a veteran in need of a service dog.

Noise Abatement

- TVASNAC Meeting on Monday, October 24th unfortunately had to be cancelled. The next meeting will be on Monday, November 28th.
- There was a zoom meeting on October 31st with congressman elect George Santos. He acknowledged that the constant airplane traffic and low flying planes is a public health crisis that is destroying the quality of life for residents. He said that he would build on what congressman Tom Suozzi has accomplished and work with Senator Chuck Schumer and Congressman Anthony D’Esposito.
- Residents are urged to file online noise complaints at www.hempsteadny.gov/TVASNAC. Or Hempstead residents should call 1-800-225-1071. North Hempstead residents can dial 311.

Kate Hillmann, Village Clerk/Treasurer

The Clerk’s Office has finished the process of moving back upstairs and is fully functional and operational. Please feel free to stop in at any time.

Village Clerk’s Report

Meters	\$9,742.45
Muni-meters	\$27,170.20
Building	\$29,047.54
Interest on Accts	\$7,530.37
Court Fines-Traffic	\$58,186.00
Court Fines – Building	\$32,650.00
Records Mgt. Grant	\$4,612.00

Records Management Grant

The \$4, 612.00 received is only half of the grant. This grant will provide the opportunity to get inventory of old personnel and grant records to be scanned.

Trustee Squicciarino:

Long and Lean

- Long and Lean will be coming back on November 22nd from 10:00 am – 11:00 am in the lower level of Village Hall.

The Library

- The library will be one collection site for the Veteran's Donation Drive through December 3rd.
- Toys for Tots Drive through December 19th
- Clothing Drive through January 30th.

New Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce

- NHP Chamber is conducting a Food Drive. There will be a box in the lobby of Village Hall for non-perishable donations. The Food Drive will be ongoing through December 16th.

Senior Program

- The official kick-off event for this program will be a Senior Luncheon on Tuesday, December 6th 11:30am – 1:00 pm.
- There will be an Art Workshop on January 12th from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm.
- Laura Trentacoste, our Senior Coordinator, will be hosting these events and registration is required in order to plan accordingly. Please call Village Hall or email seniorprograms@vnhp.org to register for any Senior Program events.

Notre Dame Parish and Food Pantry:

- This Saturday, November 19th from 9:00 am – 10:00 am will be the turkey distribution.
- The Giving Tree Paper Ornaments will be in the lobby. You can choose your ornament, write a request on it and return it to the church.

Holy Spirit:

- Performance of Cinderella this coming weekend; Friday and Saturday evening at 7:30 pm and Sunday at 2:00 pm. Adult tickets are \$13.00 and children and seniors are \$8.00.

Trustee Squicciarino would like to remind everyone that with the holiday season here, please be mindful of identity theft. Put blocks on your accounts, open your mail even if you think it is junk mail, always take a look.

Star Credit:

It is time to register for your Star Credit, now through January 2nd. 65 years and older can apply for the Enhanced Star credit.

Nassau County Police Department Visit

Commanding Officer Inspector Ciaccio along with POP Officers Jesse Cooper and Christopher Orlando were on hand to discuss issues going on in the neighborhood and surrounding areas. Catalytic Converter theft is at an all-time high and the vehicle targeted most is the Honda CRV mainly between the hours of 1:00 am and 6:00 am. The officers suggest backing your car into your driveway all the way against the door. The police are out patrolling but unless you actually catch them in the act it is next to impossible to catch them. The thieves work in teams and have one team as a look out - alerting the others that the police are coming.

Most home burglaries happen between 4:30 pm and 6:00 pm in homes without any lights on. The officers advised to use a timer on a lamp or other lights within your home to deter becoming the victim of a home burglary.

With the holiday season approaching there are many scams out there. Many of these scams are taking place at Roosevelt Field. Please be alert and do not exit your car for any reason.

Deputy Mayor Nijjar

NHP Schools

- 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.
- Dr. Morrison held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new playground. The feedback is mixed with a few safety concerns.
- Board of Education Meeting will be on December 12, 2022 at 8:00 pm. The meeting is not an open format, you will need to submit your questions beforehand.

Events since our last meeting:

- The Halloween Parade was very successful. Thank you to all who participated and volunteered.
- 2nd Annual Diwali Celebration was a great celebration while incorporating the meaning. It was a great success thanks to all the volunteers that dedicate their time either performing or working behind the tables. The great job on decorations was completed by All-in-one Party Rental.
- Veteran's Day Ceremony was a beautiful show of gratitude for those who have served and are serving.

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, November 26th is the Annual Tree Lighting at 3:00 pm. This will be our last event held in Marcus Christ Hall. There will be a magician, entertainment for the kids, performances by both the Memorial High School band and chorus, meet with Santa and of course the Tree Lighting. Volunteers are needed.

Deputy Mayor Nijjar would like to acknowledge Kate, Binu and Igor. It has been a lot this past month with extra duties added onto their normal functions.

Mayor Devane

We are aware of this past week's absence of leaf pickup/garbage pickup due to two holidays within the same week and it should have been better communicated to the residents. We will do better moving forward.

Events

The last three (3) events were fantastic;

- Halloween Parade had good weather and was a great time and a great success.
- Diwali was a phenomenal event. Marcus Christ Hall was completely transformed for this great event.
- Veteran's Day Ceremony - we were happy to have had a great turnout because without our Veteran's we would not be here enjoying the lives that we have and the liberties that we have. We owe them everything.

- The last event of the season will be the Tree Lighting on Saturday, November 26, 2022 at 3:00 pm. Come next Saturday and join the fun.
- If you would like something celebrated, please contact Deputy Mayor Madhvi Nijjar.

The New Hyde Park Fire Department

- On Saturday, December 3rd the Junior Fire Department will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's. Members of the Board will be serving.

Village Hall

- Please visit the new and improved Building Department and Clerk's Office before you leave tonight.
- The lower level of Village Hall is now open for Senior Program events and Long and Lean.
- There will be some improvements coming to the Auxiliary Police Unit on the lower level.
- The lower level of Village Hall will also have LED lighting installed.
- The Board Room will be relocated to the 2nd floor. The current Board Room will be utilized for a general community room, especially geared towards the seniors. The office of Laura Trentecoste, our Senior Program Coordinator, will be located in there as well.
- The second floor currently houses the Gil Theatre, the New Hyde Park Little League office as well as storage and the New Hyde Park Museum. The Little League storage and Museum will be relocated to the lower level.
- Please keep Carole Nowakowski in your thoughts and prayers as she is currently in hospice.

Marcus Christ Hall

- The last official function will be on Saturday, November 26th.
- All items will be removed on November 28th and 29th.
- The asbestos removal will begin on November 30th.
- Demolition will begin in January.

Memorial Park

- Children's playground renovation is underway.
- New Fencing
- Excavation of the children's playground began on October 17th. 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.
- The Village is in discussion with the Bocce Ball group regarding the possibility of an additional court in 2023.
- The Park ID process should be more orderly than last year as all the information is already in the system.

Department of Public Works

- Myself and Igor Sikiric have been looking into all available options. There is a facility on Willis Avenue being looked into. It is currently a LIRR facility.
- Senator Kaplan agreed to \$450K in Grant money. I have been in contact with Senator Martins and he is aware of the agreement and does not see any reason it will not be forthcoming.

There are many things going on at one time but the 2023 top priority is going paperless.

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 10:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia Santomauro

Secretary to the Board