

VILLAGE OF NEW HYDE PARK
REGULAR MEETING
August 15, 2024

PRESENT: Mayor Christopher Devane
Deputy Mayor Madhvi Nijjar
Trustee Arthur Savarese
Trustee Rainer Burger
Igor Sikiric, Superintendent of DPW
Rebecca Sheehan, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Binu Pillay, Superintendent of Building
Laura Daly, Secretary to the Board of Trustees

ABSENT: Trustee Eve Sheikh
Peter S. Trentacoste, Attorney to the Board of Trustees
Benjamin Truncale, Jr., Attorney to the Board of Trustees

Mayor Devane opened the Board Meeting at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Devane began the meeting by announcing the birth of Trustee Sheikh's son birth, Roman Jay Daly.

BOARD MINUTES: APPROVED

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Trustee Savarese, the Board Meeting Minutes from July 18, 2024 were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

The Police Report for July 2024 was submitted by the Nassau County Police Department.

POLICE REPORT

A review of the June 2024 police report was given; 4 auto accidents; 36 total aided cases (other than auto); no robberies; one residential burglary; no commercial burglaries; no car was stolen; 2 larceny charges; 2 criminal mischief charges; 10 moving violations; and 6 parking violations.

It was noted at the end of the report that Nassau County was voted the safest County in the Nation thanks to the Nassau County Police Department.

Landscaping: Renewal - Approved:

CLJ Tree Service DBA We Care Tree Service – 2093 Hancock Avenue, North Bellmore

RESOLUTIONS:

24-31 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ABSTRACT NO. 24-06

- Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Tr. Savarese, the resolution authorizing Abstract No. 24-06 was unanimously approved.

24-32 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF NEW PART TIME LABORER FOR DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS-PODESTA

- Upon motion by Tr. Savarese, seconded by Tr. Burger, the resolution authorizing the hiring of a New Part Time Laborer, Victor Podesta, was unanimously approved.

24-33 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SIGNARAMA-ABOVE EXISTING MSG BOARD

- Upon motion by Tr. Burger, seconded by Tr. Savarese, the resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Signarama for a custom Village of New Hyde Park LED Sign above the existing Msg. Board sign was unanimously approved.

24-34 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SIGNARAMA-BELOW EXISTING MSG BOARD

- Upon motion by Tr. Savarese, seconded by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, the resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Signarama for a custom Village of New Hyde Park LED Sign below the existing Msg. Board sign was unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

Trustee Arthur Savarese

Parks and Recreation, Little League, Public Information, Dept. of Public Works (DPW), Tree Committee, Chamber of Commerce, Neighborhood Watch, Business Relations, DPW Redevelopment

Trustee Rainer Burger

Building Department, LIRR, Veterans Affairs, American Legion, Noise Abatement, Water Authorities, Scouts/Troop 298, Marcus Christ Hall (MCH)

Trustee Eve Sheikh

Library, Senior Programs, Schools, Business Relations (Construction)

Deputy Mayor Madhvi Nijjar

Beautification Committee, Cultural Committee, Board of Assessors, Clerk's Office, Community Development (CDBG), Summer Camp

Mayor Christopher Devane

Auxiliary Police, Fire Department, Nassau County Police, Facilities, Board of Appeals, Planning and ARB Board, 300 S12 St.

Trustee Art Savarese:

Social Media

- Follow the Village on the Village Instagram account for Updates, Important Notices & Events (@villageofnhp).
- You should also visit the Village website and download the MY VNHP app on your phone to stay connected with your village.
- Also check out the E Board for updates and notices!

Memorial Park Update

- The Park hours are 8 am-8 pm for the rest of August

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS: Neighborhood Watch

- Neighborhood Watch program is ongoing and we are looking for more volunteers to patrol the Village streets during the week. If you are interested, please send me an email at asavarese@vnhp.org and then go to Village Hall to fill out an application.

Other Items

- Greater NHP Chamber of Commerce – Mark your calendar for the Chamber’s Golf Outing which will be on Wednesday, September 18th, more details to follow.
- If you would like to join the Chamber or need additional information you can visit the Greater NHP Chamber website. <https://www.nhpchamber.org/>
- Mark Your Calendar: The New Hyde Park Street Fair is Saturday September 21st from 10 am – 4 pm.
 - The Music is starting at noon and will be provided by the Hambones.
- On Thursday July 11th, construction and demo started on the old DPW facility. Igor will be filling us in on the progress of the demo and the rest of the DPW report.

Department of Public Works: Igor Sikiric, Superintendent

Mayor Devane acknowledged the good work done by the DPW in cleaning up the branches after the bad weather.

Waste and Recycling collected in July 2024

- 623 Tons of refuse and recycling consisting of:
 - 469 tons of MSW
 - 19 tons of newspaper
 - 26 tons of commingled recyclables
 - 43 tons of yard waste
 - 66 tons of construction debris
- There is one double day scheduled in September
- There will be no sanitation collection on Monday, September 2nd. All sanitation will be collected on Tuesday, September 3rd, along with Newspaper collection on the north side of Jericho Turnpike.
- Bulk waste and E-waste pickups can only be scheduled by calling Village Hall. Bulk Waste is collected every Monday and Friday. E-waste is collected on Wednesdays.
- Cardboard must be flattened and bundled. No full boxes or boxes with Styrofoam inside will be collected.
- Do not put your cardboard out for collection with your bottles and cans, it will not be collected.

Operations

- Installation and repair of new signs and poles due to aging and damage is on-going. In the month of July, there were approximately 45 signs that were repaired, replaced, or relocated.
- New Stop signs and Stop Sign Ahead signs were placed on Herkomer Street in an effort to slow down traffic between Jericho and 1st Avenue.
- The crew installed stop lines and crosswalks to complete the new traffic control installation

DPW

- DPW staff performed weekly maintenance and cleanup operations along Jericho Tpke, LIRR corridor, and parking lots. Litter pick-up along sidewalks, median areas, and parking lots is conducted on a weekly basis.
- All vegetation and landscape maintenance are conducted weekly or as needed.

Routine Tree Maintenance

- Routine tree maintenance requests and tree preventative maintenance procedures are on-going and will continue as needed. DPW conducted 11 tree trims and 3 tree removals in July and responded to 4 calls regarding broken tree limbs. Our Tree Contractor was in the Village in July and performed 5 tree trims, 4 removals and 5 stump removals. Tree trims and removals will continue next month. If you have any requests, you can call Village Hall or use the MyVNHP App.
- During the month of July, DPW received and staff responded to approximately 45 service requests that were received via the MyVNHP App or phone calls to Village Hall. The majority of these calls this month were regarding trees.

Parking Lots

- We recently completed the paving of Central Parking and Lakeville Parking Lots. Both parking lots were resurfaced, both lots had major drainage improvements performed, both lots had new parking stops and signs installed, and both lots have all new striping.
- Our contractor is working on completing the Brooklyn Ave Lot. This lot will also see major drainage improvements. The lot needed a complete surface removal and a new stable base was installed. The original lot was not built a stable sub-base and had major settlement and pothole issues. The Lot should reopen on Monday August 19th.

3rd Avenue Re-Striping

- The section of parking along 3rd Ave between S 10th Street and S 11th Street has been restriped to accommodate the businesses and homeowner needs along 3rd Ave and to maximize LIRR parking spots.

DPW Construction Project

- The DPW renovation project is ongoing
 - The relocation process has been completed and DPW operations are now functioning in our temporary locations.
 - All buildings scheduled for demolition have been knocked down and carted off-site.
 - Our contractor is currently performing the excavation and footing installation process for our new truck garage which will be located on the east side of the property.
 - Additionally, the contractor has been working on stabilizing the interior wall of the old garage that is remaining.
 - Some electric work and HVAC work has also taken place in the existing garage.

Building Department - Binu Pillay, Superintendent:

ZBA

- The last scheduled meeting of the Zoning Board and Appeals was schedule for August 14th but it was cancelled since no applications were submitted by the deadline.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Sep 11th and as of today no cases have been submitted, the deadline is 8/21/24.

ARB

- The last meeting of the Architectural Review Board was held on July 26th with 6 cases heard (which ranged from adding stone to the outside, amending a previously approved application which was conditionally approved, a new 2nd floor addition to a home (approved) and façade alterations to a commercial building which was approved.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Aug 28th with 1 case to be heard which comprise of a commercial sign application.

Planning Board

- The last meeting of the Planning Board was scheduled for July 24th; however, no applications were submitted and the meeting was cancelled.
- The next meeting is scheduled for August 28th and as of this time we have no applications submitted.

VILLAGE COURT

- The last Village Court was held July 17th with 12 cases, which comprise of 1 Parking on the lawn, 4 Property Maintenance and 7 working without a permit.

- The next village court will be held on Aug. 21st, with 25 cases, which comprise of 3-obstructing sidewalk, 7 Property Maintenance, 8 Working without permits, 7 Garbage out before 7pm.

RENTAL REGISTRATION

- Rental registration is in process and inspections are being conducted accordingly.

SPECIAL USE

- There were no special use cases heard last month or tonight.
- During the period from 7/19 to 8/15, the building department issued 32 permits, 7 building permits, 6 plumbing permits, 5 Roof, 8 Sidewalk/Driveway, 1 Fence, 4 Street Opening and 1 solar permit.
- 2 Certificates of Approval; 9 Certificates of Completion; 7 Special Exception Certificates; 4 Special Use Certificates.

Clerk's Report - Rebecca Sheehan, Clerk-Treasurer:

Village of New Hyde Park Clerk's Department Report - July 2024			
Revenue	Description	CURRENT 7/31/2024	FYTD 2024-25
Taxes Interest & Penalty		\$3,395,373.23	\$5,103,493.38
METERS		\$3,000.00	\$5,500.00
MUNIMETERS		\$0.00	\$0.00
PARKING PERMITS	TYPE A-R-B	\$250.00	\$2,350.00
LICENSES	CARTING, PLUMBING, RESTAURANT, TAXI	\$527.13	\$2,014.63
BUILDING	STREET OPENINGS, PLAN, LATE FILING, SRF	\$9,538.20	\$29,965.17
ZONING	SPECIAL USE/EXCEPTION, HEARINGS	\$700.00	\$850.00
REGISTRAR		\$120.00	\$230.00
SALE OF REFUSE		\$419.20	\$902.40
Revenue	Description	7/31/2024	FYTD
COURT FINES	TRAFFIC COURT FINES	\$70,710.00	\$190,200.00
	BUILDING COURT FINES	\$4,194.00	\$10,964.00
Total Revenue		\$3,504,731.14	\$5,373,578.86

Significant Expenses Include:

BOND - Debt Service Payments \$372,109.50

Employee Health Care Benefits \$102,000.00

OUTSTANDING TAX PAYMENTS AS OF 8/15/2024 - \$527,853.00

Trustee Rainer Burger:

Long Island Railroad (LIRR) 3rd Track Project - Punchlist

South 12th Pedestrian Underpass & Station Platform

- New Façade - Complete

Paving and Striping of 2nd and 3rd Ave.

- Striping on 2nd and 3rd Ave is complete

Signage

- There is signage missing on 3rd Ave., specifically “One Way” signage.
 - Signage supposedly has been delivered and waiting on installation.

LIRR Track Work

- MTA/LIRR continues signal and switch work on the mainline
 - There was trackwork from Friday night Aug 9th thru Monday morning Aug 12th
 - There were a number of Complaints this weekend with idling trucks, workers not using Porta Potties, workers being loud, yelling profanities etc.
 - The Mayor and Trustee Burger have reached out to the MTA and will be scheduling a meeting with their management and requested the Site Managers and Supervisors/foreman be present at the meeting. Meeting is TBD.

Water Authority

- Water Authority is ordering up a new reactor for Well 57A to get it to 100% capacity (operating at 73%).
- Water Authority received NYSDOH approval for the 3rd phase of the Station 57 Additional Reactor last week.
 - Bid specifications are almost complete and the reactor itself is scheduled to arrive in mid-December.
- Well 40 and 40A design and submittals are in process.
 - This work will include the installation of 2 AOP Reactors and 4 GAC vessels to treat emerging contaminants.
 - Since Station 40 (HQ) is also within New Hyde Park it will impact the residents of the Village of New Hyde Park as well as the North Hempstead New Hyde Park residents.
 - Physical work is scheduled to start in late September 2024.

Noise Abatement

- Last TVASNAC Meeting was July 22nd; the next meeting will be on Aug 26th.
- Meetings are held at the Hempstead Town Hall and start at 7 pm.
- Town of Hempstead attorney has filed a FOIL request to the FAA for the raw data from noise monitors placed along the departure and arrival routes of planes going into JFK. The FAA reported that the town was supposed to receive these reports on July 29. Reports are now coming in September as the Port Authority keeps stalling.
 - If response is not received, Town of Hempstead and North Hempstead will move forward with Legal Action. TVASNAC is always pressuring the Port Authority and the FAA to limit the number of flights over our community and to alternate runways. Also not to schedule flights late at night or early mornings.
- Town of North Hempstead agreed to have a noise meter installed at Tully Park. Village is inquiring with TVASNAC if they want to install a Noise meter in one of the Municipal Parking Lots
 - Over 9000 complaints were registered in July!
 - Residents are urged to file online noise complaints at www.hempsteadny.gov/TVASNAC, or for Hempstead residents to call 1-800-225-1071, North Hempstead residents dial 311.

Veterans Affairs/American Legion Post 1089

- Next meeting will be September 14th after the Heros Wall ceremony at the Village Hall
- American Legion Post 1089 has elected Rainer Burger as their new Commander

- Although there are no Post Meetings, we are planning for our fall activities which includes: the Street Fair; Veterans Day; and a Legion Pancake Breakfast. The Pancake Breakfast is scheduled for Nov 10th and coincides with our Veterans Day Weekend
- The American Legion will be selling hats at the street fair and distributing pamphlets

Scouting

- Eagle Scout Project – Life Scout Michael Domingo - Memorial Wall to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our Freedom. The wall is built and all the Plaques are in.
 - We will now coordinate to get the plaques installed
 - The overall unveiling is scheduled for Sept 14, 2024
- For the Summer, the Scouts were at Onteora Scout Camp; and a group of 8 Scouts just completed Sea Base, a high adventure camp in Key West
- We also have a new Eagle Scout Liam Booth who successfully passed his Eagle Board on Aug 7, 2024

Marcus Christ

- The updated estimate for the Design of Marcus Christ Came in over the estimated \$2.5M the Village was willing to spend.
- Board met with the Engineers and Architect and looked at various value engineering options to reduce cost which includes reducing the size of the overall foot print.
- The Board is currently waiting on an updated design and estimate
 - We will keep residents posted. Once we have the updated design in September, we'll update the estimate and then establish the Bid process; timeline; and construction start date
 - Budget: Estimated approximate \$2.5 million-currently have \$1.1 million Bond remainder

Trustee Eve Sheikh reported by Laura Daly:

Senior Programs

- Senior events will be returning in September!
 - Our next senior event is September 20th at 11am- Bagels and Games! Can not wait!
- Registration is required for all the senior programs; please email Seniorprograms@vnhp.org

Hillside Public Library

- The Library is still offering discounted Long Island Aquarium tickets
- Adventureland discounted tickets are going to end September 29th. If you're planning to go, make sure you get them soon
- Some of the upcoming Library Events are:
 - August 21st from 1pm-3pm - Cherry Blossom painting on glass
 - August 22nd from 4pm-7pm - Open office hours- NYS Assemblywoman Gina Sillitti will be there
 - August 26th at 6:30pm - Preparing for hurricanes and severe storms
 - August 30th at 1pm - Movie showing - Bob Marley's One Love
 - September 9th from 6:30pm-7:30pm - Guide to College getting there from here
 - September 10th from 10am- 4pm - Health insurance application assistance
 - For more information about other interesting events can be found on the library's website which is hillsidelibrary.info

New Hyde Park Road School

- The first day of school will be Tuesday, September 3rd!
 - Please enjoy these last couple of weeks left of summer break!

Village of New Hyde Park

Regular Meeting August 15, 2024

- Looking forward to a new school year!

Deputy Mayor Madhvi Nijjar:

Clerk's Office Tax Update:

- The clerk's office processed all the 2024-2025 Village Tax payments that have been received thus far
 - If you made a tax payment online, you would have received a confirmation once the payment was processed from go gov
 - If you came into the Village Hall to make a tax payment, you would have received a stamped receipt
 - If you mailed in a tax payment, your cancelled check, that shows that the tax payment was processed, is your receipt
- Taxes were due without penalty on or before July 1st.
 - We will accept tax payments anytime with the appropriate penalty
 - They can be paid on-line, with an additional fee, through the mail or in person at the Village Hall.
 - The Village Hall accepts payments by check or cash; if paying by cash please bring in the exact amount.
 - The Village is not allowed, per State Regulation, to waive a late fee. You will need to pay the amount with the Village that includes the penalty, and then take your issue up with the State
- The office will be closing their books for the year on August 31, 2024 and will be preparing for the audit year 2023-24.
 - We do not have a date for the audit yet, once we do, we will announce it.

Grants:

Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP) Grant:

- We applied for \$25,000 in October 2023 and approved for \$18,885 in March 2024
- We purchased chairs and shelving for the court records \$3,578; plus 2 chairs for the Court Clerk and Deputy Court Clerk. We have \$13,839 left and are planning to update the audio/visual capabilities in this room with the remaining balance. However, the audio system came in over the remaining grant amount so the Village will need to absorb the additional \$300.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG):

- Senior Programs will continue to be funded by the CDBG and the program will continue in September
 - The ADA Grant for the gate, ramp and awning will start soon, as we are still getting estimates.
 - We try to do one ADA project each year. This year we updated the ramp to the basement. It needs an ADA door and ramp.

Culture Committee Events:

- The Village is going to have a busy September. Our next event, the Lighting of the Trees of Gold, in honor of pediatric cancer awareness, is September 5th at 6:30. It is a fund raiser, please come and support the cause.
- Back to School Movie night is Friday, September 6th. We are working on obtaining a license to show a child friendly movie. More information to follow.
- The unveiling of the Heroes Wall is September 14th at Memorial Park
- Our Annual Street Fair is September 21st
- Starting with the next Board Meeting, there will be a sign-up sheet for our events. While the summer is light, we have a lot of events in the fall and are reaching out to the community for help, in whatever capacity you can help.

Summer Camp

- The Village Children's Summer Camp ended on August 8th.

- It was a great success and will return in 2025
- We would like to thank all the Camp Counselors who worked through the heat and rain, and kept the children safe, cool, calm and entertained
- Thanks to Michael and his team for running a great summer camp

Lastly, I would like to wish all those celebrating, Happy Independence Day to India! Thank you to the Town of North Hempstead for inviting us to their event, which we unfortunately, we could not attend.

Mayor Christopher Devane:

Facilities - Village Hall

- The Village had a new side door installed and we added the Village emblem above the billboard. We will also be adding a new village board sign in front and address the painting of the billboard.
- We are just waiting on one window and then the Village Hall renovations will be done for the time being.

Marcus Christ

- Spoke to Cellini Lodge and we will be moving the Monument because it is in the construction zone

Memorial Park

- We have a special dedication on Saturday September 14th at 10:00am when we will do the unveiling of the Wall of Heroes. Come and honor those 57 members of our community who died in action.
- Michael Domingo did a great job on the project, with everything being donated, there were no village funds used in that effort

300 S 12th Street

- The State acknowledged that we have submitted every document needed for the project
- The council from the state has signed off on it and we are waiting for a grant agreement and waiting for a closing agreement.
- We will take 18,000 feet from the demo of the cleaners, an old house, laundromat and sock factory and convert it into a parking lot
- We are going to take 27,000 sq feet from the LIRR parking lot and make that a park
- The park will have a pickle ball courts, a dog park, a playground, a seating area, and a basketball hoop
- We have been in touch with Landtek and we are projecting this to be done in 2024

DPW

- The work is under way; it is a project that will take time
- You can drive by and see the project that is being made
- DPW was 98 years old

LOTS

- The Central Lot, Lakeville Lot and Brooklyn Lot had work done. The last time there was any work there was over 40 years ago
- There is a vision of bringing back the Farmer Market to the Central Blvd parking lot in the spring.
- Brooklyn Ave Lot needed more work than anticipated; discovered that a business was putting his dumpsters on the lot but quickly fixed that situation

OTHER

- We had an incident with the LIRR workers and were alerted by a resident. The Mayor went down and was told to get lost. Contacted the LIRR immediately and were told that it was the last night they were going to be working there. We share your frustrations and when we get notified of an incident by a resident, we go and address it as proactively as possible.

- We get emails from code enforcement and we address it as soon as possible, no one is targeted. There were areas that had lax enforcement of the rules and were never ticketed in the past. This administration instructed the Code to enforce the rules regardless of where you are, who you are or what kind of car you drive.
- The mayor described several examples of code violations, and read a letter from a Small Business. He repeated that the code rules will be enforced. The mayor also addressed a petition.
- Businesses were confronted and told of the rules.

OTHER

- Nassau County Police Department is celebrating their 100th anniversary in 2025. They are honoring all the Police Officers that were killed in the line of duty. Unfortunately, on February 3, 1939, on the corner of Lakeville Road and Jericho Turnpike, Police Officer Alexander Benedict was killed. They want to honor him between January 1 and April 16. We are looking a late March with the Police Commissioner and Community Affairs to name the Police Booth at the spot in his honor. They loved the idea and we are looking to do a ceremony.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 PM and a motion was made by Deputy Mayor Nijjar, seconded by Tr. Burger, and unanimously approved, to go to an Executive Session. The Executive Session ended at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Laura Daly

Secretary to the Board