

## Around LI

### Hearing coming on zombie sites

The Amityville Village Board tonight is to set a date for an August public hearing on more than \$13,000 the village proposes to charge for cleanup by village workers at six privately owned and poorly maintained properties, Clerk/Treasurer Dina Shingleton said.

Liens will be attached to tax bills for properties on Southwood Lane, William Street, Oldfield Avenue, Carlton Avenue, Sterling Place and South Ketcham Avenue.

Village officials tried sending bills to those addresses but some were returned as undeliverable, Shingleton said at a Thursday village board work session.

The property owners and neighbors can speak at the public hearing.

Trustees have passed several laws this summer intended to strengthen and speed the village's response to so-called zombie houses and other poorly maintained properties.

Tonight's village board meeting is at 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall, 21 Ireland Place.

— NICHOLAS SPANGLER

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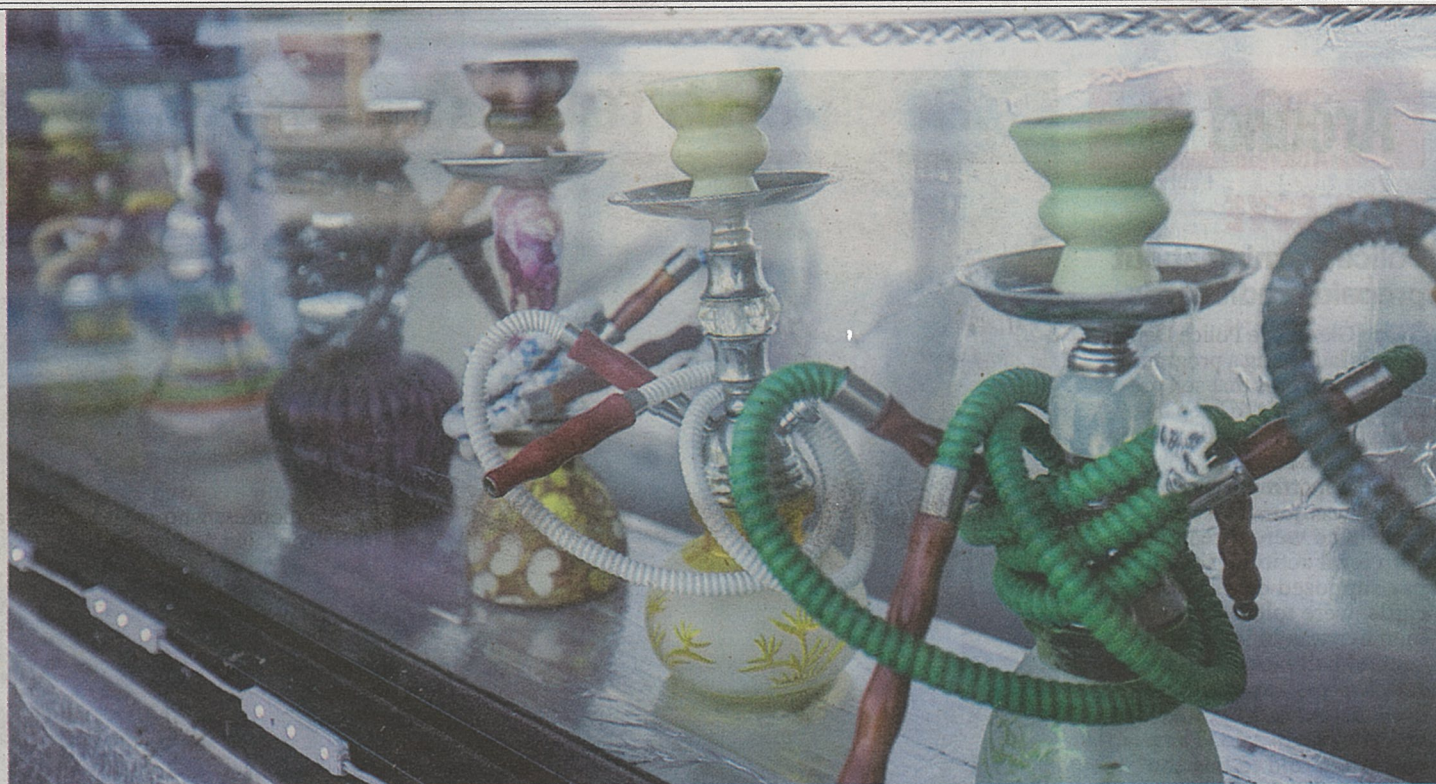
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ANTHONY LANZILLOTE

Vape Shop Smoke Stax in New Hyde Park. North Hempstead will hold a hearing tomorrow on a proposal to restrict smoking businesses to business and industrial zones. Some Long Island communities, including New Hyde Park, have tightened laws on indoor smoking establishments.

# NORTH HEMPSTEAD Smoke screen

Town looks to regulate where e-cigs stores, hookah bars can be located

BY CHRISTINE CHUNG  
[christine.chung@newsday.com](mailto:christine.chung@newsday.com)

The Town of North Hempstead may join a growing list of municipalities getting tougher on vape stores and hookah bars.

Tomorrow, the town board will hold a public hearing for a proposed law to restrict indoor smoking businesses to industrial and business zones, which would effectively bar them from opening near homes and public places such as churches and schools.

"We're not banning vape stores or smoke shops, we're just regulating where they can be located," said town Council-

woman Dina De Giorgio, who represents Port Washington.

The new law would require prospective applicants of vape stores and hookah bars to obtain a conditional-use permit from the Board of Zoning Appeals. Existing businesses legal in every other respect would not be affected, De Giorgio said.

The town has "no way of knowing how many stores would be grandfathered by this legislation," which would include cigar stores with smoking lounges, town spokeswoman Carole Trottere said.

A handful of Long Island municipalities have tightened local laws regarding indoor smoking

establishments. In North Hempstead, this includes the villages of Great Neck, Great Neck Estates, Williston Park and New Hyde Park.

In Suffolk County, the villages of Patchogue, Port Jefferson and Lindenhurst have also opted for restrictions.

North Hempstead Senior Deputy Town Attorney Mitchell Pitnick said that town's proposed law is modeled after one passed in May by the Town of Brookhaven. The Town of Islip similarly regulates indoor smoking establishments.

North Hempstead is also considering going a step further than other municipalities by regulating e-cigarette advertising, De Giorgio said. The legislation is still being drafted, but it may limit the size and display of signage. A public hearing will likely take place in September.

"The goal is to make it so that children aren't enticed to see the advertising," Pitnick said.

The number of high school students reporting use of e-cigarettes in a 30-day period rose significantly over a four-year span, from 1.5 percent in 2011 to 16 percent in 2015, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Food and Drug Administration recently announced a ban on e-cigarette sales to individuals 18 and younger. E-cigarette producers must now apply to the FDA to sell their

## KEEP AWAY

North Hempstead's proposed law would prohibit indoor smoking establishments **within 500 feet** of any residence and **within 1,000 feet** of a:

- Church or other place of religious worship
- School
- Park
- Playground or playing field
- Library
- Hospital
- Similar "semi-public places of general congregation"
- Tutoring center
- Dance studio or other instructional programs

ware and be subject to agency inspection. In New York State, liquid nicotine found in e-cigarettes must be packaged in child-resistant bottles, and businesses must display clear signage prohibiting sales to minors.

Proponents of vaping say that e-cigarettes offer a healthier alternative to tobacco cigarettes, and can serve as a useful aid in quitting smoking. Detractors often cite nicotine's insidious effects on the developing brain, and also state that e-cigarettes could act as a gateway product to smoking conventional cigarettes.

North Hempstead's public hearing on zoning restrictions begins tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall, 220 Plandome Rd. in Manhasset.