

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
June 15, 2023**

Present: Mayor Devane
Deputy Mayor Nijjar
Trustee Burger
Trustee Sheikh
Lara Verbanac, Village Deputy Clerk
Oscar Osorio, Village Treasurer
Binu Pillay, Superintendent of Building
Igor Sikiric, Superintendent of DPW
Patricia Santomauro, Secretary to the Board of Trustees
John Nicasastro, Code Enforcement

Absent: Arthur Savarese, Trustee
Cathryn Hillmann, Village Clerk-Treasurer

Mayor Devane opened the Board Meeting at 7:01 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD MINUTES: APPROVED

May 25, 2023 Board Minutes

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD: APPROVED

The Police Report for May 2023 was submitted by the Nassau County Police Department.

Block Party: APPROVED

Belmont Avenue between Terrace Blvd. and Leonard Blvd. has requested to hold a Block Party on Saturday, July 8, 2023 from 10:00 am and 10:00 pm. Rain date would be Sunday, July 9, 2023.

Car Wash:

East Coast Girls 2012 Soccer Travel League has requested to hold a Car Wash on Saturday, July 22, 2023 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Rain date would be Saturday, July 29, 2023. **APPROVED**

New Hyde Park Memorial High School Class of 2024 has requested to hold a Car Wash on Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Rain date would be Saturday, October 21, 2023. **The decision was Tabled**

Christmas Tree Fundraiser: APPROVED

The Lions Club of New Hyde Park requests the use of the Central Boulevard Parking Lot for the Club's Annual Christmas Tree Fundraiser. Friday, November 24, 2023 through Friday December 22, 2023. The hours of operation will be Monday through Friday 3:00 pm -8:00 pm and 9:00 am -8:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday.

REPORTS:

Trustee Arthur Savarese

Parks and Recreation, Little League, Public Information, Dept. of Public Works, Tree Committee, Chamber of Commerce, Neighborhood Watch

Trustee Rainer Burger

Building Department, LIRR, Veterans Affairs, American Legion, Noise Abatement, Water Authorities, Scouts (Troop 298)

Trustee Eve Sheikh

Library, Senior Programs, Schools

Trustee Madhvi Nijjar

Revitalization Committee, Cultural Committee, Board of Assessors, Clerk’s Office, Community Development (CDBG), Summer Camp

Mayor Christopher Devane

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

RESOLUTIONS:

23-04 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #22-26

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Sheikh, the resolution to pay the bills was unanimously approved.

23-05 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #23-01

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Sheikh, the resolution to pay the bills was unanimously approved.

23-05 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BRETT FENCE

- Upon motion by Trustee Burger, seconded by Trustee Sheikh, the resolution to enter into agreement was unanimously approved.

23-07 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN ADDITIONAL PAYMENT TO YOUNG EQUIPMENT

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Sheikh, the resolution authorizing additional payment was unanimously approved.

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Savarese: *Trustee Savarese was absent. His report was presented by Patricia Santomauro, Secretary to the Board.

Public Information

As of today, we have over 1300 Instagram followers. If you have not yet followed us @villageofnhp, 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

Memorial Park is currently open on a limited basis due to the construction and renovations that are taking place.

The following projects are currently taking place within the park;

- The Children’s playground is almost complete and we anticipate an opening by the end of the month.
- Installation of new sprinklers throughout the park.

- New PVC fencing will be installed around the new playground the week of June 19th (weather permitting). New sod will be placed in the picnic area of the playground.
- The resurfacing of both basketball courts along with repainting the lines for both the basketball and pickleball courts has been completed.
- A new perimeter fence has been installed along with a panic gate in the Children's playground.

Little League

- The NHPLL season is ongoing and there are plans to host an All-Star Saturday in late June. Floral Park will be hosting a tournament Saturday, June 17th at Nuzzi Field from 8 am -3 pm.

Neighborhood Watch

- Is ongoing and we are currently looking for many more volunteers. We do not have enough volunteers to cover Monday through Sunday. We will work with your schedule.
- If you are interested, please complete an application that can be obtained from Village Hall or email Arthur Savarese asavarese@vnhp.org.

Concert in the Park

- Our first concert in the park will take place on Wednesday June 21st at 7:30 pm. This will be a 90-minute concert featuring the Chicklets Band. The rain date would be Monday, June 26th.

Katie's Run

- The 13th annual Katie's 5K Run/Walk will be held on Sunday, June 25th. To register for this event, you can visit events.elitefeats.com/23katie
- The mission of the Katie McBride Foundation is to honor the memory of Katie and the families of all childhood leukemia victims and other life-threatening illnesses.

Chamber of Commerce Report

- The Greater New Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce was voted the number one Chamber in Nassau County!
- The Chamber received grant money for beautification and purchased three (3) tables and placed them in the Garden City Park shopping center.
- The Village is also meeting with the Chamber to discuss similar ideas for the Village.

Tree Replacements

- Requests for the Fall season are being accepted. Requests should be made through the Village website or App for Fall planting.

Department of Public Works: Igor Sikiric, Superintendent

- Sanitation collection is currently on schedule with the exception of the July 4th holiday. There will be a double collection on Wednesday, July 5th which will include; garbage collection on the south side, newspaper collection on the north side and comingling recycling and yard waste collection for the entire Village.
- Waste and Recycling collected in May;
 - 25 tons of construction and demolition debris.
 - 35 tons of yard waste
 - 17 tons of paper

- 29 tons of commingled
 - 450 tons of municipal solid waste
 - Total waste: 546 tons
- Department of Public Works is conducting day to day maintenance of all parking lots, Jericho Tpke, and along the LIRR corridor.
 - Jericho Turnpike vegetation maintenance is in ongoing. Flowers and planter boxes are watered on a weekly basis. Weeds and vegetation are managed on a weekly basis as well
 - Baseball field maintenance and grooming is conducted on a weekly basis or as game are scheduled.
 - One project taking place, which is not a Village project is the gas main replacement on So. 11th Street. The project is on schedule and the Village anticipates completion by the end of July, early August. This road was repaired by the Village in October and will be fully repaired at no cost to the village by National Grid when completed.

Building Department - Binu Pillay, Superintendent

Zoning Board of Appeals

- The last meeting was held on June 14, 2023 with one application being heard; 306 terrace Blvd is seeking approval to construct two front additions, a porch, garage, driveway and interior alterations.
- The next meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2023. As of today, no applications have been submitted.

Architectural Review Board

- The last meeting was held on June 7, 2023 where three (4) applications were heard and approved;
 - **633 Jericho Turnpike** - applicant is seeking approval for a new awning and window treatments.
 - **306 Terrace Blvd.**- applicant seeking approval for a new 2nd floor addition, 2-story front yard addition, new driveway and interior alterations.
 - **654 So. 11th Street** – applicant is seeking approval to install stone veneer on front vestibule.
 - **555 No. 2nd Street** – applicant is seeking approval to change the façade material on existing dwelling and proposed roof top patio.
- The next meeting is scheduled for July 5, 2023. As of today, no applications have been submitted.

Village Building Court

- The last Village Court was held on May 17, 2023 with eighty-seven (87) cases on the agenda; 38 parking on the lawn, (22) obstructing sidewalk, (10) property maintenance, (8) working without permits, (3) multiple families in single family home, (2) car without plates, (2) excessive noise, (1) failure to remove 2nd kitchen and (1) failure to submit rental registration.
- The next Village Court will be held on June 21, 2023 with one hundred twenty-two (122) cases on the agenda.
- There have been 50 permits in total approved and issued between May 19th and June 15th.

Clerk’s Office – Kate Hillmann, Village Clerk (presented by Lara Verbanac, Deputy Clerk)

Meters	\$11,256.00
Muni-meters	\$34,468.09
Parking Permits	\$1,450.00
Licenses	\$595.00
Building	\$21,206.96
Interest on Accounts	\$5,895.11
Gross Receipts -Cablevision	\$11,496.00
Gross Receipts -Fios	\$10,825.24
Court Fines – Traffic	\$71,242.00

Court Fines – Building \$4,800.00

- The 2023 Village Taxes are due by July 1st. The Village will accept payments postmarked through July 3rd. There is 5% penalty for the first month late and a 1% penalty each month thereafter. If you would like to pay your bill online there is a check fee of \$1.50 and a 2.75% fee for credit card charges.
- There will be a box outside Village Hall as a convenience for those that cannot make it during business hours.

Treasurer's Report - Oscar Osorio, Village Treasurer

- General fund is \$2.9 Million
- The Village is in good fiscal shape.
- This figure does not include incoming taxes or expenses going out.

Code Enforcement – John Nicastro

- May 14th through June 15th the Village has issued 1154 summonses.
- As of today, we are scheduled for June 21st with 96 cases to process.
- There have been fifty (15) Notice of Violations issued from June 1st to date.
- 707 7th Avenue continues to be a thorn in the Village's side with over 100 violations.
- The majority of the fines issued are for parking on the lawn, then property maintenance and illegal apartments.
- Next door to Jiffy lube was an illegal spa operating. John saw the advertisement, called the 3rd precinct and when they entered the building there was clearly an illegal business going on. The business was shut down.

Trustee Burger

Trustee Burger thanked the Board for their tremendous support after his recent surgery.

Due to Trustee Burger's recent surgery, he will be walking at Katie's Run being held on June 25th. Trustee Burger hopes all will join the Board in attending.

Trustee Burger also announced that PSEG will be conducting arial surveys in Nassau, Suffolk and Rockland counties June 12th- June 23rd. There will be low flying helicopters during this time conducting the surveys.

Long Island Railroad (LIRR) 3rd Track Project

G-14 Electrical Substation

- Everything is done except for the pavers.

South 12th Pedestrian Underpass & Station Platform

- The Village is still waiting for an update on a new façade design. The Village has requested an update.

Paving of Roads

- All majority of the roads have been paved with the exception of 2nd Avenue due to ongoing LIRR work.
- LIRR states the work in this area will be done by August and paving will begin. Striping on both 2nd and 3rd Avenues will be done when it is complete.
- The striping on 3rd Avenue will be completed according to the revised plan to accommodate the local businesses in the area.

2nd and 3rd Avenue Streetscape

- The Village is holding meetings with WSP who have put some designs together.
- Once the Village receives a decent plan that balances out green space, parking and a functional area, the Board will share this plan with the residents to obtain feedback. We anticipate being ready to show a plan at the next Board meeting.

Water Basin 21 (Area Across from DPW – Not Village Property)

- The County permitted 3TC to use the area as an access point to work on the Hempstead Line.
- The site was not properly restored originally. The Village would not accept this and the site is currently being restored.

NHP Road

- The Left turn signal (Protected Signal) at New Hyde Park Road and Plaza Avenue.
 - The funding dispute between the County and MTA has been resolved.
 - The protected signal is scheduled to be installed; we just do not have a date as yet.
 - The Village is looking to have a report for the residents in July.

Rodents

- The Village has had reports of rodents, specifically rats in the area of the LIRR along 11th Avenue.
- The Village has requested the LIRR to lay bait traps and we are waiting on a schedule.

Water Authority

- Water testing went well and met state requirements on Well 57.
- Well Station 57A still has some issues.

Veterans Affairs/American Legion Post 1089

- The last meeting was held on June 10, 2023. There will be no meetings held over the summer so the next meeting will be September 9th.
- Some upcoming events for the legion are the Street Fair and Veteran's Day.
- Trustee Burger is working with Applebee's to host a pancake breakfast on Sunday of Veteran's Day weekend.

Troop 298

- Troop 298 is working on thee (3) Eagle Projects moving forward at Memorial Park. One (1) is Michael Dore who will be working on additional exercise stations. This will take place weekend of June 2nd thru the 4th. The second (2nd) is Memorial Flags to honor our war dead from New Hyde Park. This is still in the planning stages. The third (3rd) will be setting up over 100 names on the Memorial Rock.

Noise Abatement

- TVASNAC (Town-Village Aircraft Safety Noise Abatement Committee) meeting was held on May 22, 2023. The next meeting will take place on June 16th.
- Another issue has been low flying helicopters. They should be only running along the main corridor of the LIRR which we know is not happening.
- Residents are urged to file online noise complaints at www.hempsteadny.gov/TVASNAC. Or for Hempstead residents to call at 1-800-225-1071, North Hempstead residents dial 311.

Trustee Sheikh:

Trustee Sheikh wished to thank everyone that attended the Memorial Day parade on Saturday, May 27th. It was a great turnout to honor our heroes.

Senior Program

- On June 2nd, our student council joined our seniors for an Art Workshop.
- Another great event will take place on June 16th – Indoor Flowering Plants at 11:00 am.

Long and Lean

- Micheline will have a six-week session of classes in the park, weather permitting. These classes will be at 10:00 am on Fridays and will run from June 16th to July 28th. If you know any seniors that would like to join the class, please have them call Village Hall.

Schools

- Today, June 15th was the 6th Grade moving up ceremony at the New Hyde Park Road School.
- Tomorrow, June 16th is the bagel breakfast and picnic.
- The last day of school is June 24th. Trustee Sheikh wishes all the kids a great summer.

Library

- Trustee Sheikh would like to extend a huge thank you to Peter Heckman for posting the Villages events on their website.
- Some upcoming Library events;
 - June 21st – Stay Active and Independent for Life at 10:00 am.
 - June 28th – Pete the Cat at 4:00 pm.
 - July 1st – Movie Day featuring “National Treasure” at 10:30 am.
 - July 14th – Paint Night at 7:00 pm.
 - For more information on the many events taking place at the library, please visit www.hillsideLibrary/info

New York Mets

- Trustee Sheikh was working on a project to bring a positive influence on the New Hyde Park Little League. A way to encourage more kids to join.
- Trustee Sheikh would like to extend a huge thank you to Pete Alonso for taking photos holding up a New Hyde Park Little League jersey in hopes to encourage more kids to get involved as this is how he started.
- Trustee Sheikh would also like to thank Jeff McNeil and Mets owner Steve Cohen for taking the time to speak with me.

Trustee Sheikh wished everyone a Happy 4th of July.

Deputy Mayor Nijjar

Cultural Commission

- Last week’s 3rd Annual Multicultural Festival was cancelled due to the poor air quality. Deputy Mayor Nijjar thanked the staff who assisted in speaking with the health department.
 - Unfortunately, we could not postpone as there are too many hands; performers, volunteers to be rearranged.
 - We do not have a date in mind to hold at a later time but if we do, we will let you know.
- The Village will be hosting a Summer Concert sponsored by Maspeth Federal Savings Bank on June 21st featuring “The Chiclettes”. The concert is free and everyone is welcome to join us. Please spread the word.
- The Back-to-School Movie Night will be held on Friday, September 8th at 7:00 pm.

Summer Camp

- The Village held registration yesterday and we have over seventy (70) registrants.
- Camp will be held Monday through Thursday from July 5th through August 3rd.
- The hours are 10 am – 12:30 pm and 1:30pm – 4:00 pm. Groups are broken down by age.
- Camp is free to residents and \$ 150 for non-residents.

Clerk's Office

- Kate Hillmann our Village Clerk-Treasurer resigned. The Board had a plaque to honor her and thank her for her service.
- Taxes are due by Saturday, July 1st. We are granting an extension until Monday, July 3rd. All taxes sent by mail must be postmarked by the 3rd.
- The office is prepping for the audit in August.
- The Village will be hiring a few interns to assist the Clerk's Office and Building Dept.

Residential Rehab

- The Village has a program called Residential Rehab which is money allocated to people looking to repair their homes.
- The Village was allotted \$75k funds and there is currently \$52K left. Please contact Village Hall for assistance in applying.

Mayor Devane

Memorial Day Parade

- Memorial Day is our most important event of the year. Honoring the 105 members whose names are on the rock outside Village Hall. The Village had refurbished the rock and you can actually read the names as far back as World War I, it is worth the read. To see the members of our Village who gave their lives in service to our Country. Every day should be Memorial Day. It was a great day. Thank you, Trustee Burger and all the organizations that showed up.

Katie's Run

- Coming up on Sunday, June 25th. This is another significant event in our Village as we celebrate the life of beautiful Katie and the McBride Family. They raise a lot of money for charities, especially Ronald McDonald House. Even if you don't run, come down and join the celebration afterwards.

Memorial Park

- The perimeter fence is installed and it looks great.
- The playground is almost completed and it looks phenomenal.
- There have been some questions as to why the turf is red, white and blue – it is Memorial Park.
- The turf is soft and kids with all abilities can play in the same area.
- The Village is installing a "buffer" between the playground and the Memorial area. It will consist of 5 tree beds that will eventually provide shade to the area and serve as a buffer to those that would like to come into the Memorial area and pay tribute to our fallen soldiers.
- There will be a dedicated area for our seniors called the Senior Sanctuary. There will be four (4) exercise stations dedicated to our seniors. Troop 298 put one in just last weekend. It will be a shaded area where they can meet, play cards etc.
- The bathrooms have been refurbished to the best of our ability. There is a new roof and the gates will come down.
- New electricity has been run to the back end of the park.
- WIFI is being installed.

- The dog park is working out well. We currently have a nice group that meets every day at 5pm.
- A picnic area for picnics.
- In the Memorial Section, we are going to add the 105 names of the soldiers that gave their lives to the wall. We are also trying to get their enlistment pictures to line the walkway of the park.
- Sprinklers are being installed in the grassy area of the playground along with a smaller PVC fence to surround the perimeter.

Marcus Christ Hall

- The Village fully expects to break ground on a brand-new Community Center in early 2024.
- The Village is currently waiting on a few materials to present to the state as we have a \$450,000 grant for this project.

Department of Public Works

- The Village met with a firm earlier in the evening and a potential plan is in place to break ground in late winter/early spring.
- Mayor Devane met with some Nassau County Officials today and there is a potential opportunity to utilize the parking area across the street (sump area) for parking and to store the vehicles. If we can house the Department of Public Works vehicles in this lot, then we can preserve Nuzzi Field from being destroyed. We will still refurbish Nuzzi Field but this will help save a great deal of money on the project.

Park IDs for Memorial Park

- The Village has someone in the office Monday, Wednesday and Friday to fulfill requests and so far, it is going very well.

Driveways

- Sixteen (16) people signed up for the Village to come visit and do an evaluation. Last week, every afternoon, John, Binu and Mayor Devane would go out to the sixteen (16) houses. For the fourteen (14) out of the sixteen (16) houses the issue was resolved. The remaining two (2) are a work in progress.
- To clear up any misconceptions, the issue is blocking the sidewalk. You cannot completely block the sidewalk for safety issues. If you are blocking the sidewalk 50% you most likely will not have an issue.
- This is not a way for the Village to make money – we are trying to get compliance to preserve safety.
- The Village is trying to work with the residents on solutions and encourage residents to utilize their garage.

Stop Sign Cameras

- Senator Martins presented a bill to the state for Stop Sign Cameras
- The Mayor is 1 million percent in favor of this. There is an epidemic of no one stopping at stop signs and it needs to be addressed.
- If it does pass, the Mayor will invite Senator Martins to a meeting to answer any questions.

Old Business: no old business

New Business: no new business

There being no further business, upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Sheikh, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting went into executive session at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia Santomaura

Secretary to the Board