

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
February 19, 2019**

Present: Mayor Montreuil
Deputy Mayor Squicciarino
Trustee Coppola
Trustee Burger
Thomas P. Gannon, Supt. DPW & Building Department
Cathryn Hillmann, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Janet Bevers, Research Assistant to the Board

Absent: Trustee Pallisco

Mayor Montreuil opened the Board Meeting at 8:10 pm following the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Mayor Montreuil.

Minutes:

Upon motion by Tr. Coppola, and seconded by Tr. Burger, the minutes of the February 5, 2019 Board Meeting were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

There were none.

Carter License Renewals: Approved.

Winter Brothers, 120 Nancy Street, West Babylon

Landscaper License: Approved.

New Images Landscaping, 41 Madison Street, Franklin Square
Victor Landscaping, 92-07 Springfield Blvd, Queens Village
C. Escobar Landscaping, 148 Patterson Avenue, Hempstead
M M Bari Landscaping, 1058 Lydia Drive, Franklin Square
Nedy's Landscaping, 727 Jerusalem Avenue, Uniondale
P. Gironda Landscaping, 1631 Imperial Avenue, New Hyde Park
Nilton Gonzalez Landscaping, 572 Paff Avenue, Uniondale
Junior Landscaping, 88-15 179 Street, Jamaica
M. Aguilar Landscaping, 499 Hawthorne Avenue, Uniondale
Mario & Aleydi Landscape, 21 South Lerisa Street, Bethpage
Vera & Zavala Landscaping, 136-38 Hook Creek Blvd, Rosedale
Sandro's Landscaping, PO Box 40, New Hyde Park
Community Landscaping, 15 Elk Street, Hempstead
B & B Landscaping Contractors, 249 Marcus Avenue
Paniccia Landscaping, 11 W. Hitchcock Avenue, Floral Park
Jose's Lawn Care Corp, 46 Hill Avenue, Elmont
P.G. Landscaping, 341 Marcellus Road, Mineola
Rojas Landscaping, 89-22 185 Street, Hollis
Able Landscaping, 11 Farm Lane, Levittown
HAO, 16-42 Jasmine Avenue, New Hyde Park

Tr. Coppola:

Auxiliary Police

Commander John Concannon was not in attendance tonight. Tr. Coppola thanked all Unit members for their time and support.

Little League

A meeting was held earlier tonight to discuss field usage and scheduling at Memorial Park. We also discussed alternatives since Nuzzi Field will be closed for approximately two years.

Fire Department

There was a major house fire in Garden City Park this afternoon. The importance of working smoke detectors cannot be emphasized enough.

Nassau County Police

Residents are reminded to keep car doors locked, even when the car is parked in the driveway. Also, be mindful when packages are delivered and left at front door. Call 911 if any suspicious activity is observed.

Tr. Pallisco: Absent. In his absence, Deputy Mayor Squicciarino provided the following report:

Zoning Board of Appeals

At the February 13th hearing, one case was heard:

- 1401 4th Avenue – an application for parking provision was previously submitted in September but the ZBA could not vote at that time. The application for a parking provision was approved.

The next meeting of the ZBA is scheduled for March 13th at 7:30 pm. Currently there are no applications to be heard.

Architectural Review Board

At the February 6th hearing, one case was heard:

- 5 South 11th Street – an application to enclose the open roofed front deck into an unconditioned entry foyer, to add a roof above the rear terrace and to re-face the house with stone veneer replacing its siding. A decision was tabled pending review of the exterior finish suggested by the Board.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 6th and the applicant at 5 South 11th Street has been asked to reappear.

Tr. Burger:

LIRR 3rd Track Project

The partial closure of Covert Avenue from February 5 through February 12 is now over. Overall, Supt. Gannon and Tr. Burger both agreed that the partial closure seemed to go fairly smoothly and this activity did not generate a lot of incidents or phone calls. Mayor Montreuil displayed pictures of the work site on the large computer screen. Tr. Burger reported that he went to the work site, identified the following issues and discussed with 3TC during a telephone conference earlier today: missing signs at Covert Avenue work site; barrels placed across Wayne and 3rd Avenues are blocking left hand turns and need to be moved; a barrier vehicle sign is missing; the sidewalk closure sign was placed on the incorrect side of the street; asphalt needs to be placed on the pavement on the north side of Covert Avenue; on the east side of Covert Avenue there is no space and no curb between the sidewalk and the street which is very dangerous especially at night for those residents who live on this block; remove or place reflective barriers by the metal posts at the gate crossing; lighting at night in this area is poor and needs to be improved at the work site. Supt. Gannon was asked to have the Village electrician review the lighting situation at the site.

The Detour Map published in the Winter Newsletter created some confusion among some residents that all roads were going to be closed to local traffic during construction. This is not true, the items listed in the map legend are only options. Residents will have access to residential streets. The detours put in

place are to re-route commercial traffic, out of town traffic, and truck traffic. A clearer, larger map from 3TC will be posted on the Village website.

There has been no changes to the Haul Route.

There is no date from 3TC on when drawings on the electric sub-station will be ready for review.

Demolition of the storage facility at 115 New Hyde Park Road is planned to begin in April and abatement work will be underway soon.

The next Mayor's meeting with the MTA will be held on February 27th.

On March 12th, 3TC will host a public meeting at the Road School to discuss 3rd Track Project updates. 3TC will present the work that will be happening shortly. The complete shutdown of Covert Avenue is now scheduled for April 15th. The closure date has been extended by 3TC from February to March and now to April 15th.

The Fire Department Temporary Facility will be housed in the South 12th Street Parking Lot. The area has been marked out and footings for the shelter are being done. The Fire Department wants a canopy added to the shelter and upon recent review, the shelter may be located too close to the southern end of the property to accommodate both.

Resident Arthur Jasinski, 112 Covert Avenue, asked why a retaining wall is needed, the design and composition of the wall, and the impact the retaining wall will have to his property and driveway access. Mayor Montreuil and Tr. Burger reviewed the Covert Avenue rendering on the computer screen. It was explained that the retaining wall on Covert Avenue is needed to hold up the ground, once the street is excavated for the undergrade crossing. The tracks will be raised approximately 3 feet and Covert Avenue will be lowered under the tracks. The wall will have no impact to street or driveway access.

Mayor Montreuil explained that a lot of time was spend with 3TC and DOT engineers to create the Covert Avenue Car and Truck Detour Map to divert traffic away from residential streets. Mayor Montreuil added that if traffic issues become untenable, the Village has options to consider and deploy to help mitigate the problem, such as the closure of Stewart Avenue at the Village line. The Board will continue to manage this dynamic situation. Additionally, 3TC will have traffic managers on site and will use drones to monitor traffic flow and traffic issues. Tr. Burger added that the Car Detour and Truck Detour map can be found in the Winter Issue of the LIRR Newsletter. A copy of each will be put on the Village website and copies can be found in the hallway kiosk.

Veterans Affairs

As previously reported, the VFW Post #8031 may potentially be closing on April 15th due to declining membership. During a conversation yesterday with John McGuire, American Legion Commander, it was agreed to meet in March and discuss an action plan for the Village to coordinate the Memorial Day and Veterans Day Parades.

Building Department

Building Court was held on January 16th and 7 cases were heard on matters ranging from working without a permit, illegally parking vehicles on property, etc.

Building Court will be held on February 20th. There are 16 cases to be heard on matters ranging from working without a permit, illegally parking vehicles on property, and illegal use of a single family house.

There were 14 permits issued from February 4th through February 15th.

Tr. Squicciarino:

Clerk's Office

The following revenue was received:

- \$7,704.83 – Coin meters
- \$14,999 – Cablevision franchise fee, 4th payment
- \$11,981 – Verizon Fios Franchise fee, 3rd payment
- \$38,724 – Traffic Court Fines in January

- \$2,000 – Summer camp reimbursement from the Town of North Hempstead

As previously reported, the Village may lose \$158,000 in AIM Funding from NY State. This is a considerable amount of funding for the Village to lose and it will be difficult to come up with additional revenue to close this gap. The Board continues discussions with Assemblyman Ed Ra and Senator Anna Kaplan on this topic. A budget workshop will be held tonight after the Board Meeting.

Board of Assessors

Legislator Richard Nicoletto is holding Tax Grievance Workshops. There is a workshop on February 28th from 7 – 9 pm at the NHP Road School. It's important that residents understand that they can prepare and file a grievance on their own rather than hire a company.

Park and Recreation

Long and Lean Adult Exercise classes begin on March 4th and classes run every Monday and Thursday from 10:30 – 11:30 am. Classes are free to Village residents and are held in the lower level of Village Hall.

Northwell Health is hosting a Heart Healthy Event on Tuesday, February 26th at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center. The public is welcome to attend this free seminar.

Chamber of Commerce

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held last Friday at Elsie Lane, 29 Jericho Tpke. It was a nice event, the place has a new fresh look, and we welcome them into the Village.

Mayor Montreuil

DPW

The Board is waiting for architectural ideas and designs for the new DPW facility. Supt. Gannon is working closely with the architect and is working on consolidation plans for the upcoming facility. The ballfield and Nuzzi Field may need reconstruction once the new DPW facility is completed.

The Board passed a resolution last week to purchase a new street sweeper at a cost of \$260,000. The existing street sweeper is broken and is too costly to keep repairing.

Public Information

A meeting will be held tomorrow with Senator Kaplan to update her on Village issues, such as:

- 3rd Track Project
- Status of outstanding grants for:
 - The new DPW facility
 - Transit Oriented Development on 2nd and 3rd Avenue
 - Refurbishment of Village Hall \$250,000
 - Muni meters at train station
- AIM Funding

On February 6th, Harley Davidson submitted a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The Village has 45 days to respond and will work with our Environmental Consultant to prepare comments. There will be one or two public hearings scheduled in the future on this topic.

RESOLUTIONS:

18-106 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #18-22

18-107 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING VILLAGE CLERK TO ADVERTISE PUBLIC HEARING ON MARCH 5TH AT 7:30 PM FOR CDBG BUDGET REQUEST APPLICATION

18-108 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING VILLAGE CLERK TO ADVERTISE A PUBLIC HEARING ON MARCH 21ST AT 7:30 PM TO CLARIFY THE BOUNDARIES OF THE DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE BONUS OVERLAY DISTRICT

Old Business:

- Emergency generator for Village Hall – no update provided
- Traffic calming measures on Stewart Avenue – no update provided

Mayor Montreuil reported that responses to the Lewis Avenue parking survey were received today. The Board needs time to review and make a recommendation. Resident Grace Desiderio commented that 17 residents on Lewis Avenue are requesting that parking be restricted to 2 hours. Supt. Gannon reported that after speaking with the manager at Day & Nite, the manager is amenable to working with the Village to find a solution. For example, the company is trying to secure temporary use of the former Kort Chevrolet property on Jericho Tpke while the site is under construction. Mayor Montreuil added that we don't want to move the parking problem, we want to solve it.

Public Participation:

Resident Michael Morrissey asked if there was a special zone that a hookah lounge could operate in the Village. Mayor Montreuil explained it would have to be in the industrial zone, and not close to a church, school, etc.

Mr. Morrissey asked when equipment and supplies would be removed from voucher parking spaces on 2nd Avenue between South 4th and 6th Streets. Mayor Montreuil commented that parking has become more of a challenge at the LIRR station because 3TC is using some of our parking spaces. And soon the Fire Department will occupy some parking spots in the resident parking lot. The Village is discussing a north/south property swap with World Courier, which would open up more voucher parking spaces. The parallel parking spaces on 2nd Avenue will be converted to perpendicular parking spots, increasing parking by 20 to 30 spaces. Meters have been removed and changed to voucher parking on the south side of Plaza Avenue. Voucher parking may be extended to the north side as well.

Resident Arthur Jasinski suggested the Stewart Manor Parking Lot be made available for use by Village residents.

Resident Bess Giordano complained that work trucks are constantly travelling on 5th and 6th Avenues transporting materials onto the tracks. She urged the Board to make the LIRR use the rail lines to transport materials instead of using our roadways.

Ms. Giordano asked for better signage to identify Stewart Street, especially when traffic is detoured. She thanked Mayor Montreuil for requesting that the NC Commissioner install a traffic light on Covert and 6th Avenues.

Resident Sam Khoury asked if there is an electronic copy of the DEIS from Harley Davidson. Mayor Montreuil replied there is only a paper copy and it is for Village Board use only, at this time.

Mr. Khoury suggested the Board reduce the footprint of the Street Fair to keep it on Jericho Tpke. Mayor Montreuil explained that closing Jericho Tpke, when Covert Avenue is closed and there are traffic detours in place may not be feasible or safe. The Board is considering a few options, such as a Party in the Park. This would be a more intimate gathering for residents and their families to get together with neighbors and enjoy food, music, and activities in Memorial Park. The Board hopes that Northwell Health will continue to sponsor the event.

Mr. Khoury asked who is responsible for updating navigational systems of local road closures. Tr. Burger explained that it is 3TC's responsibility to do so.

Resident Monica Nadasky commented on a recent Newsday article about a Housing Project in New Hyde Park and asked if this referred to low income or Section 8 Housing. Mayor Montreuil explained that the Board had discussions with the property owners at S. 12th Street and 3rd Avenue to construct a 4 story building with underground parking. This not a Section 8 Housing project. The complex would have 71 rental units with some retails shops. Mayor Montreuil presented draft renderings of this project.

Resident Rosemary Hudson reported that someone is throwing household garbage in the receptacle on North 10th and Jericho Tpke.

Ms. Hudson commented that Newsday reported that other Villages passed resolutions to ban marijuana sales in their community, and she asked why the Village didn't do the same. Mayor Montreuil explained that if passed by NY State, legally, the Village has to permit its sale, but that restrictions can be placed to limit where the product can be sold. The Board does not want to jeopardize legal action against the Village.

Resident and Director of Environmental Control Kurt Langjahr announced the next TVASNAC meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 25th at the Town of Hempstead. Minutes from the last two meetings were electronically sent to Research Assistant Bevers for distribution to the Board. Mr. Langjahr reported that only 8 air traffic noise complaints were registered last month and this needs to increase.

Mr. Langjahr asked the Board to reconsider and continue to host the Street Fair on Jericho Tpke.

There being no further public comment, upon motion by Tr. Coppola, seconded by Tr. Burger, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting closed at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Janet Bevers

Research Assistant to the Board