

VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
April 5, 2021

This meeting was presented via Zoom Remote Conferencing due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Present: Mayor Devane
Deputy Mayor Nijjar
Trustee Squicciarino
Trustee Burger
Trustee Savarese
Cathryn Hillmann, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Binu Pillay, Superintendent of Building
Igor Sikiric, Deputy Superintendent of DPW
Lara Verbanac, Research Assistant to the Board

Absent: Thomas P. Gannon, Superintendent of DPW

Mayor Devane opened the Board Meeting at 8:01 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the Annual Organizational Meeting.

Minutes:

No minutes to approve from March 18, 2021. The minutes were approved via email by exiting members of the Board of Trustees.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

License Renewals:

Catering: APPROVED

Milo Associates DBA Mr.Softee – 158-35 82nd Street, Howard Beach

Landscapers: APPROVED

Scarpati Landscaping – 42 Salisbury Avenue, Stewart Manor
WM Landscaping – 258 Hempstead Avenue, Malverne
Three Seasons Lawn Maintenance and Design – PO Box 487, West Hempstead
Anthony DiCarlo & Sons Landscaping – 2774 Central Avenue, Baldwin
Rojas Landscaping – 89-22 185th Street, Hollis
P.Gironda Landscaping – 1631 Imperial Avenue, New Hyde Park
Mata Landscaping – 128 N Grove Street, Freeport
Charles Landscaping – PO Box 20561, Floral Park
Jose Landscaping – 167 Dikeman Street, Hempstead
Vasquez Jose Landscaping – 339 Doughty Blvd, Inwood
Graham Block and Landscaping, 1231 Tulip Avenue, Franklin Square
Hicks Nurseries, 100 Jericho Turnpike, Westbury
M. Ramirez Landscaping – 14 E Greenwich Street, Roosevelt
EMR Landscaping – 11 Thrush Lane, Levitown
J. Montemarano Landscaping – 5 Springbiar Lane, Kings Park

GP Landscaping – 85-46 151 Street, Jamaica
Jose G. Arevalo Landscaping, 686 Keil Street, Elmont
LTK Landscaping – 9 Fordham Street, Williston Park
DeLeon Brothers Landscaping – 101 N Montague Street, Valley Stream

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Squicciarino:

Village Clerk’s Report

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Coin Collection | \$11,582.00 |
| Munimeters | \$11,317.65 |
| Parking Permits | \$1,220.00 |
| Licenses | \$7,305.00 |
| Building Fees | \$19,304.21 |
| Court Fines – Traffic | \$48,594.00 |
| Court Fines – Bldg. | \$7,500.00 |

Clerk’s Office

On March 11th the American Rescue Plan Act was passed as part of the Stimulus Package that offers relief to local governments. The aid would help with lost revenue, on the per capita basis, which will be calculated using the 2019 Census information. As of now the Village of New Hyde Park is looking at a \$400,000 loss for the year. Based on preliminary calculation the Village would be getting around \$500,000 from the aid package. More updates to come.

Chamber of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony on April 26th to welcome Park Place Restaurant and Bar to our community. Some of the people in attendance were County Executive Curran, Presiding Officer Nicoletto, County Clerk O’Connell, TONH Town Clerk Wayne Wink and various Chamber members. The Village of New Hyde Park wishes owners M. Tesoriero, S. DeCantis and P. O’Holloran the best of luck.

Hillside Library

Residents can go online to sign up and reserve a time to browse the aisles. The library is also offering a variety of virtual programs and events, including adult exercise classes and job interview preparation courses.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The money received in 2020 from the grant will be used to update the bathrooms at Village Hall to make them ADA compliant. In addition to that, the flooring on the first floor of Village Hall as well as the stairs and landings leading to the basement will be replaced.

Residential Rehab

There is necessary house repair funding available for any residents in need. For more information residents are encouraged to contact Village Clerk Hillmann at 516/354-0022.

Trustee Burger:

Building Report

- The last Village building court was held on March 17, 2021, via telephone conference. There were 16 cases on the docket, involving property maintenance, violation of special exception, working without a permit, illegal use of a single family home, illegally parked on lawn, and placing snow on street.
- The next Village building court will be held on April 21, 2021 at Village Hall, with 10 cases on the docket.
- There have been 30 permits in total approved and issued from March 18th to April 5th.

LIRR

- There were two events that took place at the LIRR construction sites in the last month, which have prompted MTA to put out a work stoppage order until all investigations into the incidents have been completed.
 - At the Willis Avenue crossing, there was a wall collapse of a partially demolished building. No crew members suffered any injuries.
 - At the Mineola station pedestrian bridge, a worker was electrocuted when a crane touched a live wire, electrifying the bridge. The worker is still in critical condition. Our prayers are with her and her family.
- G-14 substation delivery date for the prefabricated structure was originally set for March 19th, but was pushed back due to the work stoppage order. The delivery date has yet to be rescheduled. When the new date is announced it will be posted on the Village Website.
- The LIRR Taskforce will be scheduling a meeting with the MTA and 3TC to get Mayor Devane up to date on the project.
- Platforms have re-opened at the New Hyde Park train station on March 15th.
 - A new commuter lot has opened on the corner of Plaza Avenue and New Hyde Park Road.
 - There is additional parking available along 2nd Avenue and 3rd Avenue.
 - Residential parking lots are still located on S 12th Street.
 - Deputy Superintendent Sikiric is working on additional parking to be added near the LIRR station.
- No night work has been scheduled for the next several weeks.
- The 12th Avenue underpass push, originally scheduled for April 24th will be moved to a later date. No final date has been set as of yet.
- Wall construction is set to begin shortly. During construction, 2nd Avenue or 3rd Avenue will be closed to traffic depending where the wall construction is taking place.
- The Village Board is working with the MTA on several agreements including the new parking lot at New Hyde Park Road and parking along the Right of Way. The MTA Council submitted the last update which was returned with comments by the Village Board.

Water Authority

Construction at Station 57 has been on track with no new developments.

Veterans Affairs

- All events for American Legion Post 1089 have been canceled due to Covid-19 concerns.
- Plans for Memorial Day are underway. The ceremony will be held at Village Hall with the laying of the wreaths taking place at Memorial Park. The Legion is looking into bringing back the Parade or organizing a Car Parade. No final decisions has been made at this time.

Trustee Savarese:

Newly elected Trustee Savarese expressed his thanks to the Village residents. He stated that he was honored and proud to be serving on the Village Board.

Some of Trustee Savarese's responsibilities will include reporting on:

- Parks and Recreation
- Little League
- Public Information
- Department of Public Works

Deputy Mayor Nijjar:

Newly elected Trustee Nijjar, thanked the Village residents for their support. She expressed that she is looking forward to working together with Mayor Devane and the rest of the Village Board to make the Village a great place to live.

Some of Deputy Mayor Nijjar's responsibilities will include reporting on:

- Revitalization Commission
- Cultural Commission
- Tree Committee
- Schools
 - The new members of the Board spoke to the principal of our local High School as well as the principal of the NHP Road School who are both in support of letting the students be involved and/or volunteer at the Village.

Mayor Devane:

Mayor Devane along with all newly elected members of the Board thanked the Village residents for their support and promised to bring improvements to the Village of New Hyde Park, making it a great place to live.

Mayor Devane thanked former Mayor Montreuil, former Trustees Pallisco and Coppola for their many years of service to the Village and the wonderful job they did while in office.

The appointment of Village Officials as well as the Village Committee members, has been tabled. All committee and board members are not automatically being re-appointed for the year 2021-22. All residents are encouraged to apply for the various committee vacancies, which include: Parks and Recreation Commission, Cultural Committee, Tree Committee, Revitalization Committee, Citizens Council (advisory committee to the Board), Zoning Board of Appeals, and Planning Board. The Village Board is hoping to have the vacant spots filled within the next 30 days.

Mayor Devane stated that the Village Board is interested in starting a Civilian Patrol group. All volunteers would be trained.

Trustee Squicciarino added that Village Committees are vital to the Village Community. The Cultural Committee puts on concerts in the park as well as the Village tree lighting. She encouraged everyone to get involved.

Trustee Burger added that current Board members and past Board members often got their start by volunteering on Village Committees.

Some of Mayor Devane's responsibilities will include reporting on:

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

Some improvements that the Village Board is hoping to work on are:

- Upgrading the Village software. Clerk-Treasurer Hillmann, Building Superintendent Pillay, and DPW Deputy Superintendent Sikiric will be looking into various options.
- Funding from the state for rebuilding the DPW facility. If DPW facility improvements get on the way, Nuzzi field will have to be used by the facility to store their trucks.
- Updating Marcus Christ Hall. The Building Superintendent is looking into how structurally sound the hall is to see what kind of improvements can be done.
- Village Hall improvements are on the way including flooring. The next step will be making improvement to the Court Room and possibly involving the High School Art department to redo the mural.

Adding to Deputy Mayor Nijjar's report of schools, Mayor Devane reported that the Board will be looking into having students volunteer at Village Hall.

All above plans are subject to 2021-22 Budget availability.

There will be improvement in our parks. Workout stations will be placed at Memorial Park as part of an Eagle Scout project. Additionally the Village Board is considering placing a dog park at Memorial Park. The Board will need to further discuss the idea as well as gain public opinion.

In closing Mayor Devane wants everyone treated with dignity and respect, Village employees as well as residents. If residents have concerns they want to address, the Mayor invites them to come to Village Hall and volunteer. Volunteering will help with changes that need to be made, to make the Village a great place to live.

RESOLUTIONS:

20-103 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #20-25

- Upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Burger, the resolution to pay the bills, was unanimously approved

20-104 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A PUBLIC EMPLOYER HEALTH EMERGENCY PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK

- Upon motion by Trustee Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the resolution to adopt the health emergency plan for the Village of New Hyde Park, was unanimously approved

20-105 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SALARY INCREASE FOR EMPLOYEES OF DPW/RECREATION DEPARTMENT

- Upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Nijjar, the resolution for salary increase to \$14.50 for Arman and Guglielmo, was unanimously approved.

Old Business: no old business

New Business: no new business

There being no further business or public participation, upon motion by Trustee Squicciarino, seconded by Trustee Burger, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting ended at 8:54 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lara Verbanac

Research Assistant to the Board