

VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
July 18, 2019

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

Absent: Trustee Coppola

Mayor Montreuil opened the Board Meeting at 8:00 pm following the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Montreuil asked for a Moment of Silence on the recent passing of former Trustee and Deputy Mayor, Florence Lisanti. Mayor Montreuil stated that Florence loved New Hyde Park and spent countless hours in service to New Hyde Park Village and the community. She served in the PTA, Chamber of Commerce, and was the Village Historian, a Village Trustee and the Deputy Mayor. Florence organized the first street fair and astounded everyone by getting the NYS DOT to close Jericho Tpke. Her imprint on this community will go on forever. We are all saddened to see her pass and are indebted to her service.

Mayor Montreuil introduced Nassau County 3rd Precinct Inspector Robert Musetich and POP Officers Jesse Cooper and Michael Constanzo. The Officers provided a report on recent police activity and explained that crime is at a 30 year low in Nassau County although phone scams are increasing, especially the scams targeting senior citizens. Inspector Musetich reported that all communities affected by the LIRR construction are under the jurisdiction of the 3rd Precinct. The Inspector reported that there has been an increase in ticketing activity, especially at certain hot-spots in the Village. He offered to contact 3TC to request additional flaggers and better signage to improve traffic movement and overall safety. Tr. Burger requested extra police presence on Monday, July 22 when 2nd Avenue is closed from Herkomer to NHP Road. Mayor Montreuil added that he asked 3TC to provide additional flaggers on site.

The officers answered questions and received input from the public on topics ranging from phone and mail scams, noise and parking issues, dangerous intersections, and truck traffic on residential streets.

Mayor Montreuil thanked Inspector Musetich, and POP Officers Cooper and Constanzo for their time and thanked the public for their participation and interest.

Minutes:

Upon motion by Tr. Pallisco, seconded by Tr. Squicciarino, the Board Minutes from June 20, 2019 were approved by Trustees Pallisco, Squicciarino, and Mayor Montreuil.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

Car Wash Application: Approved.

Saturday, September 7 from 9 am – 2 pm. NHP Road School 6th Grade Class 2020.

Taxi Cab Owner Permit: Tabled.

SJP Holding 1 LLC, d/b/a Blu Taxi & Courier Logistics, 1201 Second Avenue

Landscaper License Renewals: Approved.

Pulella Landscape, 327 Leroy Avenue, Cedarhurst

Tr. Coppola: In his absence, Mayor Montreuil reported the following:

Fire Department

The new mini pumper is set up and functional in the temporary fire station in the S. 12th Street lot.

Nassau County Police

The meeting earlier with the 3rd Precinct Inspector and Officers was informative and we appreciate their time and involvement in the community.

Tr. Pallisco:

Zoning Board of Appeals

The next meeting is scheduled for August 14th. Currently, there are no applications to be heard.

Architectural Review Board

The July 10th hearing was cancelled because there were no cases to be heard. The next hearing is scheduled for August 7th. Currently no applications have been submitted.

Beautification

Thanks to the DPW crew for all the clean-up and maintenance done at the pocket parks, center lane medians, village gardens and parks.

Tree Committee

Newly planted trees must be watered three times a week. Five gallon water bags have been put on some of the new trees.

Cultural Commission

A new bench with a plaque dedicated in memory of Don Barbieri was recently installed at Memorial Park. The bench is located next to the children's area.

The New Hyde Park Lions Club and the NHP North Lady Lions Club generously donated a new water fountain, shaped like a Lion. A special thanks to Mike Stein, NHP Fire Commissioner, for installing the fountain.

The bocce court has been refurbished.

Noise Abatement

Plane Sense 4 Long Island published the following statistics on May 2019 air traffic and complaints:

- 31,790 complaints to the FAA on air traffic at J. F. Kennedy Airport
- 4,300 complaints to the FAA on air traffic at LaGuardia Airport
- There were 10,500 arrivals on Runway 22L at JFK

Tr. Burger:

Building Department

There were 10 cases heard at the July 17th Building Court. Many cases involved working without a permit and/or the illegal use of a single family home.

There are 11 cases on the docket for the August 21st Building Court on matters involving working without a permit, property maintenance, and illegal apartments. Mayor Montreuil added his thanks to the Building Department for pursuing illegal housing and property maintenance complaints. Residents were urged to call the Building Department if an illegal apartment is suspected. All complaints will be investigated.

LIRR 3rd Track Project

The LIRR Mainline Construction is in full swing. Covert Avenue is set to re-open in October. The permanent bridge will be moved into place during the August 23-25 weekend. Rail service will shut down Friday at 10:30 pm and re-open Monday at 5:30 am. 3TC will set up a public viewing area when the bridge is moved in. Construction sites are dangerous. Residents were reminded to be careful when traveling around the site and never breach the safety gates.

After further discussions with Nassau County, the traffic light at Covert and 1st Avenue cannot be changed to a blinking light. The cycle time will be altered to help traffic flow better.

Regarding South 12th Street, the Village will continue to work with the 3rd Precinct for increased patrols. Resident Diane Bentivegna asked what impact the increased car and truck traffic will have to homes, gas and water lines, and the roadway on S. 12th Street. She asked if residents should ask 3TC for a home inspection. Mayor Montreuil advised her to ask and see how 3TC reacts. Other traffic calming ideas considered for South 12th Street include closing S. 12th Street at Stewart Avenue, making it a one way street, and/or adding speed bumps. We asked VERTEX to research this further. 3TC has approached the Village about the full closure of NHP Road, which would reduce the project completion time by 5 months. Garden City approved this proposal, but we continue to reject the plan. While it may be safer to close NHP Road during construction, the burden on S. 12th Street, Covert Avenue and other residential streets will be unacceptable and is too much to ask. Tr. Burger added that after further consideration, it actually comes down to a time savings of 3 months. A resident reported cracks appearing on Millers Lane from increased traffic. Another resident suggested ‘no truck traffic’ signs be installed on S. 12th Street.

Approval was obtained from Nassau County for signage at 4th Avenue and NHP Road: Do Not Block Intersection.

On Monday, July 22nd, a section of 2nd Avenue will be closed. Notices were sent to Village residents and the public. 3TC will have flaggers present. Mayor Montreuil added that 3TC had wanted to close this road section on July 15th, but this did not give the Village sufficient time to notify residents. So the date was extended to July 22nd. Mayor Montreuil also reported that tomorrow he is meeting with Marc Roche, MTA Director. One topic will include our opposition to the 90 foot-high utility poles that the MTA wants to install along the LIRR tracks. To date, the Village has been pushing the MTA to bury the lines underground. The MTA refused claiming it will cost \$150 million to bury the lines.

The temporary fire facility has some outstanding punch list items. The new mini pumper truck is operational and located in the new facility.

The Board has not received a design for the new sub-station.

Upcoming dates for the Mayor’s Meeting are July 24 and August 28.

Veterans Affairs

There is nothing new to report. In September, the regular Veterans meetings will resume.

Resident Robert Feminella commented that the concrete barriers are not great for sound absorption and may crack from the train vibrations. Supt. Gannon and Tr. Burger explained that the barriers are made of reinforced concrete with rebar, built into the ground, widely used, and reviewed by Village engineers.

Tr. Squicciarino:

Clerk’s Office

Some of the revenue received this month:

- Coin meter collections - \$ 6,000
- Interest on Deposits - \$ 3,179
- Traffic Court Fines - \$ 36,483
- Building Court Fines - \$ 7,125
- IPS Vouchers - \$ 22,512
- Building Permits, Street Opening - \$ 10,513

Park and Recreation

On August 15, a theatrical production of Cinderella will be held at Memorial Park.

Library

There are a number of great programs offered during the summer. A school supply drive will be held on August 16th and St. Francis Hospital will hold free health screenings on August 19th.

Mayor Montreuil:

Dept. of Public Works

Supt. Gannon reported that tree plantings is completed for the season. The inclement weather this week caused some tree branches and limbs to snap.

RESOLUTIONS:

19-23 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #18-34 AND #19-04

19-24 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN BUDGETARY ACCOUNT CODES

19-25 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF SEASONAL EMPLOYEES FOR PARKS DEPARTMENT AND VILLAGE HALL

19-26 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A TEMPORARY FACILITIES AGREEMENT WITH THE LIRR

New Business: There was none.

Old Business: There was no new report provided.

- Emergency generator for Village Hall – no update provided.

Public Participation:

Resident Rosemary Hudson reported that a number of the American Flags on Jericho Tpke need to be replaced. Tr. Pallisco explained that today he updated DPW with the flag locations and replacements will be done this week.

Resident Hudson also reported that the Pocket Park at the Hillside Public Library needs to be cleaned and that there is trash underneath some of the litter baskets on Jericho Tpke.

Director of Environmental Control Kurt Langjahr reported that the minutes of the TVASNAC meeting were provided to the Board. Mr. Langjahr offered to schedule a TRACON and a Tower tour at JFK for the Board.

Resident Sam Khoury asked for an update on the Harley Davidson application. Mayor Montreuil explained that the Village response to the DEIS are due tomorrow. The applicant must address and respond to these comments. Upon production of the final DEIS, a public hearing will be scheduled; a comment period will follow; the applicant will respond to public comments and prepare a final EIS. A public hearing will be held to review the EIS. This process may continue into the Fall of 2019.

Resident Mr. Duhl asked when a survey letter will be sent to residents on North 12th Street. Mayor Montreuil explained the letter was sent out today. In the meantime, the Code Officers have been asked to continue to patrol and monitor this area.

Resident Bentivegna asked if the S. 12th Street TOD application is still on hold and if any other applications have been submitted to the Board. Mayor Montreuil stated the application is on indefinite hold and no other applications have been submitted.

Mayor Montreuil reported that the Village is researching how other Villages handle and respond to late night calls from residents. Mayor Montreuil asked that residents be considerate of neighbors when hosting evening outdoor parties.

There being no further business or public participation, upon motion by Tr. Pallisco, seconded by Tr. Squicciarino, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting ended at 9:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Janet Bevers

Research Assistant to the Board