

VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
March 21, 2019

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

Mayor Montreuil opened the Board Meeting at 8:00 pm, following a Public Hearing. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the Public Hearing.

Mayor Montreuil congratulated Trustees Coppola, Burger, and Squicciarino on their re-election victory. The Mayor thanked residents for supporting the election and participating in the election process.

Minutes:

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

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

Block Party Application: Approved.

- Saturday, April 13 (no rain date) from noon to 11 pm on S. 11th Street between Stewart & 6th Avenues
- Saturday, July 13 (rain date Sunday, July 14) from 11 am to 11 pm on South 11th Street between 5th and 6th Avenues

Car Wash Application: Approved.

- Saturday, May 11 - Boy Scout Troop 298 from 8 am – 3 pm
- Saturday, May 18 - NHP Memorial Class of 2024 from 9 am – 4 pm

Limousine Owner & Driver Permit Renewal: Approved.

Andrew Mohabir, A J Enterprise Limo, 915 Second Avenue (2 limousines)

Carter/Solid Waste Operator Renewal: Approved.

AVF Development, 50 2nd Avenue, Garden City Park

Landscaper License Renewals: Approved.

Oscar D. Landscaping, 613 Krull Street, Uniondale
W & M Landscaping, PO Box 29, Malverne
Julio Lawn Care, 18 Bedford Avenue, Elmont
Figueroa Landscaping, 339 Laurel Road, West Hempstead
Omars Landscaping, 27 Longfellow Avenue, Westbury
Noel Landscaping Corp, 59-15 161 Street, Fresh Meadows
EZ Green Corp, 3 Florence Avenue, Great Neck

JP Landscaping, 29 Lincoln Blvd, Hempstead
Roberto's Lawn Care & Landscaping, 257 Covert Avenue, Floral Park
Gomez Landscaping, 86-52 260th Street, Floral Park
Four Seasons Landscaping, 45 Marcus Avenue, New Hyde Park
Ronald Nadolny Landscaping, 137 Locust Street, Floral Park
Jose G. Figueroa Landscaping, 275 Caryl Drive, Lawrence
Oscar Hernandez, 1063 Jackson Avenue, Franklin Square
Rocco's Evergreen Landscaping, 554 North 1st Street, New Hyde Park
EMR Landscaping, 11 Thrush Lane, Levittown
Gabriel Marmol Landscaping, 74 Evans Avenue, Freeport
Carlos Landscaping, 162 Haig Road, Valley Stream
Jhony Landscaping, 149 Wellesley Street, Hempstead
Lino R's Landscaping, 32-18 99th Street, East Elmhurst
Carlos Landscaping, 205 Doughty Blvd, Inwood
Eagle Lawn Service, 225 Jericho Tpke, New Hyde Park
Mineola Landscaping, 27 Morningside Drive, Westbury
Galdino's Landscaping, 139-55 35th Avenue, Flushing
Sagittarius Landscaping, 145 Ellison Avenue, Roosevelt
BM Landscaping and Maintenance, 24 Wentworth Drive, Dix Hills
Paul Tramantana Landscaping, 15 Clayton Avenue, Floral Park
J & M Landscaping, 88 Cottage Place, Mineola
Alfredo Landscaping, 26 William Street, Hempstead
L G Gardening, 92-25 212th Street, Queens Village
Mejia & Reyes Landscaping, 146 Woodfield Road, West Hempstead
Armando Landscaping, 138-32 90th Avenue, Jamaica
Charles Landscaping and Maintenance, PO Box 20561, Floral Park

Tr. Coppola:

Tr. Coppola thanked residents for voting and for their support on election night. Tr. Coppola stated that he looks forward to serving this community for another two years.

Auxiliary Police

Commander John Concannon provided a brief report on Unit activity and remarked that his team has provided over 3,000 hours to the Town and County, which puts his unit in the upper third level of contribution. The Nassau County Award Ceremony will be held in April and some Unit #212 members will receive service awards. Mayor Montreuil asked Commander Concannon to provide the Board with a list of award recipients and the specific date of the awards ceremony.

Nassau County Police

Nassau County Police continue to caution residents to keep car doors locked, keep valuables out of the car or at least hidden in the vehicle. Tr. Coppola advised everyone to be prudent, keep phones and packages out of sight in the car, and to call the police if and when something doesn't appear to be right. As a follow up to my report last meeting, telephone scams continue to be a threat, especially for the elderly. Everyone should be alert when talking on the telephone and to never give out personal information or credit card information. The NCPD is hosting a workshop on public safety and scam protection at the Hillside Public Library on Wednesday, March 27th at 1 pm. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Fire Department

There was another major house fire on Ashland Avenue and Leonard Blvd. this week. The Fire Department is experiencing an increase in major fire calls. On April 1st, all new smoke detectors will come with a 10 year battery sealed inside the unit. This will prevent the battery from being removed. Smoke detectors save lives and should be installed in every room on every floor.

Footings have been installed for the temporary fire facility in the South 12th Street Parking Lot.

Tr. Pallisco:

Beautification

Milena's Gardening has started cleaning and planting bulbs in the center lane medians, pocket parks and bulb outs.

On April 1st, Memorial Park officially opens with full facilities and park attendants on duty.

Cultural Commission

A St. Baldrick's Fundraiser will be held at Marcus Christ Hall on Tuesday, March 26th from 4 pm – 7 pm. This is a great event to help find a cure for childhood cancers.

Long and Lean adult exercise continues in the lower level of Village Hall on Monday and Thursday, from 10:30 – 11:30 am.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The March 13th meeting was cancelled because there were no applications submitted.

The following cases are on the agenda for the April 10th hearing:

- 402 Brown Place – applicant is seeking approval to construct additions to the first and second floor of his home along with interior alterations. These additions will increase the floor area to 1,936 sq. ft and the permitted floor area for this property is 1,880 sq. ft. The requested second floor addition will be built directly over the existing first floor, which has a setback of 9.79' from the west side yard where a 10' setback is required.
- 1312 Broadway – applicant is seeking approval to construct a full second story directly over the existing first story of the home, along with a 205 sq. ft. one story rear addition also in line with the east side of the existing home. If approved, this alteration would leave a 3.54' side yard to the east where a 5' side yard is required and a 9.04' side yard to the west where a 10' side yard is required.

Architectural Review Board

At the March 6th hearing, the following cases were heard:

- 5 South 11th Street – this application was tabled in February to give the homeowner and his architect time to present solutions to the Board's design concern regarding too much stone on the front of the house. The application was approved.
- 9 South 8th Street – a 2 story addition with interior and exterior alterations and a new roof was approved. Chairman Garvin recused himself from the Board on this application.

The following case is on the agenda for the April 3rd hearing:

- 410 Terrace Blvd. – an application seeking renovations to the home.

Mayor Montreuil: The agenda order was modified to accommodate Trustees Burger and Squicciarino's pending arrival from other business meetings.

Public Information

At a recent meeting with Robert Paley, Director of Transit Oriented Development for the MTA, discussions occurred on the Village's plans for development on Plaza Avenue and 2nd and 3rd Avenues. Mayor Montreuil reported that it was a good discussion and the MTA wants to partner with the Village. The Village Board wants to preserve the suburban character of the Village. There are the makings of a nice downtown walkable district, flush with shops and restaurants, something that the Village has been unable to do on Jericho Tpke. The Mainline Project will draw more train service to New Hyde Park and service time may be cut down to 28 minutes to Penn Station, making the community even more desirable for commuters.

Tr. Burger: Mayor Montreuil congratulated Tr. Burger on his first election win and a four year term as Trustee.

Veterans Affairs

A meeting with members of the VFW and the American Legion just concluded. The VFW Post will be closing due to lack of membership. Going forward, the Memorial Day Parade and the Veterans Day Parade will be handled by the Village. Tr. Burger expressed his support and commitment to help the Legion and the Post increase membership.

Building Department

Building Court was held on March 20th and 17 cases were on the docket, involving property maintenance issues, working without a permit, and illegal parking.

The next Building Court is scheduled on April 17th. There are 16 cases on the docket, involving property maintenance issues, working without a permit, and illegal use of a single family home.

There were no Special Use Applications submitted in March.

There were 23 permits issued from March 5 through March 21.

LIRR 3rd Track Project

Activity is high at Covert Avenue, New Hyde Park Road, and S. 12th Street. The foundation is in for the temporary fire shelter at the resident parking lot on S. 12th Street and the frame should be installed this weekend. 3TC is seeking to block another row of parking spaces from Friday night through Sunday night. Supt. Gannon added that the request was just changed to Monday and Tuesday.

Work continues to shift onto different roads as construction continues.

April 15th continues to be the date for the full closure of Covert Avenue.

Lighting has been corrected on some light poles on Covert Avenue at the construction site. The north side is still not working fully, the lights on the south side has been corrected. Construction lighting is not a viable option.

Caution cones are still missing from the sidewalk on the north side of Covert Avenue and this will be pursued again with 3TC.

Residents should continue to report road conditions and pot holes to 3TC.

On March 12, 3TC met with residents living on the north side of Covert Avenue crossing to discuss the specifics of construction. Supt. Gannon and Tr. Pallisco also attended the meeting, along with approximately 8 residents.

On March 28, 3TC will hold a meeting to discuss the construction with residents living on the south and the north side of Covert Avenue grade crossing. The meeting will be held at Marcus Christ Hall.

On April 3rd, 3TC will hold a public information meeting in Marcus Christ Hall with all residents to discuss the project.

There has been intermittent lane closures on New Hyde Park Road, which was not expected to happen so soon and while construction activity is also occurring on Covert Avenue and at S. 12th Street.

The Village is trying to keep residents updated as best it can. Residents can go to the Village website/LIRR Expansion Project/New Hyde Park to get the most current project information. Mayor Montreuil reiterated that this large project is dynamic and changes very fast. The Village has requested greater 3TC oversight of utility work and its subcontractors.

Demolition of 115 New Hyde Park Road is planned for mid-April. The abatement process continues at the site.

Resident Sam Khoury expressed concern with increased traffic flow on Herkomer Street as construction activity increases. Tr. Burger will research this further.

The next Mayor's Meetings with the MTA is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27th.

Mayor Montreuil commented that the demolition of 115 New Hyde Park Road requires that the sidewalk be closed and pedestrian traffic be detoured. This is challenging for commuters who walk to and from the train station on New Hyde Park Road. Pedestrians have been crossing at the gate when it's down or crossing at Plaza Avenue, which has no traffic light. This is not a safe route. The Village is trying to re-route pedestrian traffic onto Herkomer or South Park Place. Mayor Montreuil added that the previous understanding had been that road construction would be done in succession but recently there has been a lane closure on Covert Avenue, New Hyde Park Road, and S. 12th Street, although temporary and limited in scope). Mayor Montreuil reiterated again that this is a dynamic, large scale design and build project that is continuously changing.

Tr. Burger asked residents to continue to call/e-mail 3TC hotline with issues, problems, or questions, and to copy him on any e-mails being sent to 3TC. Mayor Montreuil added that 3TC has been asked to give the Village a report of calls and concerns going into the hotline. Residents should contact 3TC Community Ambassador Judy White for a copy of the house survey, either a paper or electronic copy.

Mayor Montreuil reported that he emphasized to 3TC the importance of prohibiting left-hand turns on Clinch Road when travelling south on New Hyde Park Road. This could be a very dangerous situation if cars get back up and stuck on the train tracks. Increased police patrol will be discussed with NCPD to deter cars from parking on 2nd or 3rd Avenue, or pulling over on New Hyde Park Road to pick up family/friends from the train.

Public Participation on the LIRR 3rd Track Project:

Resident Michael Morrissey reported poor patch work was done on 2nd Avenue, between 5th and 6th Streets. He commented on the large number of transformers being installed by the LIRR. He also asked what the Village can do to monitor the noise level from the pile driving being done at 7 am. Mayor Montreuil indicated that the Village can take a noise measurement.

Resident Monica Nadasky asked if the full closure of Covert Avenue is still scheduled for April 15th and will it prevent her from driving south on Covert Avenue at 5th Avenue. Tr. Burger explained that Covert Avenue will essentially be closed at Stewart Avenue, but residents will be able to drive around the detour sign to get to their homes. Tr. Burger remarked that detour adjustments, as outlined in the LIRR update article in the Spring Newsletter, may be considered as construction continues.

Resident Jennifer Cunha, 1306 4th Avenue, expressed concern that 4th Avenue is inundated with truck traffic and is becoming a staging area for construction vehicles. Once the traffic detours are set up, she is worried that even more traffic will be diverted onto 4th Avenue. She asked how best to keep up with project activities. Tr. Burger stated that he will review the Traffic Plan including construction vehicle traffic flow. Tr. Burger advised the Cunha family to contact Community Ambassador Judy White, as often as necessary; register for e-mail blasts on the LIRR Expansion website; check the Village website for updated information; and contact Supt. Gannon during the day to report issues.

Mrs. Cunha reported that the house shakes when cargo trains go through the Village. Tr. Burger advised her to call 3TC, request a survey be done on the home and request a copy of the survey results.

Resident Sam Khoury asked if the Board wants him to continue to notify WAZE and google navigation about road closures in the Village. Tr. Burger said that his help is appreciated.

Resident Bess Giordano asked if damage/cracks to her home caused by freight trains travelling through the Village was covered under the LIRR fund. Mayor Montreuil explained that the program is time based from inspection to project completion, and that there is no way to determine if the damage/crack is due to construction activity vs train activity.

Tr. Burger added a brief update on the Water Authority's plans to implement a filtration system at Tower 57 to adhere to NY State regulations to reduce dioxane levels in drinking water. Once plans and designs are finalized, the Water Authority will meet with the Village Board to discuss further.

Tr. Squicciarino: Absent. No report provided.

RESOLUTIONS:

18-118 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #18-25

**18-119 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN
BUDGETARY ACCOUNT CODES**

**18-120 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT
WITH INDUSTRIAL APPRAISAL**

**18-121 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT
WITH MILENA'S GARDEN SERVICE**

**18-122 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE CLERK-TREASURER TO
ADVERTISE A PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 18, 2019**

Old Business:

- Emergency generator for Village Hall – no update provided
- A Whitestar Limousine Service, 20 Jericho Tpke – application remains pending

Public Participation:

Resident Monica Nadasky asked for an update on Transit Oriented Development. Mayor Montreuil explained that while there have been some general discussions, nothing official has been submitted to the Board. Therefore, there are no plans to hold a public hearing at this time.

Resident Sam Khoury asked when the public can read the DEIS on the Harley Davidson application and when will a public hearing take place. Mayor Montreuil explained that Village consultants are reviewing the DEIS and the Board will convene to Executive Session after tonight's Board Meeting. Once the Village submits its comments, the applicant will prepare a revised DEIS. The Village will have 30 days to review and, if satisfied that Village comments have been addressed, the Village will hold a public hearing.

Tr. Pallisco commented that the Village has received input from some residents about rodent sightings. Mayor Montreuil urged residents to notify the 3TC hotline and the Board, with rodent sightings.

There being no further public comment, upon motion by Tr. Coppola, seconded by Tr. Burger, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting ended at 9:40 pm and the Board went into Executive Session.

Respectfully Submitted:

Janet Bevers

Research Assistant to the Board