

VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
August 24, 2023

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

Absent:

- Mayor Devane opened the Board Meeting at 8:24 pm following a Special Use Public Hearing. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the hearing.

BOARD MINUTES: APPROVED

July 20, 2023 Board Minutes

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

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

Car Wash: APPROVED

- East Coast Soccer Club has requested to hold a Car Wash on Saturday, September 9, 2023 from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. If need be, a rain date of Saturday, October 7, 2023 would be utilized.
- New Hyde Park Road School 6th Grade Committee has requested to hold a Car Wash on Saturday, September 16, 2023 from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm.
- New Hyde Park Manor Oaks PTA has requested to hold a Car Wash on Saturday, October 14, 2023. If need be, a rain date of Sunday, October 15, 2023 would be utilized.

Block Party: APPROVED

- The New Hyde Park Fire Department is requesting to host a block party on Saturday, September 9, 2023 on South 5th Street between Jericho Turnpike and First Avenue from 2:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

Lower Level of Village Hall: APPROVED

- The leadership of Cub Scout Pack 544 has requested the use of Village Hall's lower level to conduct their monthly leadership meetings on the following Mondays from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm; September 5, 2023, October 2, 2023, November 6, 2023, December 4, 2023, January 8, 2024, February 5, 2024, March 4, 2024, April 1, 2024, May 6, 2024 and June 3, 2024.

License (New):

Peddler: (Tabled until the next Board Meeting)

Trinity Solar of Wall Township, NJ has requested a peddler permit to reach out to residents regarding the benefit of solar energy on the following days/hours Tuesday-Thursday 2:30 pm -8:00 pm, Friday 1:00 pm -7:00 pm and Saturday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm.

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:

23-34 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #23-04

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

23-35 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF THE FULL TIME CLERK TO THE JUSTICE FOR THE VILLAGE JUSTICE COURT -MERLEN MILLS

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the resolution to hire new full-time clerk to the justice Merlen Mills was unanimously approved.

23-36 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF THE FULL TIME CLERK -MARIA CERDA

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the resolution to hire new full-time clerk Maria Cerda was unanimously approved.

23-37 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF NEW FULL TIME PARK LABORER FOR THE DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS -CHRISTIAN BURGOS

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

23-38 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF NEW FULL TIME PARK LABORER FOR THE DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS -OSCAR DIAZ

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

23-39 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF NEW PART TIME LABORER FOR PARKS AND RECREATION-MARCOS STARLING DE OLIVERA

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

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Savarese:

Public Information

As of today, we have over 1340 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

Resident Allen Lew is currently conducting a Basketball Clinic. The next clinic will be on Saturday, August 26th from 9:00 am – 10:00 am. The clinic has been well received.

Little League

- The summer season went well for the boys.
- There are two (2) boys' teams that will play at Nuzzi field and two (2) girls' teams that will play at Memorial Park fall ball.
- Registration for Spring 2024 will be available online in November.

Neighborhood Watch

- Is ongoing and we are currently looking for 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.

Chamber of Commerce Report

- Golf outing is on Wednesday, September 20th at Harbor Links.

Tree Replacements

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

Department of Public Works: Igor Sikiric, Superintendent

- Sanitation collection is currently on schedule.
- Waste and Recycling collected in July;
 - 20 tons of construction and demolition debris
 - 35 tons of yard waste
 - 17 tons of newspaper
 - 20 tons of commingled
 - Total tons of municipal solid waste: 424 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 on ongoing. Flowers and planter boxes are watered on a weekly basis. Weeds and vegetation are managed on a weekly basis as well.
- On Tuesday, September 5th there will be a double collection village wide along with newspaper collection on the north side.
- Tree Requests; all the trees are ordered and planting will take place in October.
- Spotted Lantern Fly -the USDA advises killing them immediately. Squashing is the best method.
- Trees requested to be removed; we do not remove healthy trees. The Village recently had a certified arborist that has cataloged every tree in the Village. The arborist will inspect the tree to determine its condition. Dept. of Public Works evaluates every single request.

Building Department - Binu Pillay, Superintendent

Zoning Board of Appeals

- The last meeting was for Wednesday, August 9th. Since no applications were submitted, the meeting was cancelled.
- The next meeting is scheduled for September 13th. As of today, no applications have been submitted.

Architectural Review Board

- The last meeting was scheduled on August 2nd. Three (3) applications were submitted, two (2) were reserved decision; 528 North 7th Street and 1650 Jericho Turnpike. One (1) was approved; 608-610 Jericho Tpke.
- The next meeting is scheduled for September 27th. As of today, no applications have been submitted.

Village Building Court

- The last Village Court hearing was held on August 16th with two hundred seventy one (271) cases on the agenda; (63) parking on the lawn, (7) obstructing sidewalk, (32) property maintenance, (4) working without permits, (3) multiple families in single family home, (1) excessive noise, (8) Miscellaneous
- The next Village Court will be held on September 20th with two hundred fifty nine (259) cases on the agenda.
- There have been sixty-three (63) permits in total approved and issued between July 20th and August 24th.

Treasurer's Report - Oscar Osorio, Village Treasurer

- \$74,861.00 in Traffic Court Fines.
- \$2,950.00 in Building Court Fines.
- \$25,167.65 in Muni meters.
- Residential Rehab funds expire on August 31st.

Code Enforcement – John Nicastro

- August 1st through August 24th the Village has issued 971 traffic summonses; mostly expired meters, 4-hour parking and expired inspection.
- To date Village has issued 9425 building summonses.
- 26 Notice of Violations have been issued.

Trustee Burger

Long Island Railroad (LIRR) 3rd Track Project

South 12th Pedestrian Underpass & Station Platform

- 3TC is looking at options to clean up the façade. The current mockup was deemed unacceptable by the Board.
- The Village met with MTA and 3TC on July 24th and the Village is currently looking at an application applied at the Hicksville station as a possible option.

Paving of Roads

- All roads are paved except for 2nd Avenue.
 - The LIRR is working on a grounding issue. The design is in development and is scheduled to be completed by the end of July with the work to begin in August.
- 3rd Ave paving is complete. The stripping will be redone to accommodate local business operations. This re-stripping will be completed after 2nd Ave Paved.

Landscaping

- Additional Landscaping was installed by 3TC.
- 3TC stopped the installations of the remaining trees due to some conflicts.
- The Village requested no more trees be installed and requested payment instead.

LIRR Track Work

- Currently the LIRR is doing signal testing during the weekdays.
- The Village was informed late last week that LIRR will be performing track, interlock and signal work during the month of September; the weekends of September 9th, 16th and 30th.
- All these weekends will involve on-track equipment, so residents can unfortunately expect disruptions.
- In November the LIRR will install a signal hut.
- There may be some night work in August due to prep work for certain aspects of the switch installation.

Rodent – Rats – 11 Av

- The Village was notified on May 24th of an issue with Rats along the Hempstead line by 11th Ave.
- We have been working with the MTA/LIRR to identify the source. Although a specific source was not identified, some possibilities are a business on Covert not disposing of rubbish properly, LIRR Track Area, and Water Basin 21.
 - LIRR cleaned up and baited traps on the Hempstead and Mainline.
 - We reached out to the County regarding Water Basin 21. The County will have the basin cleaned, cut and checked for rats. If necessary, they will set traps and bait.

Water Authority

- The Well at Station 57 Rehabilitation project including 1.4 Dioxane Removal is operational.
- Regarding Well Station 57A, the most recent lab test results met all regulatory allowable MCL levels. There are still small traces of 1.4 Dioxane so small adjustments are being made to the ultraviolet reactor. The Well is expected to operational next month.

Veterans Affairs/American Legion Post 1089

- No Summer Meetings - Next Meeting Sept 9, 2023 at 0930
 - Upcoming Events; Street Fair, Veterans Day, Pancake Breakfast

- Pancake Breakfast will be on Nov 4th at Applebee's. The Legion will be selling tickets starting in September. BSA Troop 298 will support the event by serving for the Veterans.
- I have taken a position at the American Legion County Level as the Legion Representative for the Scouts.

Troop 298

- Working with another Eagle Scout Project with Life Scout Eddy Dean on Hero Banners.
- The Troop just returned from Onteora Scout Camp.
- A crew of seven (7), including myself went to Boy Scouts Association High Adventure Northern Tier in August. The Troop spent six (6) days out in the Wilderness, in the Boundary Waters. Canoes and Portages of 55 miles.

Noise Abatement

- The last TVASNAC (Town-Village Aircraft Safety Noise Abatement Committee) meeting was held on July 31st at 7:00 pm.
- Residents have voiced complaints regarding low flying helicopters, these complaints can be reported as well per a FAA.
- Residents are urged to file online noise complaints at www.hempsteadny.gov/TVASNAC. Or for Hempstead residents to call 1-800-225-1071, North Hempstead residents dial 311.

Congratulations!

- Mary Lennon of the VNHP was honored this past Monday by the Irish American Society at Eisenhower Park for her hard work and volunteer efforts with the Irish American Society. Congratulations.
- Ann Burger of the Village of New Hyde Park was awarded Annual Woman of Distinction by the State Assembly of New York in honor of her volunteer service of the past 15 years within the schools as Parent Teachers Association President, her work with the church as a Religious Education Teacher, and as a Cub Scout and Boy Scout leader. She will be honored on September 9th at Adelphi University.

Trustee Sheikh:

Schools

- New Hyde Park Road School will begin on September 5th. We are looking forward to another exciting school year.

Senior Program

- We are welcoming back our senior events on Fridays.
- On September 8th at 11:00 am we will be hosting Bagels and Games.
- On September 22nd at 11:00 am we are hosting a Terrarium event which should be fun.
- On August 13th we held a Wellness Day where Dr. Patel and pharmacist Mrs. Patel were on hand to educate seniors on their health and take their blood pressure. It was very informative.

Library

- Some upcoming Library events;
 - August 28th – Tai Chi
 - September 1st - Movie 9 to 5 at 1:00 pm.
 - September 13th – Skin Cancer Screenings 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm
 - September 14th – Library Board of Trustees Meeting at 7:00 pm.
 - September 18th – Information on Medicare updates at 1:00 pm.
 - For more information on the many events taking place at the library, please visit www.hillsideLibrary/info

Trustee Sheikh is looking forward to Back-to-School Movie Night on Friday, September 8th featuring Maverick and encourages residents to join them.

Deputy Mayor Nijjar

Upcoming Events

- The Lighting of the Gold Trees in honor of Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month. The Village hosts this event to help spread awareness. Please join us on Thursday, September 7th at 6:00 pm.
- The Back-to-School Movie Night featuring “Maverick” will be held on Friday, September 8th at 7:00 pm in Memorial Park.
- The Homecoming Parade is Saturday, September 30th and the Village Board will be participating.
- The Village of New Hyde Park Columbus Day Parade will be held on Sunday, October 8th at 10:00 am with Monday October 9th as the rain date.
- The Street Fair will now be on Saturday, October 21st with Sunday, October 22nd as the rain date.

Summer Camp

- Summer camp closed out on Thursday, August 3rd.
- It was a very successful year.
- Michael Guglielmo, the Camp Director, did an outstanding job.

Clerk’s Office

- Preparation has begun for the upcoming audit in September. The Village usually passes without issue. The audit is public record and will be available when completed.
- Some staff changes are taking place; Maria Cerda will be the new Village Clerk and Merlin Mills will be the new Court Clerk effective September 1st.

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 \$32K left. Please contact Village Hall for assistance in applying.
- The cut off date to apply is August 31st.

Bathrooms in lower Level of Village Hall

- The bathrooms in the lower level of Village Hall currently do not meet ADA requirements. Work to meet ADA requirements will begin very soon.

Mayor Devane

New Hyde Park Fire Department

- On Saturday, September 9th the New Hyde Park Fire Department will be hosting a block party to honor Frank Valerio’s 50 years of service. The Board will participate in this event.
- On Sunday, September 10th there will be a mass honoring the lives lost on 9/11. A ceremony will follow at the Fire Department Headquarters at 1:30pm. We encourage all residents to come out to this beautiful ceremony.

Upcoming Events in September and October

- Back to School Movie Night – Friday, September 8th at 7:00 PM featuring Maverick.
- 2nd Annual Columbus Day Parade -Sunday, October 8th at 10:00 AM - the Grand Marshall this year is Nick Nuzzi.
- Street Fair – Saturday, October 21st. We did change the date and should have. We pride ourselves on being an open and diverse community. Next year we will be back to the third week of September.
- 3rd Halloween Parade – Saturday, October 28th at 10:00 AM. It has always been a lot of fun and we look forward to seeing you all there.

Community Center

- The Village is looking at many projects in terms of infrastructure, the Community Center next door is out for bid and intend to have a plan in place by the end of the year.

Department of Public Works Facility

- The building is ninety-seven (97) years old and looks it. The goal is to get out to bid by the end of this year and keep it within the budget of 5.1 million dollars. Our intention is to start the work by end of winter/early spring. We are still negotiating with Nassau County to use the sump area to house our trucks. This will eliminate complete destruction of Nuzzi field during construction. It will also give us the opportunity to put up a fence so the residents that park in Nuzzi parking lot overnight will be able to park in the sump. Nuzzi Park will not be able to be utilized during construction.

Memorial Park

- We have issued over 2,600 Park IDs to date. If each of the 2,600 bring a guest, there are over 5,000 people attending the park. Disabled Vets are welcome at no charge.
- There is currently an ambitious plan being worked on with the Boy Scouts as we are going to line the Memorial walkway with the enlistment photos of the 105 heroes whose names are on the rock outside Village Hall. Our very own heroes of World War I, World War II and the Korean War who were from the Village of New Hyde Park. We hope you join us in honoring them as we add to the Memorial section of the park.

Miller Bros. Property

- There is currently no plan before this Board at this time.
- The Board will discuss a plan once one is put forward.

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 10:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia Santamuro

Secretary to the Board