

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
December 19, 2024**

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

ABSENT: Trustee Rainer Burger
Trustee Arthur Savarese
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.

BOARD MINUTES: APPROVED

Upon motion by Trustee Sheikh, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, the Board Meeting Minutes from November 12, 2024, were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

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

POLICE REPORT

A review of the November 2024 police report was given; 6 auto accidents; 28 total aided cases (other than auto); no robberies; no residential burglary; no commercial burglary; no car was stolen; 5 other larceny charges: 1 criminal mischief charge; 10 moving violations; and 3 parking violations.

RESOLUTIONS:

24-60 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT NO. 24-14

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Tr. Sheikh, the resolution authorizing Abstract No. 24-14 was unanimously approved.

24-61 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF A 2006 MACK GRANITE GARBAGE TRUCK

- Upon motion by Tr. Sheikh, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, the resolution accepting \$5,000 for the sale of the Mack Granite Garbage Truck to the Village of Floral Park was unanimously approved.

24-62 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLERK-TREASURER TO ADVERTISE FOR COMPETITIVE BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW MARCUS CHRIST COMMUNITY CENTER

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Tr. Sheikh, the resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to advertise for bids for the design and construction of a new Marcus Christ Community Center 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 – Reported by Laura Daly:

Social Media

- Follow the Village on the Village Instagram account for Updates, Important Notices & Events. (@villageofnhp)
- 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 has begun. Please go to the NHPLL website to register. The address is <https://www.newhydeparklittleleague.com/>

Memorial Park Update

- Park hours are 8am-4:30pm every day if the weather cooperates
 - We will open the courts daily for residents to use

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 an email to asavarese@vnhp.org and then go to Village Hall to fill out an application.

Other Items

- Igor will be filling us in on the progress of the DPW Facility and the rest of the DPW report.
- The Savarese Family would like to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Department of Public Works: Igor Sikiric, Superintendent

Sanitation October 2024

- 1031 tons of refuse and recycling consisting of:
 - 413 tons of MSW
 - 7 tons of newspaper
 - 15 tons of commingled recyclables

- 101 tons of yard waste
- 495 tons of construction debris
- There are two double days scheduled before the next meeting:
 - Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25th and New Years Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2025. Collections will resume on the following Thursday after both holidays. On those Thursdays, there will be garbage collection on the northside of the Village; Newspaper collection on the southside; and commingled recycling collection throughout the Village. Plan accordingly.
- 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

- Roadside leaf collection began on Monday November 4th and continued throughout the month of November
 - In November, DPW collected over 100 tons of leaves while conducting roadside leaf collections
 - At this point, roadside leaf collection has ended as well as the collection of bagged yard waste
 - If you have any vegetative debris to discard, put it out with your regular sanitation

DPW

- Installation and repair of new signs and poles due to aging and damage is on-going
 - In November, approximately 10 signs were repaired, replaced, or relocated.
- DPW staff performed weekly maintenance and cleanup operations along Jericho Tpke, the LIRR corridor, and parking lots.
- Litter pick-up along sidewalks, median areas, and parking lots is conducted on a weekly basis
- All vegetation maintenance at this point is conducted monthly 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 5 tree trims and 1 tree removal in November
 - Tree trims and removals will continue in December
- In November, DPW started the planting of approximately 48 new trees throughout the Village
 - Tree plantings will be completed the week of December 16th; if you have a request for a new tree or a question about your current tree, you can call Village Hall or use the MyVNHP App.
- In November, DPW received, and staff responded to approximately 38 service requests that were received via the MyVNHP App or phone calls to Village Hall
 - The majority of calls this month were regarding trees
- In November DPW winterized Memorial Park
 - All bathrooms and sprinkler lines were flushed
 - The dog park was closed
 - All fence screens and umbrellas were removed and are stored until the Spring

DPW Renovation Update (5 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 interior concrete slabs will be poured the week of December 16th and then in all 3 structures

- The electrician has been onsite installing the new wiring in the existing garage and 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 this Summer

300 S. 12th Street Parking Lot

- The construction of the new parking lot at 300 S. 12th Street has begun
 - The contractor installed all the drainage basins and began installing all the new concrete curbing and sidewalks
 - The next step would be to level the soil and place the base layer of construction fill creating the subsurface layer for the parking lot
 - After that, the following step would be to begin the placement of the asphalt
 - The completion of the lot is highly dependent upon the weather, so due to this, at this point, the completion date is unknown

Building Department - Binu Pillay, Superintendent:

ZBA

- The last meeting of the Zoning Board and Appeals was December 11th; the applicant was seeking approval to do a vertical extension using existing foundation, interior and exterior renovations, and SEP for 2nd kitchen. The application was approved
- The next meeting is scheduled for Jan 8th; we have 1 case, and the applicant is seeking to install a 6ft fence for privacy purposes

ARB

- The last meeting of the Architectural Review Board was December 18, 2024, with 2 cases heard
 - 1 case was about adding stone to the rest of the house that was originally approved in a previous ARB meeting, and it was approved
 - 1 case was about seeking to install a commercial sign which was conditionally approved
- The next meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2025, with 1 case to be heard from 2 months ago in which the applicant is seeking approval to add stone but was asked to return with different colors and sizes of the stone

Planning Board

- The last meeting of the Planning Board was scheduled for December 11th; however, no applications were submitted, and the meeting was cancelled
- The next meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2025, and no applications were submitted

VILLAGE COURT

- The last Village Court was on December 18, 2024, with 35 cases, which were comprised of 4- Sidewalk obstruction; 13- Property Maintenance; 6- Garbage out before 7pm; 6- working without a permit; 1- Truck idling; 3- Rental without registration, 1- Tenancy with adult use; and 1- Failed to repair sidewalk.
- The next village court will be held on January 15, 2025, with 22 cases, which comprise of 13- Garbage out before 7pm; 2- Illegal occupancy; 2- Working without a permit; 3- Renting without a registration; and 2- Car blocking sidewalk.

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 November 21st through December 19th the building department issued 24 permits; 7- Building permits; 4- Plumbing permits; 2- Roof, 1 -Sidewalk/Driveway; 3- Fence; 4-Street Opening and 3 - Solar
- There were also 6- Certificates of Approval, 9- Certificates of Completion, and 7- Rental Registration Certificates

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

Village of New Hyde Park		
Clerk's Department Report - November 2024		
		CURRENT
Revenue	Description	11/30/2024
Taxes Interest & Penalty		\$13,088.47
PARKING PERMITS	TYPE A-R-B	\$1,600.00
LICENSES	CARTING, PLUMBING, RESTAURANT, TAXI	\$650.00
BUILDING	STREET OPENINGS, PLAN, LATE FILING, SRI	\$34,386.02
ZONING	SPECIAL USE/EXCEPTION, HEARINGS	\$700.00
STREET FAIR INCOME		\$3,458.00
Revenue	Description	11/30/2024
COURT FINES	TRAFFIC COURT FINES	\$115,055.00
	BUILDING COURT FINES	\$27,424.00
	Clerk	\$70,811.31
	Court	\$142,479.00
	Total Revenue	\$213,290.31
OUTSTANDING TAX PAYMENTS (incl Penalties) AS OF 12/2/2024 -		\$374,111.72

- The Total Revenue thru 11/30/2024 is \$5,270,023.11

Trustee Rainer Burger – Reported by Laura Daly:

LIRR Track Work

- No Track work planned as far as the Village is aware
- There was activity recently, but we were not notified and we are still trying to get details

Water Authority

- Station 40 and 44 are being rebuilt
 - Lower levels are complete with foundation and walls in place; now both the plumbing and electrical contractors must begin installing pipe and conduits according to plans.
- 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.

- Cell carriers will be working on the high tank working on their equipment. We are told this should take approximately 2 weeks, weather permitting.

Noise Abatement

- The last TVASNAC Meeting was on Nov 25
- There will be no TVASNAC Meeting in Dec 2024 next meeting in Jan 27, 2025
- Meetings are held at Hempstead Town Hall and start at 7 pm
- TVASNAC has been pressuring the FAA/ Port Authority to utilize the restricted air space over the Atlantic Ocean for commercial flights due to the overwhelming number of flights over our community
- There still has not been any response to the lawsuit filed against the Port Authority from the towns of Hempstead and North Hempstead on the effects of exposure to high levels of aircraft noise and its health issues
- A group of Nassau County Mayors from the North Shore formed a regional group to lobby for regulations to prevent airline noise from Supersonic air travel
- A company named Boom Supersonic is developing a commercial plane capable of exceeding the speed of sound like the Concorde.
- 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

- A Legion Post meeting was held on Dec 15, 2025; this was the Legion Post Luncheon Meeting held at Gino's Restaurant in NHP
- There are no Legion Post Meetings in January and February
- The next Legion Meeting will be held on March 8th, 2025

Scouting

- Troop 298 supported the Lions Club with the Christmas Tree unloading
- Court of Honor was held on Dec 16, 2025, where a number of scouts received merit badges and rank advancements
- An Eagle Court of Honor is scheduled for Dec 28 at the Irish American Club

Marcus Christ

- Design is complete and the Village is going out to Bid
- Mayor Devane to give update

Trustee Eve Sheikh:

Senior Programs

- Our big event took place on November 26th, the Thanksgiving Luncheon for the Seniors!
 - It was a wonderful event. The Seniors were so grateful
 - Thank you to I would like thank Laura T for doing a great job putting it all together, along with our Village Staff and my Board for helping
- On December 6th we had Holiday Cheer for the Seniors, it was a sweet event!
 - The kids from Road School joined and they sang!
 - The seniors had a blast making gingerbread houses; one of the seniors was so happy, she wanted her gingerbread house to be shown on our Instagram page. They all did a great job!
- Our upcoming Senior events are:
 - January 17th, 11am, dessert made from lavender herb
 - January 31st, 11am, Paul the plant guy! Seniors get chances to win free plants as well as get educated on plant care

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

Hillside Public Library

- Some of their upcoming events are:
 - Friday, December 20th, from 5:30-6:30pm, for Grades 5-12, Build a Gingerbread Village!
 - Friday, December 27th, from 4:30-5:30pm, for Grades 2-4, New Year's Snack with Mr. B
 - Tuesday, January 7th, from 10am-5pm, Health Care Insurance Application Assistance, for ages 65 and over, blind or disabled populations
 - Friday, January 10th at 1pm - Movie showing Twisters
- More information about other interesting events, go to the library's website: hillsidelibrary.info

New Hyde Park Road School

- The school is offering an after-school enrichment Winter program to children entering kindergarten to 6th Grade.
 - The Winter session runs from January thru March
 - It will be held on Wednesdays from 3-4:30pm
 - The cost is \$147 per session
 - You can register with the school if interested
 - The school will be closed for Holiday break and be back in session on January 6th
 - Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to All!

Deputy Mayor Madhvi Nijjar:

Clerk's Office Tax Update:

- Rebecca shared our monthly Financial Report
- We have not heard anything from the Auditors regarding the 2023-2024 Audit
- Thank you, Nick Cywinski, our Fall Intern from St. John's University who was very busy helping in the Clerk's Office
- We are hoping to have another Intern in the Spring

Grants:

Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP) Grant:

- The JCAP Grant was submitted for the next year, and we are still waiting to hear back with an update

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG):

- We have \$30,000 allocated to our Village residents under the Residential Rehab programs for those who qualify; we would like to use the funds
 - Call the Clerk's office for additional information if you know someone in need who's on a fixed income; they may be eligible for the funds
 - The check will be mailed directly to the contractor
 - Planning to advertise this at the local Churches and House of Worship that are in our jurisdiction

Culture Committee Events:

Since our last meeting we had the following events:

- The Annual Tree Lighting on Saturday, November 30th
 - It was well attended and a great success
 - The children enjoyed the entertainment and Santa
 - Thank you to:
 - The Fire Department for all their help
 - All the High School Volunteers for donating their time
 - The Culture Committee and of course the Community
- We are always looking for volunteers to help with our events!

Lastly, Deputy Mayor Nijjar wished everyone a Merry Christmas/Happy Hanukkah, and Happy and Healthy New Year! Enjoy your time with your loved ones!

Mayor Christopher Devane:

Event Updates – Mayor Devane touched upon 2 wonderful recent Village Events

- The Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon
 - The Village started this tradition
 - It provided lunch and perhaps even dinner from the leftovers
 - Afterwards the Village Staff decorated the Christmas Tree in the Village Hall
- The Tree Lighting Event
 - He thanked the Fire Department for decorating the Tree and the Village Hall; and for delivering Santa Claus (who was late because he was at an actual fire)

300 S 12th Street - progress

- The construction of the new parking lot at 300 S. 12th Street has begun
- The game plan is to complete the parking lot and have the public begin using it
- Hopefully, we'll be able to move the tin house, and open the existing parking lot to commuters
- We are using State Funds of \$1.2 million, to build the park
- The next steps will be the design of the park and landscaping
- Weather permitting, we expect the park to be completed by Spring 2025

Marcus Christ Community Center

- We passed the Resolution tonight authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to advertise for Competitive Bids for the Construction of the New Marcus Christ Community Center
- The Cellini Statue will be removed and then put back
 - Not in the same spot since it is not within the footprint of the plan but in a respectable setting
 - The anticipated completion date is sometime in the Spring 2026
 - We are hoping that the cost will come within a range of \$3 million to \$4 million
 - A summary of the funding was given as well as an acknowledgement the State/County Officials that helped the Village obtain them: \$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 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 a portion of those funds for the Community Center

Closing Notes of Calendar Year 2024

The Mayor gave a heartfelt thanks to the Individuals working in the various Departments within the Village of New Hyde Park, acknowledging some by name for their hard work and support.

- The Village Hall Staff
- DPW Staff
- Park Attendants
- The Board Members
- The Village of New Hyde Park Community
- All Village Employees

The Mayor noted that the Village will be celebrating Festivus on Monday, December 23rd; that Ava will be lighting the Menorah in front of the Village Hall at sundown on Wednesday, December 25th; and finally wished everyone a Merry Christmas/Happy Hanukkah, and Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year!

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM and a motion was made by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Tr. Sheikh, and unanimously approved, to go to an Executive Session. The Executive Session ended at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Laura Daly

Secretary to the Board