

VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
November 21, 2024

PRESENT: Mayor Christopher Devane
Deputy Mayor Madhvi Nijjar
Trustee Rainer Burger
Trustee Eve Sheikh
Trustee Arthur Savarese
Igor Sikiric, Superintendent of DPW
Rebecca Sheehan, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Binu Pillay, Superintendent of Building
Laura Daly, Secretary to the Board of Trustees

ABSENT: Peter S. Trentacoste, Attorney to the Board of Trustees
Benjamin Truncale, Jr., Attorney to the Board of Trustees

Mayor Devane opened the Board Meeting at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Devane began the meeting by recognizing two Village Residents for going above and beyond with their selfless contributions for the good and welfare of their community, Richard Papa and Tracy Lyons.

- Richard Papa, who donated his time, and worked long and hard, to demolish a sock factory, a house a deli and cleaners then cart off the debris, to prepare for the construction of a new parking lot. This saved the Village a lot of money.
- Tracy Lyons, a 35-year Village Resident who is also an EMT with the NHP Fire Department Rescue Squad for 4 years, who identified a woman in crisis, and averted a potential tragic situation.

BOARD MINUTES: APPROVED

Upon motion by Trustee Sheikh, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the Board Meeting Minutes from October 17, 2024 were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

The Police Report for October 2024 was submitted by the Nassau County Police Department.

POLICE REPORT

A review of the October 2024 police report was given; 10 auto accidents; 29 total aided cases (other than auto); no robberies; one residential burglary; no commercial burglary; no car was stolen; 5 other larceny charges: 1 criminal mischief charge; 8 moving violations; and 9 parking violations.

RESOLUTIONS:

24-55 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT NO. 24-12

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Tr. Savarese, the resolution authorizing Abstract No. 24-12 was unanimously approved.

24-56 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF NORTH HEMPSTEAD

- Upon motion by Tr. Sheikh, seconded by Tr. Burger, the resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with the town of North Hempstead was unanimously approved.

24-57 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTEE RESIGNATION – ROBINSON

- Upon motion by Tr. Burger, seconded by Tr. Savarese, the resolution accepting the resignation of Appointee – Robinson was unanimously approved.

24-58 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CHANGE ORDER TO BOROUGH CONSTRUCTION GROUP

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Tr. Savarese, the resolution authorizing a Change Order to Borough Construction Group was unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

Trustee Arthur Savarese

Parks and Recreation, Little League, Public Information, Dept. of Public Works (DPW), Tree Committee, Chamber of Commerce, Neighborhood Watch, Business Relations, DPW Redevelopment

Trustee Rainer Burger

Building Department, LIRR, Veterans Affairs, American Legion, Noise Abatement, Water Authorities, Scouts/Troop 298, Marcus Christ Hall (MCH)

Trustee Eve Sheikh

Library, Senior Programs, Schools, Business Relations (Construction)

Deputy Mayor Madhvi Nijjar

Beautification 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, Board of Appeals, Planning and ARB Board, 300 S12 St.

Trustee Art Savarese:

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.
- Also check out the E-Board for updates and notices!

New Hyde Park Little League

- Online registration for the spring Little League season will begin on December 1, 2024. The address is <https://www.newhydeparklittleleague.com/>
- Storm Academy used the turf field during the week and weekends until Sunday November 10th.

Memorial Park Update

- Park hours are 8am-4:30pm every day as long as the weather cooperates
 - We will open the courts daily for residents to use
- As of Tuesday, November 12th, the bathrooms and the Dog Park was closed and will be closed for the remainder of the season.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS: Neighborhood Watch

- The 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 at asavarese@vnhp.org and then go to Village Hall to fill out an application.

Other Items

- Leaf Collection started on Monday November 4th and will end on Friday December 13th
 - Refer to the map on the Village website to determine the day that leaves will be collected on your block.

Department of Public Works: Igor Sikiric, Superintendent

Sanitation October 2024

- 534 tons of refuse and recycling consisting of:
 - 418 tons of MSW
 - 22 tons of newspaper
 - 24 tons of commingled recyclables
 - 55 tons of yard waste
 - 15 tons of construction debris
- There is a double day scheduled before the next meeting:
 - Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28th, there will not be a sanitation collection. Collections will resume on Friday November 29th and include garbage collection throughout the Village and Newspaper collection on the south side.
- Bulk waste and E-waste pickups can only be scheduled by calling Village Hall. Bulk waste is collected every Monday and Friday. E-waste is collected on Wednesdays.
- Cardboard must be flattened and bundled; no full boxes or boxes with garbage or Styrofoam inside will be collected.
- Do not put your cardboard out for collection with your bottles and cans, it will not be collected.

Operations

- Road side leaf collection began on Monday, November 4th and will continue as needed till December 13th.
 - Road side leaf collection is strictly for loose leaves, do not put branches within leaf piles.

DPW

- Installation and repair of new signs and poles due to aging and damage is on-going. Approximately 35 signs were repaired, replaced, or relocated in October
- DPW staff performed weekly maintenance and cleanup operations along Jericho Tpke, LIRR corridor, and parking lots. Litter pick-up along sidewalks, median areas, and parking lots is conducted on a weekly basis.
- All vegetation watering and maintenance is conducted weekly or as needed.

Routine Tree Maintenance

- Routine tree maintenance requests and tree preventative maintenance procedures are on-going and will continue as needed.
- DPW conducted 25 tree trims and 4 tree removals in October.
- Our Tree Contractor was in the Village in October and performed 8 tree trims, 2 removals and 5 stump removals.
- Tree trims and removals will continue next month.
- DPW started planting approximately 48 new trees throughout the Village and it will continue through the first week of December

- If you have a request for a new tree or a question about a current tree, you can call Village Hall or use the MyVNHP App.
- During the month of October, DPW received and staff responded to approximately 35 service requests that were received via the MyVNHP App or phone calls to the Village Hall; the majority of calls were regarding trees.

DPW Renovation Update (4 months into the project)

- The foundation for the new truck garage has been poured; the foundation walls for the new office have been poured; and the walls for the new salt shed are in the process of being installed.
- The electrician has been onsite installing all the new wiring in the existing garage and installing the new wiring within the new truck garage and new office building.
- The plumber has installed the new bathroom in the existing garage and has run the rough plumbing for the new office.
- The project is moving along very well and it is anticipated that most of the structures should be up and in place by the Spring. If construction continues as anticipated, substantial completion of the entire project is estimated for June.

Building Department - Binu Pillay, Superintendent:

ZBA

- The last scheduled meeting of the Zoning Board and Appeals was Schedule for November 13th the applicant seeking approval to do vertical extension using existing foundation, interior and exterior renovations and SEP for 2nd kitchen; the applicant must come back for the 2nd kitchen approval
- The next meeting is scheduled for Dec 11th and we have one case from last month; the applicant must bring documents supporting why a 2nd kitchen is needed.

ARB

- The last meeting of the Architectural Review Board was held on November 20th with 4 cases heard; 1 case was about adding stone to the bottom part of the house but was not approved; 2 cases were about adding a 2nd floor and full house renovations which were approved; and one case was about legalized and maintenance work done without a permit which was approved with suggested changes for the future.
- The next meeting is scheduled for December 18th with 1 case to be heard from last month; the applicant is seeking approval to add stone but must come back with different color and sizes of the stone.

Planning Board

- The last meeting of the Planning Board was scheduled for November 13th; however, no applications were submitted and the meeting was cancelled.
- The next meeting is scheduled for December 11th and no applications have been submitted.

VILLAGE COURT

- The last Village Court was held on November 20th with 38 cases which was comprised of 2- Sidewalk obstruction; 10- Property Maintenance; 2- Garbage out before 7pm; 10- working without a permit; 2- Truck route using non-permitted street; 9- Rental without registration; 3- use of a single family by more than one, 1 use of a cellar as habitable place; and 1 illegally occupied basement.
- The next village Court will be held on Dec 18, with 27 cases, which comprise of 2- obstructing sidewalk; 13- property maintenance; 5- working without permits; 1- use of truck for non-permitted route, 1- abandoned vehicle kept on site; and 5- Garbage out before 7pm.

RENTAL REGISTRATION

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

SPECIAL USE

- There was no special use cases heard last month or tonight
- During the period from October 17 through November 21, the building department issued 41 permits: 15- building permits; 9- plumbing permits; 5- roof; 3- sidewalk/driveway; 1- fence; 2- Street Opening; and 6- Solar
- There were also 11- Certificates of Approval and 13- Certificates of Completion

Clerk’s Report - Rebecca Sheehan, Clerk-Treasurer:

Village of New Hyde Park		
Clerk's Department Report - October 2024		
		CURRENT
Revenue	Description	10/31/2024
Taxes Interest & Penalty		\$32,770.43
METERS		\$3,006.45
MUNIMETERS		\$0.00
PARKING PERMITS	TYPE A-R-B	\$5,000.00
LICENSES	CARTING, PLUMBING, RESTAURANT, TAXI	\$600.00
BUILDING	STREET OPENINGS, PLAN, LATE FILING, SRI	\$29,272.29
ZONING	SPECIAL USE/EXCEPTION, HEARINGS	\$1,300.00
STREET FAIR INCOME		\$375.00
SALE OF REFUSE		\$281.60
Revenue	Description	10/31/2024
COURT FINES	TRAFFIC COURT FINES	\$122,515.00
	BUILDING COURT FINES	\$39,805.00
	Clerk	\$87,580.98
	Court	\$162,320.00
	Total Revenue	\$249,900.98
OUTSTANDING TAX PAYMENTS AS OF 10/17/2024 -		\$389,969.27

Trustee Rainer Burger:

LIRR Track Work

- No Track work planned as far as the Village is aware

Water Authority

- Station 40 and 44 are being rebuilt.
 - Both Stations 40 and 44 are under the process of lower-level concrete pours for the new treatment building at HQ and new well/GAC building at Station 44.
 - Lower levels are nearly complete with foundation and walls in place.

- Both the plumbing and electrical contractors have to begin installing pipe and conduits according to plans.
- The Station 57 phase 3 is currently out for bid.
 - The Trojan AOP reactor is expected to arrive the week of Christmas but physical install and work on the overall project will more than likely occur later in the Spring 2025.

Noise Abatement

- Last TVASNAC Meeting on Oct 28 was cancelled since there not enough members; and the next meeting is Nov 25th.
 - Meetings are held at Hempstead Town Hall and start at 7 pm.
- A Town of Hempstead Attorney has filed a foil request to the FAA for the raw data from noise monitors. placed along the departure and arrival routes of planes going into JFK.
 - The FAA reported that the town was supposed to receive these reports on July 29.
 - Reports are now coming in September as the Port Authority keeps stalling so we have not heard if the reports have come in.
 - If a response is not received Town of Hempstead and North Hempstead will move forward with Legal Action.
 - 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.

Veterans Affairs/American Legion Post 1089

- The Legion Post meeting was held on Nov. 9th; the next meeting will be on Dec 15th – the Post Birthday Luncheon.
- 10 Nov 2024 - Veterans Day Flapjack Breakfast at Applebee’s
 - For the 2nd year in a row, we held a Flapjack Breakfast.
 - Thank you, Troop 298, for helping waiter and set-up.
 - Thank you to the Community who came out to support the Legion and the Breakfast.
- 11 Nov 2024 - Veterans Day Ceremony
 - Thank you to the Board and the Village Employees, including DPW, for supporting and setting up for the event.
 - Thank you also to the Community for coming out and supporting our Veterans.
 - Also, Congratulates to Bill Hothan on receiving the Commander Award.
- 15 Dec 2024 - Post Birthday Luncheon at Gino’s Restaurant.

Scouting

- Troop 298 invited the American Legion to a Troop meeting on Nov 18th.
 - The Meeting was at Gloria Dei located at 600 New Hyde Park Road, NHP NY 11040
 - The purpose of the meeting will be for Scouts to understand what the American Legion is about and share some war stories.

Marcus Christ

- Updated design is complete and the updated estimate is under review.
- The updated Bid Package is expected by the end of the month and then we will go out for bid.
- We hope to go out to bid in Late Nov/Early Dec.

Trustee Eve Sheikh:

Senior Programs

- We had a Terrarium workshop On October 25th.
 - It was fun!
 - The Seniors had unique styles and really enjoyed the event!
- I'm excited to announce that our big event, the Thanksgiving Luncheon, is coming on Tuesday, November 26th at 11am.
 - Can't wait to serve them.
 - Thank you to our staff, in advance, for helping that day.
- Our December Senior Event, Holiday Cheer, will take place on December 6th at 11am.
 - It will be filled with music, refreshments and great company.
 - We are making Gingerbread houses; it should be a very sweet event.
- Registration is required for all the senior programs; please email Seniorprograms@vnhp.org

Hillside Public Library

- Some of their upcoming events are:
 - Sunday, November 24th from 12:30pm-1:30pm - Fall Bingo!
 - Wednesday, November 27th from 12pm-2pm - Free In-Person Monthly Blood Pressure Screenings
 - Friday, December 6th at 1pm - Movie showing- "Die Hard"
 - Tuesday, December 10th from 5pm-6pm - Holiday stuffed animal workshop
 - Friday, December 13th from 7pm-8pm - Paint Night - Snowy Winter Twilight
 - More information about other interesting events can be found on the library's website: hillsidelibrary.info

New Hyde Park Road School

- The school is asking for donations of new socks to help the homeless.
 - The collection box is located on the main floor.
- The school is also taking part in a Crayon Initiative, helping support children in hospitals around the world
 - Old broken crayons will be recycled – melted down and reshaped into three-sided crayons that are easy to grip and won't roll off hospital trays.

At New Hyde Park Memorial High School

- Homecoming was October 19th
 - It was a beautiful day showing school pride and sportsmanship
 - Great job by all!

Schools are closed for Thanksgiving break on November 28th and 29th .

Deputy Mayor Madhvi Nijjar:

Clerk's Office Tax Update:

- The Clerk's Office Audit began on October 28th
- Rebecca went to an important meeting on CDBG, Community Development Block Grants. It was a lengthy meeting which provided information regarding Government Contracts and Projects being awarded beginning 2025.
 - We have 3 programs that depend on CDBG Grants: The Senior Programs, Residential Rehab and ADA Compliance updating.

Grants:

Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP) Grant:

- The JCAP Grant was submitted for the next year on October 10, 2024 and we are waiting to hear back.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG):

- CDBG informed us that the reason for the ADA denial was because we have not used the money that was allocated for the 49th Year ADA updates.
 - We will need to spend that money before we can ask for additional funds.
- We have \$30,000 allocated to our Village residents under the Residential Rehab programs for those who qualify.
 - The money is available for the residents; if they meet the requirements
 - The check will be mailed directly to the contractor
 - Call the Clerk's office for more information if you know someone in need and on a fixed income; they may be eligible for the funds. We'd like to use them
 - Planning to advertise this at the local Churches and House of Worshipships that are in our jurisdiction.

Culture Committee Events:

The Culture Committee is very busy in the fall. Since our last meeting we had the following events:

- The Halloween Parade and Fall Festival took place in the park on October 26th
 - It was greatly received and we received positive feedback from the Community
- A Diwali Celebration took place on November 8th
 - As always it was very well attended and appreciated by the Community
 - Thank you to Manjit Singh, a Village resident, for the food donations from Jackson Diner; the High School Volunteers; the performers; and the Community for their participation.
- Veterans Day Ceremony was on November 11th

Upcoming Village events are:

- The annual Tree Lighting on November 30th at 3pm
 - It will start in the Village Hall basement with entertainment for the children
 - Afterwards, we will be headed outdoors to light the tree
 - The Lions Club will be unloading their Christmas trees with the Scouts in the lot that day and their Christmas Tree fund raiser will be up and running by the end of the day.
- I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving
 - Enjoy your time with your loved ones!

Lastly, we are always looking for volunteers to help with our events!

Mayor Christopher Devane:

Event Updates

- Veteran's Day – was a phenomenal day where we honored our true Heroes
 - The Village was honored to be a part of the Ceremony
 - Thank you to the American Legion for their service and all the work that they did on the event
 - Thank you, Rainer, who is now the Commander of the American Legion
- Diwali – an event that brings our community together
 - It was a great event and everyone had a lot of fun
 - There was dancing in the aisles
 - Thank you, Madhvi, Dhanya and Christie, they transformed the place; thank you Jackson Diner for the food donations
 - Lastly, thank you to everyone that donate their time: the High School Volunteers; the performers; and the Community for their participation.
- Halloween Parade and Fall Festival – it was a great success!
- The Annual Tree Lighting will take place on November 30th and it will be last Village event of the year.
 - The Fire Department and Santa Claus will be there

- This year the Village adopted a Charity, Tricia's Kids, which was started by a family in Floral Park in honor of their mom who enjoyed Christmas and loved children
 - It's a toy drive that you can also adopt a family or a child.
 - We are asking those who come to the tree lighting to drop off a new/unwrapped toy at the Village Hall
 - Please make an effort to give back this time of the year by fulfilling an on-line wish list, sponsoring a child or family; or donating money
- We, as a Village, have done a lot to give back by collecting at least 50 bags of towels for the Town of Hempstead animal shelter; and we are collecting hats, gloves and scarves for Retired NYS Volunteer Firefighters

Village Employee Recognition

- These are individuals who take it upon themselves to give back to the community by participating in the events
 - It says a lot about the type of employees that work here
- They participated in the Halloween Parade, dressing up in a pirate's themed costume, and also the Diwali celebration
- Most of the Board was able to attend an event at the Ronald McDonald House in coordination with the Katie McBride Foundation
 - They are now planning to go one night to cook a meal for the families staying there
- Thank you to DPW Employees for all the work that they are doing at the DPW facility project and for picking up the leaves - they are doing a good job
- Thank you to the Board for all their work to make things happen in the Village

300 S 12th Street - progress

- The debris has been removed and the next step is for the contractor to start the new parking lot, weather dependent
- Afterwards, refurbish the existing parking lot behind the tin house (with State funds), and open the 2 parking lots to the commuters
- Then begin building the park, which weather permitting, could be worked on through the winter otherwise the park should be completed by June 2025

DPW

- The DPW project should also be completed by June 2025

Village Hall

- We're starting a project to move the power lines (400 amp) that come in from the poles on Jericho Tpke underground
- This will also power our new Marcus Christ Community Center
- We will also hook up our generator so the Community Center can be used for emergency shelter which may help get us some Federal funds

Marcus Christ Hall

- We scaled down the original plans to 4,200 sq. ft. with an estimated cost is \$3.7 million.
- Funding will come from:
 - \$400,000 put aside from taxes; \$450,000 from 2 separate state grants; \$250,000 from a Nassau County Grant; and \$250,000 from another potential Grant. This takes us to \$1,350,000
 - In 2025-2026 we were planning to set aside \$2.5 million for road improvements but we will now use those funds for the community center
- Always looking for more other avenues for Grants

- It will remain called Marcus Christ Hall and different organizations of every generation will be able to use the facility from the Cub Scouts to the Cellini Lodge
- We will celebrate every ethnicity
- In order to do this, we will need to move the Cellini Lodge Monument
 - The Cellini Lodge is aware of this
 - We've been working with their Lawyer on the plan to remove it and return it to the Village Hall
 - Still working on where it will go and how it will look
- We expect that by early 2026 we will have a new Community Center
 - Hopefully we can use some of the Senior Funds because they will be using the Center as well

New Business

- The Village is aware that the lots are being redone and that there are more permits than spots
 - We are working on a solution
- Lots of exciting things happening and we look forward to unveiling a new park in 2025
- Acknowledged Laurie Robinson's, a Village Appointee, resignation from the Western Nassau Water Authority and thanked her for her service.
- Addressed the residents need to have their leaves picked up

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM and a motion was made by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Tr. Savarese, and unanimously approved, to go to an Executive Session. The Executive Session ended at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Laura Daly

Secretary to the Board