

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK  
REGULAR MEETING  
February 16, 2023**

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

Arrived Late: Trustee Savarese

Mayor Devane opened the Board Meeting at 7:32 pm following a presentation of Certificates of Achievement to the cast of the Wizard of New Hyde Park. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited prior to the presentation.

**BOARD MINUTES: APPROVED**

January 19, 2023, Board Minutes

**COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:**

The Police Report for January 2022 was submitted by the Nassau County Police Department.

**Car Wash Application: APPROVED**

Scout Troop 254 requests holding a car wash on Saturday, May 13, 2023 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

**License Renewals**

**Carters APPROVED**

S&M Prompt Rubbish Removal Service, Inc. -228 Miller Avenue, Freeport

**Used Car APPROVED**

S.M. Motorsports Inc. – 140 Lakeville Road, NHP

**Dry Cleaner APPROVED**

Green Tree Cleaners

**Restaurants APPROVED**

Park Place Restaurant & Bar -1218 Jericho Turnpike, NHP

Yesterday's Diner -443 Jericho Turnpike, NHP

Taco Bell # 3180- 1650 Jericho Turnpike, NHP

**Dance Hall APPROVED**

Park Place Restaurant & Bar -1218 Jericho Turnpike, NHP

**Tow Car APPROVED**

Tip Top Auto Body Inc. -150 Denton Avenue, NHP  
Frame Auto Collision - 71 Denton Avenue, NHP  
Jerry’s Auto Towing -91 Powerhouse Road, Roslyn Heights

**Landscaping Permit Applications: APPROVED**

Larry’s Landscaping – 178 Ferndale Blvd, Islip  
M. Aguilar Landscaping – 499 Hawthorne Avenue, Uniondale  
Frank Landscaping – 100 Westbury Blvd, Hempstead  
Jose. O. Vasquez Landscaping – 57 Davidson Avenue, Oceanside  
Hicks Nurseries – 100 Jericho Turnpike, Westbury  
McNulty Outdoors, Inc. – 99 Lakeville Road, NHP  
H.A.O. – 16-42 Jasmine Avenue, NHP  
Nilton Gonzalez Landscaping – 572 Paff Avenue, Uniondale  
Daniel Escobar Landscaping – 16 Lent Avenue, Hempstead  
C. Escobar Landscaping – 148 Patterson Avenue, Hempstead  
Hector Landscaping & Design – 2 Denton Place, Roosevelt  
Victor Landscaping Inc – 3 Locust Blvd, Elmont  
Sandro’s Landscaping Inc – PO Box 40, NHP  
Precision Landscaping & Design Inc. – 64 Michel Avenue, Farmingdale  
Rosario Castellano Landscaping – 35 North 11<sup>th</sup> Street, NHP  
Hunt Lawncare – 1000 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, NHP  
Escobar Landscaping – 58 Clement Street, Glen Cove  
New Images Landscaping, Inc. – 41 Madison Street, Franklin Square  
GP Landscaping – 85-46 151<sup>st</sup> Street, Jamaica, NY

**REPORTS:**

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

**22-93A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #22-18**

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

**22-94 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO ADVERTISE A PUBLIC HEARING**

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Burger, the resolution to advertise a public hearing was unanimously approved.

**22-95 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF THE FULL TIME CLERK TO THE JUSTICE FOR THE VILLAGE JUSTICE COURT**

- Upon motion by Trustee Burger, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, the resolution authorizing the hiring of the Full-Time Clerk to the Justice for the Village Court was unanimously approved.

**22-96 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH EMIR CONSTRUCTION-BATHROOM**

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Burger, the resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreement with Emir Construction was unanimously approved.

**22-97 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH EMIR CONSTRUCTION-BOARD ROOM**

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Burger, the resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreement with Emir Construction was unanimously approved.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

**Trustee Savarese:**

**Public Information**

We currently have over 1300 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**

Construction for the children's playground is currently on hold due to the weather. The target to have the playground up and running is Spring 2023. Our Department of Public Works crew did a great job excavating the area and will continue to work while the temperatures cooperate.

We are in the process of receiving proposals to resurface both basketball courts. The scope of the work will be to repair the cracks, apply two (2) coats of acrylic and apply two (2) coats of deco color to the courts. New white lines and three (3) point lines will be painted as well as new Pickle Ball lines on both courts.

**Little League**

- Spring registration is currently in full swing and through their website only. Please visit the New Hyde Park Little league website [www.newhydeparklittleleague.com](http://www.newhydeparklittleleague.com) to register. Registration will be ongoing through March.
- In addition, the NHPLL has been in discussions to purchase a new scoreboard for the small field in Memorial Park.

**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.
- If you are interested, please complete an application that can be obtained from Village Hall or email Arthur Savarese [asavarese@vnhp.org](mailto:asavarese@vnhp.org)

**Tree Replacements**

- Requests should be made through the Village website for Spring planting.

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

- Department of Public Works continues performing daily maintenance activities and cleanup on a routine basis. Parking lots have been cleared of all leaves and debris.
- The warmer weather has allowed the Department of Public Works to fill some potholes through December and January which is rare. It has also allowed us to run the street sweeper often as temperatures have been above freezing.
- Department of Public Works continues to remove the concrete, metal and matting at the old kiddie park.
- Department of Public Works has been changing any old or damaged street signs and/or posts.
- Sanitation operations: there will be no collection on Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. All collection will resume on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Please note; co-mingling recyclables (Bottles and cans) are collected on Wednesdays and paper/cardboard is collected on Tuesday or Thursday, depending on your address.
- Please remember cardboard should be broken down bundled together. Any cardboard not broken down will not be accepted.
- If you need a recycling pail, you can purchase one at Village Hall for \$16.00.

**Building Department - Binu Pillay, Superintendent**

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

- The last meeting was scheduled for February 8, 2023 however no applications were received prior to the deadline so the meeting was cancelled.
- The next meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2023. As of today, no applications have been submitted.

**Architectural Review Board**

- The last meeting was scheduled for February 1, 2023 however no applications were received prior to the deadline so the meeting was cancelled.
- The next meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2023. As of today, no applications have been submitted.

**Village Building Court**

- The last Village building court was held on February 15, 2023. There were twenty-six (26) cases on the docket; three (3) working without a permit, one (1) failed to comply with rental regulations and twenty-two (22) parking on lawn. The next Village building court will be held on March 15<sup>th</sup> at Village Hall, with twenty-eight (28) cases on the docket.
- There have been 35 permits in total approved and issued between January 18<sup>th</sup> and February 16<sup>th</sup>

**Clerk’s Office – Kate Hillmann, Village Clerk**

Meters	\$8,922.00
Muni-meters	\$27,541.82
Parking Permits	\$31,548.00
Licenses	\$10,630.00
Building	\$24,385.36
Interest on Accts	\$9,420.28
Health Contributions	\$14,566.50
Sale of Equipment	\$25,100.00
Insurance Recovery	\$22,711.98
FEMA Reimbursement-COVID	\$24,814.49
Court Fines – Court	\$34,590.00

### **Village Election**

A reminder that the Village Election will take place in Assembly Hall within Village Hall on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 from 12:00pm – 9:00pm.

If you are not already registered, the Village Clerk has forms available in the Clerk's Office. You will need to be registered by March 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Trustee Burger**

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

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

- The work to push out the curb has been completed except for the paving and landscaping which will take place in April/May.

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

- Mayor Devane and Trustee Burger received the mockup from 3TC but it is unacceptable and we are currently waiting on a response from 3TC regarding a replacement.
- During the month, the crews have been removing some of the concrete barriers. Eventually the chain link fence will be removed.
- Snow melt system is being installed.

##### **Wall Construction – Fencing**

- The majority of the fencing is complete. A small portion along 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue by the bridge needs to be completed.
- Trustee Burger sent a message to 3TC to have the area cleaned up. The Mayor also followed up this past week and left a message as well.
- Some temporary utility poles are being removed.

##### **Roads**

- Paving for the season has been completed due to weather.
- Portions of 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Stewart, and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenues will be completed in the spring.

##### **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 night work.

##### **Graffiti on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue**

- The MTA has been responsive in cleaning up the graffiti.
- Currently looking at the possibility of installing security cameras along the R.O.W.

##### **Streetscape**

- The Village has begun the monthly meetings with WSP.
- At the meeting on February 5<sup>th</sup>, they presented some conceptual ideas on the landscaping and paving that were basic.
- The Village Board will continue to provide the public updates on the progress.

##### **NHP Road Safety Concerns**

- Left turn signal (protected signal) at New Hyde Park Road and Plaza Avenue.

- The Village is still working with the county on the installation of the left turn protected signal.
- A few weeks ago, we had a major accident on the road and it needed be closed down. The contributing factor to this accident was the snow. The accident created major congestion on the side roads.

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 Water Authority ran 57 waste hour tests and took sampling and received an all clear.
- The Water Authority still has not received Nassau County Department of Health (DOH) approval to go full operational. The Village is anticipating an approval in the near future.
- Once the approval to go fully operational comes forth, we will move onto Well 57A.
- The Village is working on getting the trench along 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue paved. This would be in coordination with the MTA and National Grid.

### **Veterans Affairs/American Legion Post 1089**

- The next meeting will be March 18<sup>th</sup>.
- We met with Diane Bentivengna and America's VetDogs on January 11, 2023. We will be promoting this awesome program and will hold an event on May 20<sup>th</sup> in Memorial Park. We are looking for volunteers to foster a dog. It is fully paid for; food, medical care and training. The fostering would take place in your home for socialization. This is a project that just may enable us to genuinely help a veteran in need of a service dog.

### **Troop 298**

- Currently working on a few spring projects for Memorial Park which include extra exercise stations and some Memorial Flags to honor our World War II veterans.
- Will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at Applebee's of New Hyde Park from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Please come down and support the troop.

### **Noise Abatement**

- The Village has submitted a Freedom of Information request on the Data Report.
- 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.

### **Trustee Squicciarino:**

Trustee Squicciarino expressed her gratitude to Lara for the wonderful job on the Newsletter. The newsletters were sent out last week and are also available online.

### **Tax Grievance Day**

If you would like to grieve your taxes or find out how to do so, please call Village Hall or visit our website. There is an official tax grievance day which is Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> but you can submit anytime via our website.

### **Residential Rehab**

A reminder that funds are still available through the Residential Rehab program which helps families and homeowners in need. So, if you know a family in need of new siding, windows, heating etc. please have them contact Village Hall.

### **Library**

- Many programs on issues impacting seniors; Men's Cancer 101, Property Tax Grievances, financial planning. Please visit the library website for dates and times.
- Plenty of options for activities. Please visit the library website.

### **Chamber of Commerce**

- Would also like to welcome a new member, Mama Theresa's.

### **Senior Program**

- On February 10<sup>th</sup> there was a Seniors/Veteran's Valentine Celebration and it was just lovely. Trustee Squicciarino had a ton of thank you's to hand out. The afternoon was full of fun and food. The children came from Road School which was a delightful surprise. Trustee Squicciarino would like to thank Madhvi and Patty for helping to facilitate that. We had enough Valentine cards to spread out to all of New Hyde Park.
- March 24<sup>th</sup> will be Bingo.
- April and May will bring a crafting event and Mother's Day Tea/brunch.
- Senior Bereavement Group will begin in March. This will be a small group who have suffered any type of loss. It will run for eight weeks. Further information is posted on the Village website.
- 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](mailto:seniorprograms@vnhp.org) to register for any Senior Program events as seats are limited.
- Please visit the Village website and click on the Senior Program links.

### **Holy Spirit Social Ministry**

- The ministry is looking for the following items; shelf stable milk, cereal, pancake mix, syrup, canned beans, shampoo and Chef Boyardee items. If you can help, please do so.

### **Deputy Mayor Nijjar**

Deputy Mayor Nijjar would like to note a special appreciation to Mayor Devane for honoring the students/cast members of Wizard of NHP.

Deputy Mayor Nijjar would like to also thank Dr. Faccio, Principal of NHP Memorial High School for always going above and beyond to work with the Village.

Diane Bentivegna announced that the Bocce Ball Team will run an inter-generational clinic program over the summer for the High School students interested in learning how to play. More information will follow.

### **NHP Schools**

- The schools are working with us on Senior events; the Student Council and the band attended our Seniors/Vets Valentine celebration and it was wonderful. They walked around and played games with the seniors/Vets and the interaction was heartwarming. Shout out to Dan the Man for his participation. All the events really take a Village.

### **NHP Junior Firefighters**

- The Applebee's event was a huge success. The kids worked hard.

## **Events**

- The next big Village event is our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. We will continue the tradition of honoring our first responders. We will congregate at 9:30 AM on Hillside Blvd and Jericho Turnpike and will conclude at the firehouse with food and beverages.
- Chinese New Year was celebrated in conjunction with the New Hyde Park Chinese Association. It was a tremendous event with all kinds of food, a picture booth and everyone was welcomed with open arms.

## **Mayor Devane**

Mayor Devane spoke of the wonderful, talented and loving group of kids and cast of the Wizard of NHP who received their certificates at the start of tonight's meeting. The interaction with each other as well as others is just heartwarming. Please go participate next year and cheer for them.

## **St. Patrick's Dy Parade**

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. We will assemble at 9:30 am in the southbound lanes of Hillside Boulevard.
- Our Grand Marshall is Mike McBride, owner of New Hyde Park Funeral Home, former New York City detective and generous supporter of everything we do in this community. Mike is an outstanding individual and founder of the Katie McBride Foundation.
- Mike has promised us a sunny, 60-degree day!
- The Village Board requests that when we arrive at the firehouse, hold off on food and drink until after the ceremony.
- We will be once again honoring our first responders and the local schools are making banners.

## **Senior Program**

- To touch on something that Donna mentioned, we received such an outpouring of cards and placemats from these kids. The notes tug at your heart. We had so many cards and placemats that myself and John Nicastrò were able to go to Denton Green on Denton Avenue.
- Tuesday before Thanksgiving we will have a full Thanksgiving Dinner for our seniors and will also have a full take home dinner for our seniors in the event they may be alone on Thanksgiving, they will have a meal on us. The entire Board will be in attendance to help.
- These events are about bringing the community together and I want to thank Donna, Laura and Madhvi for all their work in making this happen.

## **Election**

- Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> in Assembly Hall.
- The 2 candidates running are; Rainer Burger and Eve Sheikh

## **Village Hall**

- The basement is in the process of being done. We are trying to get a grant for an ADA bathroom.



- The Village is in the process of going paperless and getting rid of many boxes and forms. There is a lot of scanning and shredding taking place.
- The New Hyde Park Little League storage will be moved to the basement.
- The Board Room will be relocated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. The current Board Room will still be utilized for court when court is in session and it will also be a general community room, especially geared towards the seniors. The office of Laura Trentacoste, our Senior Program Coordinator, will be located in there as well.
- The outside of the building needs work. We are getting estimates on painting the outside of the building, repointing the brick work.

### **Court Clerk**

- We now have a new Court Clerk, Maria Cerda who is doing a wonderful job.
- We are transitioning over to a new system called FBS in which we will go paperless.

### **Marcus Christ Hall**

- There have been a few complications on getting plans so we can go out to bid.
- In terms of the planning, it will be something we can all be proud of. It will be light and airy and hold 2 or 3 events at a time.

### **Memorial Park**

- The Village has ordered the playground equipment. Delivery should be within 6-8 weeks.
- There is a lot of work to be done. We are not going with rubber around the playground equipment, it is way too expensive. We will be installing soft turf.
- The Board met with the Bocce group to discuss a second court.
- Electricity will be installed by the VNHP Pride Memorial Park sign which will serve as a focal point for concerts and events.
- The Village has a grant from Nassau County and we are actively looking to redo the house which has a leak in the roof and desperately needs new bathrooms.
- The Board has designs on expanding the Memorial side of the park.
- New fencing. The current fencing is over 25 years old.
- Resurfacing the basketball courts.
- Adding a sprinkler system in the outfield.

### **Nuzzi Field and Department of Public Works**

- The Village has 5.1 million dollars set aside but unfortunately it will cost more than that. We are constantly looking for ways to generate revenue.
- Nuzzi Field will be restored to its full glory once the DPW building is completed.

### **TOD Housing Scheme**

- VNHP vehemently opposes Gov. Hochul's offensive Transient Oriented Housing scheme. The Mayor has spoken to many other constituents and we are all opposed. We are going to fight this as hard as we can.

### **Reimagining Jericho Turnpike**

- The way we have been doing things just simply isn't working.
- The same old mixed use just doesn't work any longer.

**Miller Bros.**

- The Village is anticipating that sometime in March/early April we have plans for you to look at.
- Hopefully you will feel these plans will be very promising.

**Old Business:** no old business

**New Business:** no new business

There being no further business, upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Burger, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting went into executive session at 9:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

***Patricia Santomauro***

Secretary to the Board