

**VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2019**

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

Absent: Trustee Burger

Mayor Montreuil opened the Board Meeting at 8:00 pm following the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Mayor Montreuil.

Minutes:

Upon motion by Tr. Coppola, seconded by Tr. Squicciarino, the Board Minutes from September 19, 2019 were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD: There were none.

Tr. Coppola:

Auxiliary Police

Tr. Coppola thanked APO Unit #212 members for their service to the community and for all the members do to provide extra coverage and protection. Commander John Concannon reported that along with officers from the 3rd Precinct and the Mounted Police, Unit #212 members provided coverage at New Hyde Park Community Day. Commander Concannon advised residents to be careful when driving or walking at night especially on rainy nights like tonight.

Nassau County Police

The Village is hosting a Scam Prevention Workshop on Monday, October 7th at Marcus Christ Hall. There will be two sessions: 11:30 am and 7:30 pm. Officers from the 3rd Precinct will conduct the training. The workshop has been promoted to many local organizations. This workshop will provide important information on how to protect yourself from telephone and computer scams, mail fishing, and home protection. Residents were reminded to call 911 if something looks suspicious or out of character.

Fire Department

Supt. Gannon and the DPW team were thanked for their extra help and support during Chief John Nykiel's wake and funeral.

October is Fire Prevention Month. The Department will host Fire Prevention training at the following schools:

- October 11th at the NHP Road School
- October 18th at the Hillside Grade School

Fire Prevention Day is October 27th from 11 am – 5 pm at NHP Fire Dept. Headquarters

Tr. Pallisco:

Tr. Pallisco spoke about a new scam in Floral Park involving solicitors claiming to be from the census bureau trying to gain access into homes. Residents were cautioned not to let anyone into their homes and call 911 if approached.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The September 11th hearing was cancelled because no applications were submitted.

On October 9th, one application is scheduled to be heard:

- 41 South 17th Street – the applicant is seeking approval to construct a full second story addition, to square up the first story below, and to add a second bay to his existing one car garage.

Architectural Review Board

On October 2nd, the following cases were heard:

- 146 North 12th Street – approval was granted to reconfigure and rebuild existing fire damaged 2nd floor with interior alterations to the existing first floor
- 1312 Broadway – approval was granted to remove existing veneer and change from original approved materials to new siding on three sides with brick and stone veneer on the front.
- 302 South 8th Street – approval was granted to construct a second floor addition to the front of the home with a 6' cantilever into the front yard and the rest of the addition to be built over the existing first floor.
- 1208 Jericho Tpke – this application was previously approved and permits were issued. However, the applicant was brought in to appear before the ARB after the Building Supt conducted a visual observation and noted the construction underway did not correspond to their approved plans. The ARB denied the proposed changes and has required a new submission for review.

The next meeting of the ARB is scheduled for Wednesday, November 6th. As of today, no applications have been submitted.

Noise Abatement

On September 5th, a meeting was held at Nassau Community College from 7-9 pm to discuss air traffic noise abatement. A bill is sitting on Governor Cuomo's desk that will require the Department of Environmental Conservation and Transportation to conduct a study of the environment, noise, and human health impacts caused by air traffic at JFK and LaGuardia Airports. Plane Sense LI is asking all residents to call the Governor's office and ask him to sign Bill #S 5855 into law. The number is (518) 474-8390.

Beautification

Fall planting and decorations will begin soon in the pocket parks, planters, and garden at Village Hall.

Tree Committee

A grant is being written to obtain funding for the 2020 spring tree planting.

Tr. Burger: Absent. Mayor Montreuil provided the following report:

LIRR

- Covert Avenue, 2nd and 3rd Avenues are scheduled to re-open on October 12th. Some punch list items will continue after the opening. A number of questions and concerns have been raised about the width of the roadway and height of the bridge. 3TC confirms that construction is per design and that it has been inspected. The roadway does look narrow. The roadway measures 22' wide with a 1' shoulder, and the bridge height is 14'.

- Based on a survey of the construction area, in its current state, it looks more and more that Wayne Avenue will be a precarious situation for cars to exit onto Covert Avenue. It may be best to reconfigure Wayne Avenue and make it one-way, going south.
- The New Hyde Park Road restrictions and the opening of the temporary road scheduled for November 18th has been pushed back to allow for the drainage facility and platform work to be completed. Temporary road construction continues and temporary gate crossing testing will begin in early November 2019.
- The left turn lane onto Clinch Avenue from New Hyde Park Road southbound has been closed permanently. Tonight, there was discussion with 3TC and MTA executives regarding traffic control, traffic redirections and flow, etc, once roadwork begins on New Hyde Park Road.
- Friday, September 27th, there was a major traffic problem caused after a 3TC engineer and a subcontractor closed Tanners Pond Road which sent traffic in circles as traffic was re-routed to Nassau Blvd, which was already closed. This resulted in traffic being pushed to 12th Street and New Hyde Park Road, which was already overwhelmed with traffic. Mayor Montreuil explained that he and Tr. Burger told the MTA and 3TC that they must look at a broader view when considering road closures and detours. To avoid this intolerable situation from happening again, 3TC set up a board in their office reflecting all road closures in the area and a new mandate - no road closures without a 72 hour notice.
- Preparation for the construction of the temporary platform has begun. A temporary platform will be constructed west of 12th Street as the current platform will be re-constructed. Approximately 20 voucher parking spots on the north and south side will be lost. The Village is looking at ways to make up for the lost parking spots and a swap with World Courier to use their lot on the north side of the tracks is a possibility.
- The electrical substation is still in conceptual design, but the facility will stay within its current footprint although it may be 5 or 6 feet higher than the current facility. The Board wants the facility to fit within the suburban character of the Village. Construction is not expected to start until September 2020.
- The 12th Street pedestrian passage should accommodate space for a bike walk but not a dedicated bike lane.

Veterans Affairs

On October 17th, a dinner will be held at 7 pm to celebrate the Post's birthday.

Veteran's Day Ceremony will be held on November 11th at 11 am at Village Hall to honor all veterans.

A donation box has been set up in the lobby of Village Hall to collect items in need for veterans. The collection continues through December 6th.

Tr. Squicciarino:

Village Clerk's Office

This week, Village Clerk & Treasurer Kate Hillmann and I attended a NYCOM training class on cash management, handling, and segregation of duties, especially in small Village offices. There has been a lot of information in the news lately about cyber security and computer hacking in offices and schools. Some school districts have been hacked and paid a ransom to get their data and files back. Mayor Montreuil added that he and Supt. Gannon received an e-mail and link purporting to be from the Supt. in Floral Park Village. Upon calling Floral Park Village, the e-mail was determined to be fake and the link a potential virus. Residents are cautioned to always be alert and when in doubt, verify authenticity before opening a suspicious e-mail and link.

Revenue Received:	
Coin Meters	- \$13,748
Interest on Deposits	- 6,039
Parking Permits	- 200
Village Taxes	- 17,298.06
Penalty Interest	- 1,168.22
CHIPS Reimbursement for Sweeper & Roadwork	-380,084.25 (Sweeper \$260,000)

A correction to an item in the Summer Newsletter. The October 17th Board meeting begins at 8:00 pm, not 7:30 pm.

The Town of North Hempstead is hosting a Shred event on October 5th from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm at the Clinton G. Martin Pool. Paper and medicine will be collected.

The Hillside Public Library is hosting a number of great programs:

- October 24th and November 21st – A senior citizen property tax exemption workshop
- A number of workshops have been held to announce important changes in the STAR and Enhanced Star program.
- October 11th and November 15th – a children’s pajama story time party
- October 20th – a Doo-wop concert

Long and Lean Adult Exercise is being held in the lower level of Village Hall on Monday and Thursday from 10:30 – 11:30 am. There is no fee to participate in these classes.

Delivery of the muni meters is expected in approximately 8 weeks. Supt. Gannon is researching location sites for installation.

SWIFT911 has been expanded to include e-mail notifications, along with text and phone calls. There is a link on the Village website to register and/or update notification preferences.

Mayor Montreuil:

Mayor Montreuil added that a new tab has been added to the Village website to report suspected illegal housing.

The Village continues to take a hard stand on illegal housing and this new automated process will help provide the building investigator with information and details to conduct an investigation.

Supt. Gannon reported that his departments remain very busy with activity from the LIRR Mainline Project. Leaf pick up will begin once leaves begin to fall.

RESOLUTIONS:

19-40 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT #19-09

19-41 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE COURT TO APPLY FOR A JCAP GRANT

Old Business:

- Emergency generator for Village Hall – no update provided.

Public Participation:

Mayor Montreuil reported that the Village responded to a noise issue at the Olde' Trading Post. A sound meter was used and a summons was issued.

Mayor Montreuil reported that a complaint was raised at the last Board Meeting regarding 415 2nd Avenue. The Village Attorney and the Building Department investigated the matter and found all uses are in compliance to Village code. Mayor Montreuil added that he will be willing to meet with and/or talk with the business owner to discuss the impact to residents and neighbors.

Resident Diane Bentivegna reported that the sidewalk has been removed on the west side of New Hyde Park Road by the grade crossing. There is no curb, no barricade, and nothing to indicate that there is no sidewalk. Ms. Bentivegna also asked how pedestrians will cross Covert Avenue from the east side. Mayor Montreuil explained that pedestrians can use 3rd Avenue to cross over Covert Avenue.

Resident Sam Khoury asked when the temporary platform will be completed and if there will be signage. Richard Mulieri, Senior Director Public Affairs for MTA explained that the temporary platform will be in the position of where the 3rd track will ultimately be placed. Mr. Mulieri will research signage and expected completion date.

Mr. Khoury reported that waze navigation still doesn't reflect the closure of Clinch Avenue.

Mayor Montreuil reported that Nassau County determined the data from 3TC did not support a traffic signal at Covert and 6th Avenue. The County will re-visit this issue after Covert Avenue re-opens so real data can be used to evaluate traffic under actual conditions. In the meantime, the Village will install a Stop Sign at 6th Avenue and possibly a Stop Ahead sign after 5th Avenue, traveling southbound. Since this will hamper the County's ability to get real traffic data, Mayor Montreuil explained that the signs will be covered when the County does data collection and analysis.

Mr. Khoury asked about the cardboard recycle program. Supt. Gannon advised him that the Village is looking to collect cardboard separately, but for now, cardboard can go out on yard waste and newspaper collection day. Supt. Gannon added that there are a lot of changes coming regarding recycle items and collection. Mayor Montreuil added that some residents put trash curbside before 7 pm and some residents are putting out big items, such as furniture curbside instead of calling for bulk pickup. Both actions can result in a Notice of Violation being issued.

A resident asked if the M25 bus will be re-routed when New Hyde Park Road closes. Mayor Montreuil explained that New Hyde Park Road will not be completely closed but rather will be reduced to two lanes (one northbound and one southbound). Mayor Montreuil added that there may be times when temporary lane closures will be required. Mayor Montreuil added that he met with the MTA earlier tonight. The MTA will discuss road detours with NICE.

A resident reported that 22 cars park on South 10th Street between 1st and 2nd Avenue all day from 5 am until 8 or 10 pm. She added that this happens daily and there is no place for residents to park. Mayor Montreuil reported that 25 tickets were written in that area today for cars belonging to 3TC workers.

A resident reported that a LIRR diesel train was running continuously from 10 pm Saturday night to early Sunday morning. Mayor Montreuil commented that residents should not be expected to tolerate this. Mayor Montreuil asked Mr. Mulieri to research this further.

A resident complained about the recent unexpected closure of Tanners Pond Road and the horrible traffic nightmare that occurred. Mayor Montreuil explained that this was a frightening mistake made by a subcontractor and a 3TC engineer who did not consider the impact of closing this Road. Leslie Mesnick

has been involved and is working with 3TC and the MTA to ensure that detour and road closures get closer review.

A resident complained that last Thursday, the crossing gates were down a long time during the evening rush hour and 50+ workers at the site did nothing to help direct traffic across the gates. The resident said he called 911 but no officers arrived. Mayor Montreuil explained that only a police officer can direct cars through a red light or a downed railroad crossing gate. Mayor Montreuil added that the 3rd Precinct is aware of these issues and will have a greater presence during rush hour.

A resident reported that there are two barrels on Millers Lane and 2nd Avenue near the sidewalk blocking the road. Supt. Gannon will research this further.

There being no further business or public participation, upon motion by Tr. Coppola, seconded by Tr. Squicciarino, and unanimously approved, the Board Meeting ended at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Janet Bevers

Research Assistant to the Board