

March 28, 2023

Page 1 of 10

VILLAGE OF NEW HEMPSTEAD  
108 OLD SCHOOLHOUSE RD.  
NEW CITY, N.Y. 10956

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

REGULAR MEETING

March 28, 2023

7:30 P.M.

PRESENT

ABE SICKER, MAYOR  
JEN EISENSTEIN, TRUSTEE  
SHALOM MINTZ, DEPUTY MAYOR  
MOSHE SCHULGASSER, TRUSTEE

ABSENT

ADAM REICH, TRUSTEE

ALSO PRESENT

BRUCE MINSKY, VILLAGE ATTORNEY  
ALLISON WEINRAUB, VILLAGE CLERK TREASURER

---

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**OPEN FLOOR**

Moshe Farkus, 7 Wishers Ln.

Would like an update on the sidewalks on New Hempstead Rd.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Farkus for gathering the signature but explained the signatures that were gathered needed to be redone and the paperwork was given in to the clerk the afternoon for that to get started.

Mr. Farkus offered to assist with getting the signatures.

Mayor Sicker accepted and asked him to go to Village hall in the afternoon to meet with the clerk to go over the paperwork to be signed and notarized.

**APPROVAL OF AUDITED VOUCHERS 2023-3**

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mintz:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-25**

Resolved, that abstract of Audited Vouchers 2023-3, #20514-20568 in the amount of \$ 127937.08 is hereby approved. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 4-0. The resolution was adopted.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES February 28, 2023**

Trustee Schulgasser offered the following motion, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mintz:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-26**

March 28, 2023

Page 2 of 10

Resolved, that the minutes of the regular meeting of February 28, 2023 are hereby approved and the reading of said minutes is waived. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 3-0. The resolution was adopted.

### **DISCUSSION: SPEEDU HUMPS ON SOUTHGATE DRIVE AND FESSLER DRIVE**

Mayor Sicker said everyone would have a chance to speak. They neighbors in the Southgate Fessler neighborhood were invited to Village hall for a discussion on the speed humps that were installed in the area for the board to get a consensus of what they want. Each Resident will have three minutes to speak.

Yossi Gestetner, 45 Fessler Dr.

Does not understand what there is to debate. There has been more cut through traffic on the streets in recent years due to the congestion in the surrounding area. Humps help reduce speed everywhere in the world. It isn't a novel idea to be debated. Believes there could be better signage. Whether there should or should not have bumps is not a matter of public debate. There is a safety issue in the neighborhood. The village has a responsibility to take care of it. If bumps don't work then what's the other option? Stop signs, more tickets for people in the neighborhood? Does not believe anyone can say there isn't a speeding issue in the area. Neighbors have witnessed accidents because of it. Spoke with someone in the highway department who said humps may not be good for the plows, but it only snowed twice this winter. It wouldn't make sense for public safety for that to be a reason not to have the humps. If there was a more effective tool to slow down the increased cut thru traffic it should be considered, but the humps should continue with additional signage.

The public want to know if this meeting is regarding the height of the humps the placement?

Mayor Sicker explained its about everything. He would like to hear what the neighbors have to say.

The neighbors requested more background.

Mayor sicker explained There was a petition that was filed that was filed about two years ago, it was like 20 Something signatures on there and at that point, the village sent out letters to everybody in the neighborhood to have a meeting for a discussion, and that the discussion that came up to conclusion that there is a speeding problem. We put the temporary speed humps first and then, people actually liked it. The village received maybe one complaint. At that point permanent ones were installed. We did receive complaints that they were too high but they were definitely within scope. At that point the village received an enormous amount of calls and they were trimmed down. Now, we are still receiving complaints in both directions some want the humps some don't. A lot of these traffic control situations are neighborhood based. What does everybody want and what are they comfortable with. The village could have an officer patrol and issue tickets, but when that was done 110 tickets were issued and 90% were from people in the area and everyone got upset. In particulate areas where there are intersections stop signs have been installed, but there is no intersection for that here. This evening is just to get a consensus of what the neighborhood wants similar to what was done in another area. When notices initially went out for humps to be installed in the Pleasant Ridge Area all the neighbors came out against it and requested a patrol, in the Pennington Area stop signs were installed to deter the speeding. Tonight is to hear from the residents on their thoughts on the humps, an officer patrolling or any other ideas that they may have. No decision will be made this evening.

Aviva Orlian, 37 N. Southgate Dr.

What is premise based on that this particular block needs speed humps more than any other block around? Is the speeding significantly more than other areas?

March 28, 2023

Page 3 of 10

Louise Abel, 50 Fessler Dr.

Maybe there's a happy medium between the low temporary ones, the big higher ones and what we have now? My house is directly opposite Manchester, to a stop sign a Manchester stop sign on Fessler and they fly through them. Some of the worst ones are the bus drivers.

Mayor Sicker explained there is more speeding on this block it was determined by Ramapo PD with the speeding boxes. Fessler is the third highest speeding area. Fastest is Summit Pk Rd, then Pennington area and Fessler is the third. These were the areas discussed that they had notices sent out they came in the decided that officers should sit and they had stop signs installed on the other area. The speeding in those areas has significantly gone down.

Avraham Kahn, 29 N. Southgate

When the board talks about a straight road for speeding they cannot be talking about N Southgate. It's a blind curve and when the bus went over the speed bump and went straight through my lawn is that two of my cars, basically. And then it's our house. That was not a straight way that was a very severe S curve. If you're talking about Fessler where he's on the bottom of it, yes, you're talking about a straight shot down. You put two on each road. There's no comparison between them. And also, when you're talking about safety, I would be very concerned that we might have repeat when going around the curve with those with where the bumps are since going down and around and I think it's recently that it is very much more dangerous with the humps than it was prior to them.

Trustee Schulgasser asked if they are suggesting the accident was caused by the speed humps.

Some of the neighbors said absolutely some feel it was because the driver was speeding.

Chaim Schild, 19 N Southgate Dr.

The claims from the neighbor about the accidents were because of the snow and the streets were not properly cleared. There was no snow this year for this to be an issue to cause an accident. Lives across from the speed humps. His quality of life is disrupted daily by the noise produced by the cars bottoming out going over the humps. Is currently working remotely and is disrupted by the noise the speeding busses create when they go over the humps. In the past when the Public school busses were speeding he reached out to the school district and the speeding was reduced by 90% from them. The reason people are speeding is because this is a shortcut. There are other ways to handle this. This has been torture for him.

Sara Orlian, 37 N. Southgate

Did see on New York City.gov that a speed bump isn't supposed to be installed on gradients level higher. Than 8%. Does not know what that means for Southgate but wanted to bring it to the board's attention that it might not be so safe to put a speed hump on a curve or a hill.

Mr. Pressmen, 46 Southgate

Has a professional been called in to give suggestions? No one is arguing that speeding isn't an issue but wants to be sure this is the right solution determined by professionals.

Mayor Sicker explained yes. The village engineer did go out there with another engineer. Speed Humps are used in other areas throughout the Rockland area, but did not anticipate this kind of reaction. He will go out there with the village engineer and if it is determined an outside consultant is necessary that is what will be done. Will also contact the Police Department to case it out with them.

Mayor Sicker explained to Deputy Mayor Mintz how this becomes a cut thru.

Deputy Mayor Mintz questions where the speeding is taking place.

The community confirmed its different types of speeding in different areas.

March 28, 2023

Page 4 of 10

Trustee Eisenstein is wondering if all of the humps are upsetting the residents.

Yossi Gestetner, 45 Fessler Dr.

Feels the humps were installed poorly, but they should remain and be installed properly. Everyone agrees speeding is happening. Has no preference what gets done but something needs to get done. Got 18 signatures plus additional came in support.

Aviva Orlian 37 N. Southgate.

Was there written documentation of the study done to determine if this was needed? Cannot imagine an engineer would recommend these things. Is extremely upset about this situation because a bus went into her house.

Mayor Sicker explained the Humps were not the cause of the bus going into the house.

The neighbor disagrees.

The mayor explained there is a plan for the speed humps from the engineer. We're not going to agree tonight on anything except that there is a speeding issue. We're not going to come up with a solution tonight we are here to listen to everybody's concerns.

Mrs. Orlian asked why speed humps were decided for this area if it is the third most sped area in the village and not the other options.

Mayor Sicker explained we had similar meetings with those neighborhoods that were packed. Some asked for cops to monitor and that was the conclusion that came out from those meetings. A lot of these things that we do for traffic control for people's comfort in the neighborhood and how that particular community wants to deal with that. And that's the way we tried to do it. When these notices went out regarding this at those meetings the consensus was to do the speed humps.

Trustee Schulgasser mentioned that this was a public discussion when this was first brought to the village attention and notices did go out.

Attorney Minsky would like to point out that this first came in 2021. The engineer was here. The engineer was here. They did an analysis. So the idea that the board didn't discuss it or if someone thinks that it wasn't noticed, or people didn't go out and people weren't complaining or writing stuff. There was an enormous amount of activity and enormous amount of people coming to the board and I say enormous in relation to the amount of people who lived on the block. I'm not saying it's whether it should be speed or speed humps. I'm just saying the issue came in front and avoiding and now numerous occasions.

Mrs. Orlian would like to know if there are any other options. Maybe a flashing light or additional slow down curve.

Mayor Sicker explained the flashing lights have been an issue for residents that flash into their windows. When its looked at it has to be checked from all directions. It's going to get analyzed and decided on. Signage can be an option. The professionals are going to take all of the information and make a decision. An email was received from a resident who couldn't attend this evening saying speed humps are better since they were shaved down and would like to suggest painting the speed humps, to yellow in order to alert drivers. All of these options are going to be taken into account.

Trustee Schulgasser asked what the public would feel about speed cameras.

They were not in favor and the board does not believe this it is permitted in this area.

March 28, 2023

Page 5 of 10

Avrohom Kahn, 29 N. Southgate Dr.

Did not attend the original meetings. Had no issue with the temporary ones that were installed. Felt they weren't too disruptive to the quality of life and they also served a purpose. When the new humps were installed it was a completely different situation with additional humps. Feels the one on North Southgate must be removed.

Chaim Schild, 19 N Southgate Dr.

Moved to the village in 1998 because it was a quiet street with little traffic. The additional traffic is caused by cars and buses using it as shortcut. In the morning its used as a shortcut from New City. The solution shouldn't be punitive toward the residents or to their quality of life, but should be to eliminate the people who are coming and using this shortcut. Would like residence only signs maybe.

The Mayor explained that you cannot put residence only signs and officers are not going to check addresses on licenses before issuing a ticket and not issue it if it's a resident.

Louise Abel, 50 Fessler Dr.

Cars don't care about the curve sign that's out there.

Rachel Leiser, 25 N Southgate Dr.

Agrees there's a speeding issue. Never received the petition. Could not make it to the original meeting, but was fine with the temporary Humps even with them being annoying. Then permanent ones were installed. Feels the original height of the speed humps were extremely too high. Was causing damage to everyone's axels. Has no problem with the humps now that they have been shaved down.

The mayor will respond to all comments at the end.

Moshe Farkus, 7 Wishers Ln.

Why cant it be determined by what the standard is for preventing speeding and not by public discussion. Now that they have been shaved down feels it is an effective tool to slow traffic down.

Yossi Gestetner, 45 Fessler Dr.

Points out that everyone agrees speeding is an issue and that stop signs can't be put everywhere. No one wants cameras or cops. The options are dwindling. When you divide the opposition it is based on the steepness of the bumps versus the bumps themselves. If the residence don't want the hump by Southgate, the village should check with the professionals if it should be removed.

Chaim Schild, 19 N Southgate Dr.

The area we live in has no sidewalks and now the bussing company won't pick up from the house based on the sign up sheet. The village needs to consider addressing this safety issue especially around the curve is very steep.

Mark Goldberg, 6 Tracy Ct.

Have there been more accidents now than before the speed humps? Yes. Does not feel you start with a hump and should have been a bump.

Miriam Adelman, 12 Southgate

Lived here for 30 years. Never had accidents in the area until recently. Happy they shaved them down and believes they are doing their job but wouldn't mind if it gets removed. Maybe painted.

Mrs. Orlian wanted to make sure the board is aware there is a separate issue with the curve and the speeding. Perhaps additional bold signage can really help the curve. Who installed the speed humps?

The Mayor responded we hired an outside contractor.

March 28, 2023

Page 6 of 10

There is a lot of information the board has to go through, the mayor is going to work on this with the professionals to decide on a solution.

Mrs. Orlian asked how the hump got so high. And the mayor explained it wasn't too high it was just a half an inch from what the specs were because it did not settle.

Mayor Sicker would like more information on the bus situation to see if there is anything he can do to assist.

Rachel Leiser, 25 Southgate Dr.

Around 1998 someone from the school district come to her property and asked if they can utilize the front of her house as a stop for a few busses because of the curve. There used to be more busses that stopped there but now there are about 4. The bus company has now decided to redo the stops and it seems as they are not guaranteeing your previous stop.

Mayor Sicker would like everyone to join [updates@newhempstead.org](mailto:updates@newhempstead.org) to receive the agenda before the meeting to know when this will be back on the agenda.

A resident asked about how other issues such as lighting can be brought to the board.

The mayor informed them of the email [concerns@newhempstead.org](mailto:concerns@newhempstead.org) for any other issue. Lights can be another sensitive issue but email the clerk tomorrow and she will assist you.

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Trustee Schulgasser:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-27**

Resolved, that the Village Board of the village of New Hempstead hereby approve 2 Signs to be installed in front of #25 N Southgate: Between fire hydrant and catch basin and Near the utility pole south of driveway. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. the vote was 3-0. The resolution was adopted

This item is going to be adored to the May meeting on May 23, 2023.

Trustee schulgasser asked if the humps were painted yellow would the residence be opposed to leaving them as is.

Most of the residence wouldn't mind leaving them if it were just the two by the "alligator path".

It seems that the Hump by N Southgate is the one that bothers residence the most because of the curb, the steepness and the noise.

There was an additional issue with parking by the speed hump that was brought up and the board said once it is determined what will be done there will definitely be no parking signs wherever the humps are. And whoever studies this can they please take into account the steepness of the hill in the winter?

**VILLAGE OF NEW HEMPSTEAD REORG MEETING**

Mayor appoints Allison Weinraub as village clerk- treasurer for a 2 year term to expire 3/31/2025

Mayor appoints Amanda Bettello as deputy village clerk- treasurer for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

March 28, 2023

Page 7 of 10

Mayor appoints Alice Lyman as part time clerk for the village of New Hempstead for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Dan Dodd from Fusco engineering as building inspector for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Evan Humphrey as fire inspector for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Renee Stala justice clerk for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Lindsey Mascia as part time justice clerk for the village of New Hempstead term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Allison Weinraub as deputy justice clerk a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Mark Fries as court attendant for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Joseph Barbaccia as court attendant for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Bruce Minsky as attorney for the village of New Hempstead for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Bruce Minsky village prosecutor for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Melvin Poliakoff member of the planning board for a term of 5 years to expire 3/31/28

Mayor appoints Meir Rothman as member of the zoning board of appeals for a term of 5 years to expire 3/31/28

Mayor appoints deputy mayor for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Mel Poliakoff chairman of the planning board for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Akiva Kraus as deputy chairman of the planning board for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Solomon Fuerst chairman of the zoning board of appeals for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Ari Taub deputy chairman of the zoning board of appeals for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Chaim Berger as ad-hoc member of the zoning board of appeals for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024

Mayor appoints Santiago Soto Jr. As ad-hoc to the planning board for a 1 year term to expire 3/31/2024.

The position of Associate Justice is being held over.

## **RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT WITH PAYSERV FOR PAYROLL SERVICES**

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Trustee Schulgasser:

### **Resolution # BOT 2023-27**

Resolved, that the Village Board of the village of New Hempstead hereby approve the contract with Payserv for payroll services. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 4-0. The resolution was adopted.

March 28, 2023

Page 8 of 10

**RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT WITH BRUCE MINSKY AS VILLAGE ATTORNEY FOR A 1 YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE 3/31/2024**

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mintz:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-28**

Resolved, that the Village Board of the village of New Hempstead hereby approve the contract with Bruce Minsky as Village Attorney for a one year term to expire March 31, 2024. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 4-0. The resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT WITH FEERICK NUGENT MACCARTNEY FOR LOCAL LAW AMENDMENTS FOR A 1 YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE 3/31/2024**

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Trustee Schulgasser:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-29**

Resolved, that the Village Board of the village of New Hempstead hereby approve the contract with Feerick Nugent MacCartney for a one year term to expire March 31, 2024. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 4-0. The resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT WITH CIVIL DESIGN WORKS, LLC AS VILLAGE ENGINEERS FOR A 1 YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE 3/31/2024**

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Trustee Schulgasser:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-30**

Resolved, that the Village Board of the village of New Hempstead hereby approve the contract with Civil Design Works, LLC as village Engineer for a one year term to expire March 31, 2024. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 4-0. The resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT WITH LANGE PLANNING & CONSULTING FOR A 1 YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE 3/31/2024.**

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Trustee Schulgasser:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-31**

Resolved, that the Village Board of the village of New Hempstead hereby approve the contract with Lange Planning as Village Planner for a one year term to expire March 31, 2024. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 4-0. The resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT OF VILLAGE FINANCIAL CONSULTANT ERIC LAFAZON FOR A 1 YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE 3/31/2024**

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Trustee Schulgasser:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-32**



March 28, 2023

Page 9 of 10

Resolved, that the Village Board of the village of New Hempstead hereby approve the contract with Eric Lafazan as Village Financial Consultant for a one year term to expire March 31, 2024. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 4-0. The resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT WITH JOEL GROSSBARTH AS PLANNING ZONING & GRANT CONSULTING SERVICE FOR A 1 YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE 3/31/2024**

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Trustee Schulgasser:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-33**

Resolved, that the Village Board of the village of New Hempstead hereby approve the contract with Joel Grossbarth for Planning Zoning and Grant Consulting for a one year term to expire March 31, 2024. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 4-0. The resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZIING JP MORGAN/CHASE BANK, M & T BANK, KEY BANK, TD BANKNORTH AND STERLING NATIONAL BANK AS THE OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW HEMPSTEAD WITH A MAXIMUM BALANCE NOT TO EXCEED \$ 1,500,000 PER INSTITUTION.**

Trustee Schulgasser offered the following motion, which was seconded by Trustee Eisenstein:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-34**

Resolved, that the Village Board of the village of New Hempstead hereby authorize JP Morgan Chase Bank, M&T, Key Bank, TD Bank, Bank North, and Webster Bank as the official depositories of the village of New Hempstead with a maximum balance not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 per institution for a one year term to expire March 31, 2024. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 4-0. The resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE INSTALL OF A WALKING PATH BY MILFORD CT. NOT TO EXCEED 75,000.00**

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mintz:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-35**

Resolved, that the village board of the Village of New Hempstead hereby approve the install of a walking path by Milford Ct. not to exceed \$75,000.00. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 4-0. The resolution was adopted.

**CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING- YEDEI CHESED, 21 FESSLER DR., NEW HEMPSTEAD NY 10977. THE APPLICANTS ARE SEEKING SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPROVAL TO PERMIT THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND USE OF A NEW BUILDING APPROXIMATELY 8,100 SF FOOTPRINT FOR ADDITIONAL RESPITE SERVICES**

This item is being adjourned to April 25, 2023

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mintz:

March 28, 2023

Page 10 of 10

**Resolution # BOT 2023-36**

Resolved, that the village board of the Village of New Hempstead hereby adjourn the Public Hearing for Yedei Chesed, 21 Fessler Dr. for Special Use Permit application to April 25, 2023. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 4-0. The resolution was adopted.

**Adjourn to April 25, 2023- CONTINUATION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON- A LOCAL LAW REPEALING LOCAL LAW 3 OF 2021**

This item is being adjourned to April 25, 2023

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mintz:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-37**

Resolved, that the village board of the Village of New Hempstead hereby adjourn the Public Hearing for a Local Law repealing Local Law 3 of 2021 to April 25, 2023. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 3-0. The resolution was adopted

**MAYORS REPORT:**

**DEPUTY MAYORS REPORT:**

**TRUSTEES REPORT:**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Trustee Eisenstein offered the following motion, which was seconded by Trustee Schulgasser:

**Resolution # BOT 2023-38**

Resolved, that the meeting on March 28, 2023 of the Board of Trustees is hereby adjourned. Mayor Sicker called for a vote. The vote was 3-0. The resolution was adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Weinraub,  
Village Clerk-Treasurer