

VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
January 18, 2024

Present: Mayor Christopher Devane
Deputy Mayor Madhvi Nijjar
Trustee Rainer Burger
Trustee Arthur Savarese
Trustee Eve Sheikh
Oscar Osorio, Village Treasurer
Binu Pillay, Superintendent of Building
Igor Sikiric, Superintendent of DPW
Arlene Drucker, Secretary to the Board
Benjamin Truncale, Jr., Attorney to the Board

Absent: Maria Cerda, Village Clerk

- Mayor Christopher Devane opened the Board Meeting at 7 00 P M. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the hearing.

Special Presentation: The meeting began with a presentation by The New Hyde Park Chinese Association regarding the 2024 Chinese Lunar New Year, the Year of the Dragon. The discussion was most informative as details of this Chinese tradition were explained. Chinese New Year decorations will be displayed in the Village Hall for our community to visit.

Special Use: Ibra Mediterranean Grill LLC (Tenant; Leasee)
Alterations to convert existing retail store into a take-out food establishment
1441 Jericho Turnpike
New Hyde Park, NY 11040
Section/Block/Lot: 8/173/54

BOARD MINUTES: Approved board minutes for December 21, 2023.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

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

License New/Renewals:

Restaurant - All Renewals - All Approved:

Wongs's Garden - 1203 Jericho Tpke., New Hyde Park
Chef Wang - 1902 Jericho Tpke., New Hyde Park
Gino's Trattoria & Pizzeria - 1113 Jericho Tpke., New Hyde Park
Nova Two Inc, 1215 Jericho Tpke., New Hyde Park

Tow Car - New License - Approved:

Village of New Hyde Park

Regular Meeting January 18, 2024

MacArthur Auto Body & Towing Inc.- 170 Lincoln Ave, Valley Stream

Landscaping - All Renewals - All Approved:

McNulty Outdoors - 99 Lakeville Road, New Hyde Park
Rosario Castellano Landscaping - 35 North 11th Street, New Hyde Park
LUK Enterprises NY Corp. dba GB's - 100 Jerusalem Ave Apt. A18, Hempstead
Heriberto Landscaping Inc. - 524 North 5th St. New Hyde Park
Frank Landscaping 100 - Westbury Blvd., Hempstead
Hector Landscaping & Design - 2 Denton Place Roosevelt
Grass-hoppers Landscaping - 154-30 21 Ave., Whitestone
Nedys Landscaping – 72 Jerusalem Ave., Uniondale
Ciro Freitas Landscaping -1569 Adams St., Elmont
Deamorim Landscaping - 35 Cherry Lane, Carle Place
Gomez Landscaping - 86-52 260th St, Floral Park
Lizano Lawn Service, 100 Firewood Road, Port Washington

Dry Cleaners - Renewal - Approved:

Green Tea Cleaners - 1309 Jericho Tpke, New Hyde Park,

Carters - All Renewals - All Approved:

PCI Contracting Inc.- 49 Satterie Ave, Valley Stream
National Waste Services LLC - 1 Jem Court, Bayshore
Land Source Container Rentals Inc. - 5 North Peters Blvd., Central Islip
Long Island Waste Services LLC - 390 N Broadway, Suite 220, Jericho
S&M Prompt Rubbish Removal SVC Inc. - 425 W. Sunrise Hwy, Freeport
Superior Waste Services of New York Inc. - 442 Tate Street, Holbrook
Eagle Sanitation - PO Box 298, Woodbury
Winters Bros Hauling of Long Island LLC. - 120 Nancy St., West Babylon

Resolutions:

23-77 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #23-15

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Tr. Burger, the resolution Authorizing Abstract No. 23-15 was unanimously approved.

23-78 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH C&G SOLUTION

- Upon motion by Tr. Savarese, seconded by Tr. Burger, the resolution for the Mayor to enter into an agreement with C&G Solution was unanimously approved.

23-79 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TO REMOVE METER SERVICER

- Upon motion by Duputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Tr. Sheikh, the resolution was unanimously approved for the removal of laborer, Jeffrey Reilly as Meter Servicer, effective January 22, 2024, in accordance with the CSEA Union Agreement Article 23.

23-80 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TO APPOINT NEW METER SERVICER

- Upon motion by Tr. Burger, seconded by Tr. Sheikh, the resolution was unanimously approved for the appointment of laborer, Mario Miletic as Meter Servicer, effective January 22, 2024, in accordance with the CSEA Union Agreement Article 23.

23-81 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TO ADOPT SEPARATION/RETIREMENT POLICY-NON-UNION EMPLOYEES

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Tr. Savarese, the resolution was unanimously approved that an employee must give at least two (2) weeks' notice of their intent to resign their position with the Village. An employee who is entitled to accrue time with the Village in accordance with all applicable Village employee policies shall be required to receive approval from his/her Department Head prior to utilizing such accrued time following the submission of a letter of separation/retirement. In the event that the employee is a Department Head, then he/she will require the approval of the Mayor and the Board of Trustees. In no event, shall an employee be permitted to utilize more than three (3) days of accrued time within the last 2 weeks of employment with the Village. Failure to abide by this policy will result in the forfeiture of eligible accrued time for the payment of same upon separation from employment.

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

Trustee Art Saverese

- Social Media- Follow the Village on the Village Instagram account for Updates, Important Notices & Events. (@villageofnhp). You should also visit the Village website and download the MY VNHP app on your phone to stay connected with your village.
- New Hyde Park Little League- Registration for the 2024 season is open online for boys' baseball & girls' softball. Please use <https://www.newhydeparklittleleague.com/> to register
- Mark your calendars, the NHPLL parade will be Saturday April 13th, more details about the parade in the coming weeks. I want to recognize the President of the NHPLL Mr. Vinny Grunert, who will be celebrating his 30th year volunteering for the NHPLL. For the past 26 years Vinny has served on the board and is the current President of the NHPLL.

Memorial Park

Village of New Hyde Park

Regular Meeting January 18, 2024

- Park hours are now 8 am till dusk every day. The park will be open most days unless there is inclement weather. The courts will also be open for use unless we have freezing temperatures.
- We are excited to announce with the help of the NHPLL we will be adding a turf infield to the big field at Memorial Park. This will enable to use the field for multiple teams of all ages. A PO was issued on January 5th, with LandTex and LandTex is looking to complete the field by mid-April. (Weather Permitting)
- Park ID's for the 2024 season are currently being renewed. If you need a new Park ID visit our website for more information. On the website, you can Print the application or pick one up from Village Hall. Bring proof of drivers license, utility bill, birth certificates (for your children), dog information and plus vaccine information for your dog. Clear Photos for each family member and your dog (if needed). Once we have all of this information, we will process the application, print out the cards and notify the residents when it's available for pick up at village hall.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS: Neighborhood Watch

- Neighborhood Watch program is ongoing and we are looking for more volunteers to patrol the Village streets during the week. If you are interested, please send me an email to asavarese@vnhp.org and then go to Village Hall to fill out an application. Thank you.
- Greater NHP Chamber of Commerce hosted their Presidents Gala yesterday at the Inn of NHP. If you would like to join the Chamber or need additional information you can visit the Greater NHP Chamber website. <https://www.nhpchamber.org/>

Other Items

- If you would like a tree planted in the Spring, please go to the Village website or the app and make your request.
- A couple of issues have surfaced that I would like to mention before I turn to Igor for the DPW report.
 1. We want to remind everyone that garbage should not be put out the day before your normal pick up until 7 pm in the evening.
 2. DPW does a great job clearing the streets when we have a snowfall, please pile up the snow and do not put it back in the street. Thank you.

Igor will fill us in on the rest of the DPW report.

Department of Public Works: Igor Sikiric, Superintendent

Sanitation

- DPW is currently running 3 garbage trucks and one roll- off for the collection and disposal of all municipal solid waste and recycling. We had purchased new vehicles in 2022 and anticipated receiving them several months ago, but due to supply chain issues, we are now scheduled to receive one of our new garbage trucks in January 2024 and the other in April 2024.

Waste and Recycling collected in December 2023

- 595 Tons of waste and recycling consisting of 396 tons of MSW.
- 21 tons of construction and demolition debris
- 12 tons of sweeping debris
- 25 tons of newspaper
- 23 tons of commingled recyclables
- 130 tons of Yard Waste

- There will be no double days scheduled between January 18, 2024 and the next Board Meeting February 15, 2024. Garbage collection for the entire village will be conducted along with paper collection on the Southside.
- Bulk Waste and E-waste pickups can only be scheduled by calling Village Hall. Bulk Waste is collected every Mondays and Fridays. E-waste is collected on Wednesdays. There is a write-up in the Winter Newsletter that details proper handling procedures for all recyclables.
- Cardboard must be flattened and bundled. No full boxes or boxes with Styrofoam inside will be accepted.
- A monthly sanitation calendar has been added to the Village of New Hyde Park website.

Operations

- Installation and repair of new signs and poles due to aging and damage is on-going. In the month of December 2023 there were approximately 10 signs that were repaired, replace, or relocated.

Routine Tree Maintenance

- Routine tree maintenance requests and tree preventative maintenance procedures are on-going and will continue as needed. Our Tree Contractor was in the Village in December and performed 10 tree trims, 3 tree removals, and 10 stump removals. DPW conducted 10 tree trims, 9 tree removals, and 20 stump cleanups in December. Tree trim and removals will continue, weather permitting over the next month. If you have any requests, you can call Village Hall or use the MyVNHP App.

DPW

- During the month of December, DPW received and staff responded to approximately 20 service requests that were received via the MyVNHP App or phone calls to Village Hall. Requests included tree trim/removal and tree planting, fallen branches, road repairs, routine maintenance requests, requests for a new recycling pail, etc. The majority of calls this month were regarding Trees and street lights.

Leaf Collection

- Road side collection of leaves was conducted until December 15th. In the month of December, we collected over 100 tons of leaves. Roadside leaf collection has now ended. If you have any leaves, please bag them, and put them out with your sanitation collection.
- DPW planted 55 new trees in the month of November. Tree planting for 2023 is complete. If you are looking for a tree in front of your house, please use the MyVNHP app or call Village Hall.

Trees

- The DPW planted 55 new trees in the month of November. Tree planting for 2023 is complete. If you are looking for a tree in front of your house, please use the MyVNHP app or call Village Hall.

Building Department - Binu Pillay, Superintendent

ZBA

- The last scheduled meeting of the Zoning Board and Appeals was cancelled since no applications were submitted.

- The next meeting is scheduled for Feb 14 – so far one case is on the agenda. The deadline to submit for February’s hearing is Wednesday 1/24.

ARB

- The last meeting of the Architectural Review Board was held on Dec. 13th with 6 cases heard, which range from 2nd floor additions and front porches 4 cases were approved and 2 were held over to the next meeting for additional comments, one of which was a commercial building.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 24th with 6 cases to be heard which range from adding porches, replacing stone veneer at front of dwelling and the repainting of a commercial building.

Planning Board

- The last meeting of the Planning Board was scheduled for Dec. 13th, however no applications were submitted and the meeting was cancelled.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 24th and as of this time we have no applications submitted.

VILLAGE COURT

- The last Village Court was held yesterday, January 17th with 14 cases, which comprise of 1 Obstructing sidewalk, 5 Property Maintenance, 1 Working without permits, 1 - Multi-families in a single family home, 2 -Failure to register rental property and 4 -various infractions.
The next village court will be held on February 21 with 4 cases. The 4 cases are comprised of 3 Property Maintenance – Litter Not Being Cleaned Up, 1 Prohibited Use of Space

RENTAL REGISTRATION

- Rental registration is in process and inspections are being conducted accordingly

SPECIAL USE

- There is one Special Use application being heard tonight.
- During the period from 12/18 to today, the building department issued 28 permits, 6 building permits, 7 plumbing permits, 2 - Dumpster/POD, 5- Roof, 1-Sidewalk/Driveway, 1-Fence, 4- Street Opening/Road Closure, 2- Signs, 6 - Certificates of Approval, 7 - Certificates of Completion, 1 Certificate of Occupancy, 1 Certificate of Existing Use, 1 – Special Use 5- Special Exceptions, 3 Closed Expired Permits

Oscar Osorio /Treasurer:

- The December Clerk’s Report was read, see below.

Village of New Hyde Park		
Clerk's Department Report - December 2023		
		CURRENT
Revenue	Description	12/31/2023
METERS		\$10,663.00
MUNIMETERS		\$28,211.00
PARKING PERMITS	TYPE A-R-B	\$39,350.00
LICENSES	CARTER, PLUMBING, RESTAURANT TAXI	\$8,325.00
BUILDING	STREET OPENINGS, PLAN, LATE FILING, SRF	\$19,588.84
ZONING	SPECIAL USE/EXCEPTION, HEARINGS	\$600.00
INTEREST ON ACCTS		\$11,117.97
REGISTRAR		\$150.00
SALE OF REFUSE		\$0.00
Revenue	Description	12/31/2023
COURT FINES	TRAFFIC COURT FINES	\$55,599.00
	BUILDING COURT FINES	\$3,400.00

Trustee Rainer Burger:

Long Island Railroad (LIRR) 3rd Track Project

South 12th Pedestrian Underpass & Station Platform

- MTA will be applying a new application to the cement façade to clean up the blemishes etc — Waiting for an update. Currently there has been no progress.

Paving of Roads

- Paving on 2nd was completed and striping in progress.
- Village not happy with the patch work that was completed between South 11th and the Station House – Village has voiced its displeasure to the MTA and 3TC. Waiting for response
- 3rd Ave – Waiting on Paving by substation. Striping mark outs in process.f
- Updated Traffic Pattern on web site.

LIRR Track Work

- MTA/LIRR noted that additional Signal work will still occur but this is currently not planned to take place till the 1st or 2nd Quarter of Next Year. The Board will keep everyone posted when the work is scheduled.

Water Authority

- Both Station 57 and 57A are now operational - Rehabilitation project including 1.4 Dioxane Removal is operational.
- As noted last month, capacity for Well 57A is 1200 GPM but current operating at 850 GPM for full removal of 1,4 dioxane. In order to return to full capacity, the Water Authority will need to add an additional 3rd treatment reactor on this site.

Marcus Christ

- Preliminary Architectural Drawing are developed.
- At the last public board Meeting in December the Board passed a resolution to award contracts to MJG Architect and RMB for the development of the Marcus Christ Design/Bid Construction Package to include specs, Bid Review process and construction overview.
- Contracts Awarded and Kick-off meeting was held on January 12th with a follow-on site visit by MJG architect on January 13th.
- Looking to complete the Bid Package and go out for bid 2nd/3rd Qtrs. 2024.
- Budget: Estimated approximate \$2.5 Mil. Currently have \$1.1M. Bond Remainder

Veterans Affairs/American Legion Post 1089

- There will be no post meeting during the Winter Months
- Next Meeting will be March 16th, 2024. Rescheduled from March 9th
- Four Chaplains Service – Trinity Lutheran Church, 5 Durham Road, NHP, NY 11040; Feb 4, 2024, 2:30 PM.

Troop 298

- Troop Pancake Breakfast scheduled for Saturday Feb 3, 2023 at NHP Applebees Restaurant 8 – 10 am
- Working with another Eagle Scout Project with Life Scout Michael Domingo. – Hero Banner/Wall

NOISE ABATEMENT

- The last meeting for TVASNC on Nov 27, 2023 was not held as there wasn't enough member for a Quorum
- The next meeting for TVASNC will be Monday January 22 at 7:00pm
- TVASNAC will continue working with our N.Y. State Congressmen from the 3rd and 4th Congressional Districts to put pressure on the FAA In the coming year. The main concerns are low flying aircraft's, frequent usage of runway 22L and the Health impacts from the dangers of air emissions over our community
- 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.

Trustee Eve Sheikh

On January 12th we had Lavender Workshop for the Seniors! It was held in the Community room and I have to say the seniors Loved it!! They were all smiles! All you need is an empty bottle- put a splash of witch hazel and Lavender essential oil mixed with water, shake well and it smells amazing. We actually felt more calmer and more relaxed. Great event! Thanks to Laura for setting it up.

Our upcoming Senior events are:

- Jan 26 - chocolate tasting (registration is already full) Looking forward to it! So are the Seniors!
- February 9th- Book Art Create a creative sculpture with us!

Registration is required for all the senior programs- please email Seniorprograms@vnhp.org

Hillside Library

Some of the upcoming events are:

- January 23rd- at 4:30pm Lego Snowflake workshop
- January 24th- From 12pm- 2pm
- In person blood pressure screenings

- January 28th at 1pm Movie Day- showing Barbie!
- February 1st from 1pm- 7pm They are having a blood drive
- February 9th at 7pm- paint night- year of the dragon
- February 15th-5:30-7:30pm Appeal your Nassau County Property Tax assessment workshop.

For more information about other interesting events can be found on the library's website which is hillsidelibrary.info

New Hyde Park Road School

- the school is offering SEL (which stands for Social Emotional Learning) program to the students
- In February, they are beginning the communicating unit of harmony SEL (unit 3). Students will learn and practice effective and healthy communication strategies. Communicating well and respecting others' communication strategies promote a positive, supportive and welcoming for all students. More information can be found on the Road SEL newsletter.

Deputy Mayor Madhvi Nijjar

- Earth day is April 14th the day following the Little League Parade
- A brief review of the Tax Grievance procedure was given
- The Winter Newsletter is going out; a special thanks to Arlene for her help with it
- The Village will be applying for additional Grants to continue the Senior Programs in March. We are using the last Grant for the ADA handicapped accessible bathroom downstairs.

Mayor Christopher Devane

- A review of the December through the middle of January police report was given; 6 auto accidents and 5 aided cases within that; 36 total aided cases; no robberies; 1 residential burglary; 1 commercial robbery at Extra Space Storage; no cars were stolen; 1 criminal mischief charge; 4 moving violations; 13 parking violations; and 3 larceny reports other than an automobile
- If you need an ambulance, call the fire department
- The 3rd annual St. Patrick's Day parade will take place on March 9th, rain or shine. Tony Jackson will be the Grand Marshal and the parade will celebrate our First Responders
- Our Best Buddies from NHP Memorial High School will be putting on the "Best of Broadway" on February 2nd and 3rd. Tickets are \$10 and will be sold at the door
- The 1st annual Mother's Day Parade will take place on Saturday, May 11th. Honor all our mom's whether they're here or not. Eve will be spearheading the event
- Work on the facilities is underway. Take a look around at the work, the first floor looks beautiful. The bathroom is being renovated downstairs to be ADA compatible. There's still work that still needs to be done outside the Village Hall in 2024.
- DPW work is going out for bids. Reason for the delay is that the original architect plans were too expensive and there were environmental issues that needed to be dealt with resulting from a substandard gas tank. Extensive soil testing was done to make sure that the DPW workers and the people that will play at Nuzzi field will be safe. We will get it done and within the budget. Nuzzi field will be shut down for two years to become a construction site.
- Memorial Park will be used for Little League games. The Little League will donate \$100k to get the field ready and the field will be used for T-ball through 15-16 year-olds, softball as well as various other sports. April 13th is the planned completion date

- We are working with Troop 298 on designs for the front entrance of Memorial Park honoring 105 members, whose names are on the rock outside, who gave their lives in service to this country during 4 wars. We are trying to get it done by Memorial Day 2024.
- The Audit will be done by February 15th and we will meet with the Auditor here. The audit took way too long due to the Clerk/Treasurer leaving to another role leaving our Deputy Treasurer, Oscar, to take over. The previous audit noted that we needed to strengthen our internal controls, however there was no indication that it was being addressed, and when questioned it was taken that the Treasurer was being micromanaged.
 - An example was given whereby the Mayor needed to get involved in a code enforcement issue that resulted in the courier receiving and paying \$32k in fines.
- Another issue that was brought to out attention in the audit was what we were paying in health insurance. During the 80's and 90's members of the board voted on lifetime health insurance, prior to 2010, for free once you had 5 years in the retirement system and after 2010 you need 10 years om the retirement system to get free lifetime medical benefits. Several examples of health insurance payments to previous board members were given. In 2023 alone, the Village paid out \$127k for 4 individuals, who are not on the board, medical insurance. These previous board members have received information regarding COBRA and other medical insurance alternatives.
- Rumor out here that we do not have money in the budget for snow removal. This is false information.
- Four of the five current board members do not take the \$3.5k stipend in lieu of medical benefits and do not ask for food and gas reimbursements.
- We have \$30k in our budget, which was increased from \$8k. Thru January 18th, only \$1,300 was spent mainly due to volunteers helping at the events and local businesses donating feed etc., at these events.
- Brandon Duffy was recognized because it is his last meeting. He is moving on to Manhattan Financial. He is also a volunteer fireman in New Jersey.

Meeting was opened up to Public Commentary

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Daly

Laura Daly