

1 Approved  
2 Incorporated Village of Asharoken  
3 Board of Trustees Meeting & Public Hearing  
4 Due to the Corona virus the Board of Trustees held the meeting via Teleconference  
5 Tuesday, January 5, 2021  
6 Attendance was 20  
7

8 Mayor Letica: All right, good evening, everyone. I'd like to welcome everyone who's on the  
9 call this evening. I will start out with the Pledge of Allegiance, and before we do this, can I  
10 please ask everyone who's on the call, if they are not speaking to put their phone on mute  
11 so that any background noise that's occurring where you're located does not gets  
12 transmitted on top of the call. Thank you.  
13

14 I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic which it  
15 stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.  
16

17 This is the regularly scheduled Village of Asharoken Board of Trustees Meeting for January  
18 5, 2021. Nancy, this meeting was properly published and noticed?  
19

20 Nancy Rittenhouse: Yes, it was.  
21

22 Mayor Letica: Thank you very much. First order of business is to approve the minutes for  
23 the last regular board meeting of December 1, 2020.  
24

25 Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for December 1, 2020  
26 seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| 27 Trustee Jablonski   | AYE |
| 28 Trustee Ettinger    | AYE |
| 29 Deputy Mayor Pierce | AYE |
| 30 Mayor Letica        | AYE |
| 31 Motioned Carried    |     |

32  
33 Mayor Letica: Before we go any further, we'll just take a quick roll call.

|                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| 34 Deputy Mayor Pierce          | Present     |
| 35 Trustee Ettinger             | Present     |
| 36 Trustee Burke                | Absent      |
| 37 Trustee Jablonski            | Present     |
| 38 Clerk Rittenhouse            | Here        |
| 39 Treasurer Emily Hayes        | Here        |
| 40 Village Attorney Migatz      | Here        |
| 41 Building Inspector Doug Adil | Here        |
| 42 Officer-in-Charge Mahdesian  | Absent      |
| 43 Emergency Manager Raisch     | Here        |
| 44 Harbormaster Affrunti        | Not Present |
| 45 Conservation Chair Cohen     | Here        |
| 46 Sanitation Operator          | Not Present |

47  
48

49 Mayor Letica: Thank you. All right, we'll move on to reports of officials. First, I hope that  
50 everyone had a great holiday season, and I would like to wish everyone on the call a new year  
51 filled with health and happiness. It was a short month and I have a short report.  
52

53 The villages of Asharoken, Northport, Lloyd Harbor and Huntington Bay are continuing to  
54 oppose the Town of Huntington mooring law that requires a \$40 permit from the town to place  
55 moorings on underwater land that the town owns. The Ida Smith parcel in Asharoken is exempt  
56 from this law.  
57

58 On December 7th, the four villages wrote to the New York State Attorney General requesting  
59 and I quote, "a clarification as to whether the regulatory scheme set forth in Local Law 17-2020  
60 exceeds the town's authority to require reasonable consent to the use of its underwater land and  
61 wrongly encroaches upon the villages' exclusive regulatory authority over the waters within  
62 1,500 feet of their shores."  
63

64 "We also request that your office opine on whether the town's right to consent to the use of its  
65 underwater lands within 1,500 feet of the villages' shorelines for the anchoring and mooring the  
66 vessels is a servient and contingent right that can only be exercised after a village authorizes the  
67 anchoring and mooring of a vessel in said waters."  
68

69 The villages are awaiting an answer from the Attorney General. Subsequent to that, the villages  
70 of Lloyd Harbor and Huntington Bay have filed a complaint in court against the Town of  
71 Huntington in regard to the mooring law that they have acted last year. And I think Village  
72 Attorney Bruce Migatz might have a little bit more to say on this when he's up for his report.  
73

74 Santa came to Asharoken on December 19th. Due to COVID-19, he did a drive-through and  
75 people came to the streets to greet him. It was a fun event, and many children had a lot of joy  
76 brought into their lives as they got to greet Saint Nick. I would like to thank Beefy and Jeannie  
77 Varese and fire truck driver Jake Milliken for making it such a special event.  
78

79 And lastly, I'd also like to thank resident Kristen Wenderoth for once again making tide  
80 calendars with her artwork to the members of the board. They are beautiful and we really  
81 appreciate them. Great job.  
82

83 We'll move onto the reports of the trustees. Deputy Mayor Pierce?  
84

85 Deputy Mayor Pierce: Thank you, Mayor. Good evening, everyone, and Happy New Year.  
86 During the month of December, I participated in several COVID teleconferences given by the  
87 Suffolk County and Town of Huntington and worked on the amendments to the fencing law with  
88 Trustee Burke. I reviewed the minutes and the transcript of the December board meeting, the  
89 Asharoken Police Department Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan and the Public  
90 Employer Health Emergency Plan certified the unpaid tax list. And I reviewed the letter of  
91 complaint that the Mayor just spoke about on Town of Huntington mooring law and the police  
92 report, and the monthly payment abstract.  
93

94 Trustee Ettinger: Good evening, everyone. I, too, would like to wish you and your family a very  
happy and healthy new year. During the month, I had numerous conversations with Officer-in-

95 Charge Ray Mahdesian regarding several police-related matters. I'm happy to report that our  
96 Police Department continues to perform well and that our village enjoyed another safe and  
97 secure year in 2020. I've had also many additional discussions with Mayor Letica and Officer-  
98 in-Charge Ray Mahdesian regarding the New York State Police Reform Act that the Governor  
99 have enacted, requiring us to submit our report to his office prior to April 1, 2021. Officer-in-  
100 Charge Ray Mahdesian and I had continued to work on developing the plan and we have  
101 completed our first draft of the plan late last month. We recently forwarded the plan to the  
102 Mayor and the Trustees for their review and comments. After receiving their comments, we will  
103 prepare a final draft of the plan and then forward it to our village Justices, the Police Benevolent  
104 Association and the District Attorney's Office as required by the Governor's Act.  
105 We anticipate having their comments back later this month. At that point, we will post the  
106 revised plan on our website and our Village Hall. We are scheduling a public hearing for our  
107 February Board of Trustee meeting when we will present the plan to all of our residents. We  
108 will then incorporate any necessary changes and post the final plan on our website prior to the  
109 March Board of Trustee meeting. At the March Board of Trustee meeting, we will ratify the  
110 plan and send it to the Governor's Office. I want to express once again my sincere thanks to  
111 Officer-in-Charge Ray Mahdesian for all of his hard work in developing the plan.  
112

113 In addition, some other matters that I was involved in during the month, I also reviewed the local  
114 law modifications for the fences as well as some correspondence that we received from some of  
115 our residents regarding this. I reviewed the property tax levy about unpaid taxes. I also  
116 reviewed the proposal to support the excess of the limits of the property tax levy law for fiscal  
117 year commencing June 1, 2021. I also reviewed last month's regular minutes. And finally, I  
118 reviewed this month's payment vouchers. End of report.  
119

120 Trustee Jablonski: Thank you, Mayor. This month, I reviewed the minutes, the payment  
121 abstract, the police report, Police Department Reform Plan, the Public Employer Health  
122 Emergency Plan. I reviewed the unpaid property tax report as well as the correspondence on the  
123 mooring law, also revisions to the fencing law and correspondence from residents. End of  
124 report.  
125

126 Mayor Letica: Thank you very much. Village Attorney Migatz?  
127

128 Attorney Migatz: Thank you, Mayor. Happy, healthy new year to all. The Planning Board,  
129 Zoning Board did not meet in the month of December, nothing to report on that.  
130

131 The follow-up on what the Mayor stated about the mooring law, the basis of the objection that  
132 the Asharoken and the other three villages have, that's Huntington Bay, Lloyd Harbor and  
133 Northport to the law is that the New York State Navigation Law grants the villages in Nassau  
134 and Suffolk County an exclusive jurisdiction to regulate moorings within 1,500 feet of its  
135 shoreline. This is recognized by the New York State Attorney General in its opinions, with the  
136 caveat that the town as owner of the underwater land has the right to require its consent to the  
137 placement of moorings on its land. The four village attorneys agree with that caveat, but we  
138 believe that the town regulations overstep that authority. And it's just not a matter of permit fees,  
139 but the town law also attempts to regulate the vessels that are using the moorings as far as

140 insurance that's required, the type of shackle that's required, the type of mooring that's required,  
141 the markings on the moorings, and so on and so on.

142

143 On December 7th, with the Mayor's approval, I joined with the other village attorneys to request  
144 the Attorney General for an opinion regarding the legality of the town's local law. And since no  
145 reply was received by the last week of December and the town local law was to take effect  
146 January 1, 2021, on December 23rd, the villages of Huntington Bay and Lloyd Harbor have  
147 commenced a lawsuit against the Town of Huntington, and that lawsuit is seeking an injunction  
148 and a declaration that any right that the town has by virtue of ownership of the underwater lands  
149 is limited as the Mayor said to a servient and contingent right of mere consent to the attachment  
150 of the mooring to its land, and that we claim can only be granted after the village has issued its  
151 mooring permits.

152

153 So as presently structured, the town's law allows the town to issue permits anywhere it feels that  
154 is appropriate, without any input from the village, and we definitely feel that is not proper.

155

156 Now, in connection with the filing of that complaint, the other two villages filed a motion for a  
157 preliminary injunction to enjoin the town from enforcing the local law. And with that motion,  
158 they also sought what's called a temporary restraining order and the court granted that. So as of  
159 now, although the law was to take effect January 1st, Huntington is enjoined from enforcing that  
160 law until such time as the motion for the preliminary injunction is decided.

161

162 Right now, that's returnable January 14th, but I would anticipate that that would be postponed or  
163 adjourned to allow further briefing of that motion. So, right now, status quo is that the town law  
164 has not taken effect and we hope to have this resolved before the boating season commences.  
165 That's the Readers Digest version, Mayor. It's a little more complicated than that. But if you  
166 have any questions, I'll be happy to answer them.

167

168 Mayor Letica: No, I think you covered it all as you tend to do every month when you're asked to  
169 explain. Thanks. Thank you very much.

170

171 Attorney Migatz: You're welcome.

172

173 Mayor Letica: All right, Emily Hayes, could we have the Treasurer's report please?

174

175 Treasurer Hayes: Sure. So the highlights for the month of December were very few, nothing  
176 unusual to report in revenues. The vouchers for the month of December were \$30,358.53. There  
177 is nothing unusual to report on the vouchers side, and there is a separate resolution to approve the  
178 vouchers and the budget transfer, and that's it.

179

180 Mayor Letica: Thank you very much. I think that Trustee Ettinger is going to give the police  
181 report this evening.

182

183 Trustee Ettinger: Yes, thank you, Mayor. Unfortunately, Officer-in-Charge Ray Mahdesian  
184 could not join us tonight, so he asked me to give his report for December 2020. Here's his  
185 report. Once again, we had a good month. I'm happy to report that there were no burglaries and

186 only one minor automobile accident with no injuries. He had one arrest during the month and  
187 issued 19 summonses. It was another good month for our village and the police. End of report.  
188

189 Mayor Letica: All right, thank you, Mel. Barry Bradley, are you on the call for Sanitation  
190 report? If he's not, Emergency Manager Bill Raisch, do you have anything to report this  
191 evening?  
192

193 Bill Raisch: Yes, I do. Very good, thank you. Just briefly, I have, as I think all the officials on  
194 the line here are aware, circulated a draft for the public health emergency Plan to both elected  
195 and appointed officials. I have received comments from several of you. I am hoping to receive  
196 any remaining comments by this Thursday of this week, at which point, I intend to reflect –  
197 review and reflect as appropriate and provide to you, Mr. Mayor and the rest of the Village  
198 Trustees, an updated version of the plan for your review.  
199

200 Subsequent to that, it should be formally shared with our only unionized element, the Asharoken  
201 Police Benevolent Association for their comments, and presuming we have – and I think that we  
202 are well within our timeframe in that regard. And then subsequently, we had to be final on this  
203 well before our April deadline. So that is progressing well.  
204

205 I will also mention with my harbormaster hat on as Deputy Harbormaster we have had a vessel  
206 that for the last probably six to eight weeks had been beached, during one of the significant  
207 blows in October and we have been working with the resident and identifying potential resources  
208 for them. They have been able to remove the beached vessel and it is out of the water to the best  
209 of my knowledge. End of report.  
210

211 Mayor Letica: Thank you very much, Bill. Doug Adil, Superintendent of Buildings?  
212

213 Inspector, Doug Adil: Yes, good evening. In the month of December, I performed plan reviews  
214 for five projects. Four out of five were approved, as well I took three hours of online training,  
215 and addressed one resident complaint where there was construction adjacent to their home, as  
216 well I performed on-site inspections in nine locations and that is my report for the month.  
217

218 Mayor Letica: Thank you very much, Doug. Marty Cohen, do you have anything to report from  
219 the Conservation Board? All right, next order of business is a public hearing to solicit public  
220 comments on our proposed local law this evening. So, Nancy, if you could please read the  
221 public notice on that.  
222

223 Clerk Rittenhouse: Yes, Mayor. Incorporated Village of Asharoken Notice of Public Hearing,  
224 please take notice that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Trustees and the  
225 Incorporated Village of Asharoken on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 6:30 PM via teleconference  
226 call. The call-in is 1866-705-2554 and the passcode is 137432. Public hearing is regarding the  
227 adoption of Local Law 1-2021 of the Incorporated Village of Asharoken entitled "A local law  
228 authorizing a property tax levy in established in General Municipal Law Section 3-c." Any  
229 interested person is entitled to be heard upon said proposed local law at such public hearing.  
230 Copies of said proposed local law are available for review at Incorporated Village of Asharoken  
231 Clerk's Office at Village Hall, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 to 3:00, Friday from 8:00 to

232 2:00, or on the website [www.asharoken.com](http://www.asharoken.com). This is by order of the Board of Trustees of the  
233 Incorporated Village of Asharoken and was dated December 1, 2020. That was the public  
234 hearing notice, and this was published on December – I'm sorry – the published went – the  
235 publication went in on December 11, 2020 and it was published through December 17, 2020.  
236 Thank you.

237  
238 Mayor Letica: Thank you very much. So before we open the public hearing, I just want to make  
239 a couple of brief comments. Probably this might answer any of your questions.  
240

241 The proposed Local Law 1-2021 would allow the Board of Trustees to override the New York  
242 State 2% tax gap. This is the first step in the budget process which is used for the last seven  
243 years. Fortunately, this has never been needed. Legislation provides the village with the  
244 financial flexibility to do what is right for Asharoken without the constraints of an arbitrary tax  
245 limit imposed by New York State.  
246

247 Passage of this law gives Asharoken safety net should unexpected expenses arise or revenue  
248 shortfalls occur prior to the finalization of the budget. Examples could include extreme storm  
249 removal cost, police overtime should we have a significant storm or other unanticipated (fiscal)  
250 events.  
251

252 The village is in the very earliest phases to determine the 2021-2022 budget. I would like to  
253 stress that the adoption of the override law should not be interpreted or assumed to mean that the  
254 village intends to have a tax increase above the 2% threshold.  
255

256 Just as the village has to finalize the assessment roll, determine expense budgets and revenue  
257 streams, the proposed law is a part of the village's due diligence to prepare a realistic budget for  
258 the next fiscal year, it is in the best interests of the village to adopt the law with the hope and  
259 expectation that it will not be needed.  
260

261 Should tax increase be required, the Board of Trustees will do its best to minimize it. This is  
262 even more of a priority now with the cap on deductibility of state and local taxes on your federal  
263 income tax return.  
264

265 Asharoken has a long history of fiscal conservatism. During the last nine years as mayor, the  
266 average tax increase has been 1.03% and there has been no increase for the last five years.  
267 Although COVID-19 pandemic will make the 2021-22 village budget one of the most  
268 challenging in recent memory, the board and I will strive for similar results from the last few  
269 years. Having said that, I will open the public hearing to any public comments, if you can please  
270 state your name and make your piece. We have a policy in the village of no more than three  
271 minutes per person.

272 No Comments were made during the public hearing.  
273

274 All right, it does not appear that anyone wishes to comment this evening on this proposed law.  
275  
276  
277

278 Mayor Letica closed the public hearing, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

279 Trustee Jablonski AYE

280 Trustee Ettinger AYE

281 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

282 Mayor Letica AYE

283 Motioned Carried

284

285 **Resolutions:**

286 **Resolution (2021-01)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board approves the budget transfers for the  
287 month of December 2020.

288 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for December 1, 2020 seconded  
289 by Trustee Ettinger.

290 Trustee Jablonski AYE

291 Trustee Ettinger AYE

292 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

293 Mayor Letica AYE

294 Motioned Carried

295 **Resolution (2021-02)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the vouchers for  
296 the month of December 2020 in the amount of \$30,358.53.

297 Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for December 1, 2020  
298 seconded by Trustee Jablonski.

299 Trustee Jablonski AYE

300 Trustee Ettinger AYE

301 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

302 Mayor Letica AYE

303 Motioned Carried

304 **Resolution (2021-03)** Be it Resolved that the Village Board, does hereby approve in accordance  
305 with the provisions of the Election Law of the State of New York, the 2021 Annual Village Election in  
306 the Village of Asharoken shall be held on June 15th, 2021, and be it further resolved that the offices  
307 to be filled at said election and the terms thereof are as follows:

308 Trustee, two (2) years

309 Trustee, two (2) years

310 Be it resolved that the polling place will be held at the Village Hall, 1 Asharoken Avenue, Northport,  
311 NY 11768 during the hours of 12 noon to 9:00 pm, subject to change.

312

313 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for December 1, 2020 seconded  
314 by Trustee Jablonski.

315 Trustee Jablonski AYE

316 Trustee Ettinger AYE

317 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

318 Mayor Letica AYE

319 Motioned Carried

320 **Resolution (2021-04)** WHEREAS the Village of Asharoken, with the assistance from Tetra Tech,  
321 has gathered information and prepared the Suffolk County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation  
322 Plan; and

323

324 WHEREAS, the Suffolk County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in  
325 accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and  
326

327 WHEREAS the Village of Asharoken is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an  
328 opportunity to comment and provide input in the Plan and the actions in the Plan; and  
329

330 WHEREAS the Village of Asharoken have reviewed the Plan and affirms that the Plan will be  
331 updated no less than every five years;  
332

333 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees that the Village of Asharoken adopts  
334 the Suffolk County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as this jurisdiction's Natural Hazard  
335 Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the Plan.

336 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for December 1, 2020 seconded  
337 by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

|     |                     |     |
|-----|---------------------|-----|
| 338 | Trustee Jablonski   | AYE |
| 339 | Trustee Ettinger    | AYE |
| 340 | Deputy Mayor Pierce | AYE |
| 341 | Mayor Letica        | AYE |
| 342 | Motioned Carried    |     |

343 **Resolution (2021-05)** Be It Resolved, that the Village Board of the Village of Asharoken, does  
344 hereby approve the local law 1-2021 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit  
345 established in General Municipal Law §3-c for the fiscal year commencing 6/1/2021.

346 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for December 1, 2020 seconded  
347 by Trustee Ettinger.

348 ROLL CALL:

|     |                            |            |
|-----|----------------------------|------------|
| 349 | <b>Trustee Jablonski</b>   | <b>AYE</b> |
| 350 | <b>Trustee Ettinger</b>    | <b>AYE</b> |
| 351 | <b>Deputy Mayor Pierce</b> | <b>AYE</b> |
| 352 | <b>Mayor Letica</b>        | <b>AYE</b> |

353

354 **Resolution (2021-06)** Be It Resolved, that the Village Board approves a street work permit for  
355 Suffolk County Water Authority to install a 2" fire line for SCTM 0401-007-01-036.000 178  
356 Asharoken Avenue; work area will be near Beach Plum Drive.

357  
358 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for December 1, 2020 seconded  
359 by Trustee Ettinger.

|     |                     |     |
|-----|---------------------|-----|
| 360 | Trustee Jablonski   | AYE |
| 361 | Trustee Ettinger    | AYE |
| 362 | Deputy Mayor Pierce | AYE |
| 363 | Mayor Letica        | AYE |
| 364 | Motioned Carried    |     |

365 **Resolution (2021-07)** Be it Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the scheduling of  
366 a public hearing on Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 at 6:30pm to receive comments from the public on  
367 the Police Reform & Reinvention Collaborative draft plan.

368 Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for December 1, 2020  
369 seconded by Mayor Letica.

|     |                   |     |
|-----|-------------------|-----|
| 370 | Trustee Jablonski | AYE |
| 371 | Trustee Ettinger  | AYE |

372 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE  
373 Mayor Letica AYE  
374 Motioned Carried

375 **Certification of Unpaid taxes:**

376 Clerk Rittenhouse: I just want to discuss the certification of unpaid taxes. We presented,  
377 because of COVID, the unpaid tax report, the assessment roll for 2020 as well as the tax warrant  
378 for 2020. We had board members; Mayor Greg Letica, Deputy Mayor Pierce, Trustee Ettinger  
379 and Trustee Jablonski review and certify the outstanding property tax report for 2020. They  
380 agreed with the original tax roll for 2020 and the tax warrant levy amount, agreed with the  
381 original tax levy, the original tax assessment total. The total outstanding unpaid taxes as of  
382 tonight is \$15,461.21.

383  
384 Mayor Letica: Do we have to take any action on this besides that, Nancy?

385  
386 Clerk Rittenhouse: What we'll do is pass the resolution in February, authorizing a tax lien sale.  
387 We may get some of these taxes paid before then. But that is normally the process and we will  
388 advertise it in February, and then will take place around the second week of March.

389  
390 Mayor Letica: Okay, very good. Thank you very much.

391  
392 Attorney Migatz: I believe there's a local law passed by the state and/or Governor which has put  
393 a stay on tax lien sales which was recently implemented. We take a look at that.

394  
395 Clerk Rittenhouse: How long is it going to be extended for?

396  
397 Attorney Migatz: I think it has been stayed until May 1st, but I'll take another look at that and  
398 we'll talk about it.

399  
400 Clerk Rittenhouse: Perfect. thank you, Bruce.

401  
402 Mayor Letica: Thank you, Bruce. Do any of the other Trustees have any new business they  
403 would like to bring up this evening?

404  
405 Trustee Ettinger: No.

406  
407 Deputy Mayor Pierce: No.

408  
409 Trustee Jablonski: I'm good.

410  
411 Mayor Letica: All right, we'll open it up for public session to hear any comments, questions the  
412 public might have on the call. And the policy remains three minutes per person. We would  
413 prefer if you stated your name, so we know who you're talking to, but you're under no obligation  
414 to do so if you don't want to.

415  
416 Marty Cohen: Hi, this is Marty Cohen. I got in late.

417

418 Mayor Letica: Marty, good evening. How are you?  
419

420 Marty Cohen: Fine. Thank you. I will give you my brief report; the board issued one tree  
421 permit in December.

422 I wanted to bring up the issue of beach lot dunes or what is left of them. Last month was stormy  
423 enough that there is now a large area where there is essentially no dune, and is there anything  
424 happening on that front?  
425

426 Mayor Letica: Well, I have been in consultation with State Senator Jim Gaughran, trying to free  
427 up the grant money that we are looking to get to replenish those dunes. We're expecting to get  
428 \$50,000. Unfortunately, because of COVID, the state has put a stay on giving out grant money  
429 due to its fiscal problems. I don't know when that money is going to become available to us. I  
430 mean, we are fully approved for the grant, so we're just waiting for the money.  
431

432 I will check in with Senator Gaughran again maybe later this week to see if there is anything, he  
433 can do about that. But I think right now we're at the mercy of the state now. And I believe that  
434 if the village were to go and do this ahead of time, I'm not sure if we would be eligible then to  
435 collect the grant money. Nancy might know an answer to that question.  
436

437 Clerk Rittenhouse: Well, the grant contract has not been fully executed. New York State is not  
438 sending out any grant contracts because of the lack of funds. The grant will not be binding. I  
439 don't know retroactively, if we can be reimbursed without a signed grant contract.  
440

441 Mayor Letica: All right, well, I think we can look into that because, I mean, certainly, we do  
442 have enough money in our general funds to be able to cover the costs of this in advance getting  
443 the grant if that's possible. But I do share your concerns, Marty, because I drive by that area  
444 many times a week and I know exactly how eroded some of those dunes are and it is a potential  
445 problem should we have a real major storm. I appreciate you bringing that up this evening.  
446

447 Marty Cohen: Maybe this was discussed earlier when I was not yet on the call, but you know  
448 there's another sinkhole developing on the on seawall.  
449

450 Mayor Letica: Unfortunately, I'm fully aware of it. I have been in talks with the Town of  
451 Huntington Highway Department and I met with (Sean Cavanaugh) down there recently. We're  
452 going to try to move some of the rocks that were kind of superfluous into that sinkhole area to try  
453 to brace it up. Part of the problem is the sheet steel is starting to buckle in that area and the dead  
454 man that supports that area is broken off from wall because of the rust. I did speak via text to  
455 Congressman Suozzi about this and I told him that after the 1st of the year which is now I'm  
456 going to write him a formal letter requesting some kind of federal aid with that seawall again. So  
457 it's not looking good for the wall.  
458

459 Marty Cohen: Right.  
460

461 Mayor Letica: I know exactly what you are talking about so – and if you look at it, if you go  
462 onto the crossover steps and look towards the power plant at the wall, you can see exactly how  
463 much the buckling in that area.

464 Marty Cohen: Right. Okay, thank you. That's all I have.

465

466 Mayor Letica: Very good. Thank you, Marty.

467

468 Mayor Letica: Do we have anybody else on the call this evening who would like to speak? All  
469 right, if not, then I would make a motion to adjourn the public session.

470

471 Mayor Letica made a motion to exit public session, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

472 Trustee Jablonski AYE

473 Trustee Ettinger AYE

474 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

475 Mayor Letica AYE

476 Motion Carried

477

478 Mayor Letica made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

479 Trustee Jablonski AYE

480 Trustee Ettinger AYE

481 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

482 Mayor Letica AYE

483 Motion Carried.

484

485 The January 5th, 2021 Regular board meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at  
486 approximately 8:15 pm.

487 Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

488 Nancy Rittenhouse, Village Clerk

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