

Draft

Officers Present:

Greg Letica, Mayor
Laura Burke, Trustee
Ian Jablonski, Trustee

Officials & Appointees Present:

Michelle Glennon, Village Clerk
Bruce Migatz, Village Attorney
Emily Hayes, Treasurer
Raymond Mahdesian, Officer-in-Charge
Doug Adil, Building Inspector
Joe Affrunti, Harbormaster

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.
Publication of meeting was confirmed.

Trustee Burke made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for February 6, 2024, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.

Trustee Jablonski	AYE
Trustee Burke	AYE
Mayor Letica	AYE

Motioned Carried.

Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve the Board of Assessment Review Meeting minutes for March 18, 2024, seconded by Trustee Burke.

Trustee Jablonski	AYE
Trustee Burke	AYE
Mayor Letica	AYE

Motioned Carried.

Mayors Report: The Request for Proposal from engineering firms to create a complete redesign of the seawall and restoration of the beach in front of it was published on February 15th. On the 29th approximately 13 firms came to the Village to attend a site visit. Many of the firms have a highly regarded reputation for working on projects similar to this one. The bid will be awarded later in the spring. This project will be paid for by a \$1,000,000 Hazard Mitigation Grant that the Village secured through FEMA. This grant carries a maximum matching share of \$107,600. Although the Village has sufficient reserve funds to cover the local share, it will negotiate with the Town of Huntington and our NY State elected officials to seek assistance in paying for the local share. Once the Village has a comprehensive plan in place it can seek the major funding that will be required to restore the seawall area.

I also spent significant time working on securing the funds from the \$1,000,000 earmark that Senator Schumer obtained for the Village to rebuild the most compromised section of the seawall. I expect that this reconstruction will secure the damaged section of the seawall until the full

51 reconstruction can be done. The obstacle to securing the funds is persuading the Federal Highway
52 Administration and the NYS Department of Transportation to agree to the Village's proposed use of
53 the money. To try to resolve this problem, I wrote directly to the Secretary of Transportation Pete
54 Buttigieg last week.

55 During the month the bid packages for repaving Bevin Road and Asharoken Avenue (from Bevin
56 Road to approximately 561 Asharoken Avenue) were completed. The bids will be awarded at the
57 end of March. The Bevin Road project will be paid for by a \$100,000 DASNY grant, CHIPS money,
58 and, if there is a balance, the Village Highway capital reserve account. The Asharoken Avenue
59 project will be reimbursed to the village by PSEG.

60 I signed onto a letter that the New York Conference of Mayors submitted to Governor Hockul
61 requesting an increase in AIM funding. AIM funding is assistance the Village gets from the State
62 annually and, has not increased in 15 years. Every increase in outside funding the Village receives
63 helps keep our taxes lower.

64 Extensive time was devoted to the budget during the month. As I recently reported in a note to the
65 residents the Village will remain below the NYS 2% Tax Cap levy. At this time, it appears that the
66 percentage increase will be higher than it has historically been since I became Mayor in 2012. The
67 rise is driven by large increases in some of the Village's biggest expense categories over which it has
68 no control. The Village Board will hold a tax workshop on March 19. A public hearing will be held at
69 the April BOT meeting before the adoption of the budget. In advance of the public hearing, the
70 budget will be available for anyone to review by email, on the website, and at Village Hall.

71 The Village is also dealing with a historically high number of tax grievances. Depending on how
72 they are resolved there could be an additional impact on next year's percentage tax increase.

73 Every effort will be made by this administration to keep any tax increase to a minimum.

74 In conclusion, multiple residents saw Bald Eagles in the Village during the last ten days. Keep your
75 eyes open and you may be fortunate to see these magnificent birds yourself.

76

77 **Trustees:**

78

79 Trustee Burke: During the month I reviewed the minutes from the last meeting, attended the tax
80 grievance session, reviewed the firearms permit, reviewed the public comments from the noise
81 ordinance hearing; attended the budget meeting/reviewed the budget and the IMA resolution.

82 Trustee Jablonski: During the month; I reviewed the minutes for both meetings, the vouchers, the
83 firearms permits. I reviewed the budget, attended the Board of Assessment Review yesterday and
84 the budget work session earlier today.

85

86 **Attorney Migatz:** Attorney Migatz reported that he nothing to report for the month of February.
87 The Zoning Board did not meet in February and the Planning Board did not meet in February. There
88 is no decision yet on the dock litigation.

89

90 **Village Treasurer:** Emily Hayes reported the vouchers for the month of February through the first
91 half of March were \$84,504.71. The number was a little higher than usual as we paid some of the
92 March invoices.

93
94 **Police Report:** Officer Mahdesian reported there were 60 summonses in the month of February
95 which is unheard of. Of the 60 summonses, 34 were for speed. Of the 34, 12 were for 50, 60mph and
96 higher. A lot of speeding summonses are delivery people. We are virtually crime free in the village
97 but the town around us is very active with automobile break ins and thefts.
98

99 **Superintendent of Buildings:** Rejected the final survey for the newly constructed 122 Asharoken
100 Ave due to apparent inconsistencies. Final survey was re-done and accepted by the Village. I
101 reviewed revised drawings for alterations to 561 Asharoken Ave. I completed and submitted the
102 Annual Report of Code Enforcement Activities for the State with the assistance of the Village Clerk. I
103 responded to concerns over the interior environment at 3 Bevin Road, and determined that no
104 interior environmental testing is required. Discussed demolition permit requirements with an
105 architect for a home on Lobster Way.
106

107 **Harbormaster:** The marine hours have been revised so the police boat will run later in the
108 morning and therefore, later in the evening. Mr. Affrunti has been in touch with Volpi Marine to
109 coordinate getting the signs in the water, one sign needs repair. A call has gone into KG Marine to
110 get the police boat prepared to go in the water.
111

112 **Resolutions:**
113

114 **Resolution (2024-19)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board approves the budget transfers for the
115 month of February through March 19, 2024.

116 Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.

117 Trustee Jablonski AYE

118 Trustee Burke AYE

119 Mayor Letica AYE

120 Motioned Carried

121 **Resolution (2024-20)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the vouchers for
122 the month of February through March 19, 2024 in the amount of \$84,504.71.
123

124 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

125 Trustee Jablonski AYE

126 Trustee Burke AYE

127 Trustee Ettinger AYE

128 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

129 Mayor Letica AYE

130 Motioned Carried

131 **Resolution (2024-21) TO AUTHORIZE AN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH THE**
132 **SUFFOLK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**
133

134 **Whereas,** General Municipal Law (GML) § 239 requires the referral of certain proposed
135 planning and zoning actions to the Suffolk County Planning Commission by local Towns and
136 Villages within the County, and
137

138 **Whereas,** GML also allows for the County to enter into an agreement with a referring body or
139 other duly authorized body of a Town or Village to provide that certain proposed actions be
140 deemed matters of local rather than inter-community or county-wide concern and, therefore, not
141 subject to referral, and

142
143 **Whereas**, the Village of Asharoken has proposed a litany of actions which are consistent with
144 the intent of GML and represent matters of local not county-wide concern, and

145
146 **Whereas**, the adoption of an inter-municipal agreement would streamline the referral review
147 process without any compromise to county-wide or inter-community planning considerations,
148 now therefore be it

149
150 **Resolved**, that pursuant to the above the Suffolk County Planning Commission considers the
151 following list of actions to constitute matters of local determination which are NOT subject to
152 the referral process:

- 153
154 All area variances associated with single-family residences.
155 Change of one permitted use to another with no changes in parking
156 requirements (i.e. retail to office).
157 Minor additions less than 1,000 square feet with no change to use or
158 occupancy.
159 Site plan applications proposing less than 5,000 square feet of new or
160 renovated floor area or less than 10,000 square feet of land disturbance.

161
162 *Exception – actions that have been given a Positive Declaration pursuant to SEQOR or actions*
163 *involving property abutting state or county parkland, the Atlantic Ocean, Long Island Sound,*
164 *any bay in Suffolk County or estuary of any of the foregoing bodies of water shall be subject to*
165 *the full review process.*

166
167 **Resolved**, That the Town/ Village Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the
168 Suffolk County Planning Commission and to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals
169 of the Village of Asharoken.

170 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.

172 Trustee Jablonski AYE

173 Trustee Burke AYE

174 Mayor Letica AYE

175 Motioned Carried

176 **Resolution (2024-22)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the purchase
177 and installation of a new police server from Axe Creatives for \$10,000.00.

178
179 Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Letica.

180 Trustee Jablonski AYE

181 Trustee Burke AYE

182 Mayor Letica AYE

183 Motioned Carried

184 **Resolution (2024-23)** Be It Resolved that the Village board does hereby approve the budget
185 adjustment for 5/31/2024 to increase start income (A1000.000) \$10,000.00, (utilizing building
186 restoration reserve funds) and increase Police Equipment (A3120.200) \$10,000.00 for the purchase
187 of the new Police Department server.

188
189 Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.

190 Trustee Jablonski AYE

191 Trustee Burke AYE
192 Mayor Letica AYE
193 Motioned Carried

194 **Resolution (2024-24)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the scheduling of
195 a public hearing on Tuesday, April 9th, 2024 on the tentative budget for fiscal year beginning
196 6/1/2024.

197
198 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.
199 Trustee Jablonski AYE
200 Trustee Burke AYE
201 Mayor Letica AYE
202 Motioned Carried

203 **Resolution (2024-25)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the mayor to
204 sign the engagement letter with Skinnon & Faber, Certified Public Accountants for the year ended
205 May 31st, 2024, cost of the audit & filing of the Annual Financial Report (AFR) required by the State
206 of New York is \$13,250 and for the Justice court audit examination is \$700.00.

207
208 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.
209 Trustee Jablonski AYE
210 Trustee Burke AYE
211 Mayor Letica AYE
212 Motioned Carried

213 **Resolution (2024-26)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the firearms
214 permit for Jean Bonawandt of 387 Asharoken Ave for the purpose of shooting clay pigeons.
215 Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Letica.

216 Trustee Jablonski AYE
217 Trustee Burke AYE
218 Mayor Letica AYE
219 Motioned Carried

220 **Resolution (2024-27)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the mayor to
221 sign the retainer for Egan & Golden to provide legal services in regards to Eatons Neck LLC vs.
222 Board of Assessment Review of the Village of Asharoken at an hourly rate of \$375 per hour for Mr.
223 Besunder and \$325 per hour for associate attorneys.

224 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.
225 Trustee Jablonski AYE
226 Trustee Burke AYE
227 Mayor Letica AYE
228 Motioned Carried

229 **Resolution (2024-28)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the firearms
230 permit for James Ackerson at 516 Asharoken Ave for the purpose of shooting clay pigeons.

231 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.
232 Trustee Jablonski AYE
233 Trustee Burke AYE
234 Mayor Letica AYE
235 Motioned Carried

236 **Resolution (2024-29)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve a Suffolk County
237 Water Authority road opening permit application for street work to install a secondary water
238 service to 238 Asharoken Ave.

239 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.

240 Trustee Jablonski AYE

241 Trustee Burke AYE

242 Mayor Letica AYE

243 Motioned Carried

244 Public Session:

245 A resident had questions regarding the agricultural status of Sandpiper Farm.

246 Another resident had questions regarding the Intermunicipal Agreement with Suffolk County.

247 Mayor Letica made a motion to exit public session, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.

248 Trustee Jablonski AYE

249 Trustee Burke AYE

250 Mayor Letica AYE

251 Motioned Carried

252 Mayor Letica made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.

253 Trustee Jablonski AYE

254 Trustee Burke AYE

255 Mayor Letica AYE

256 Motioned Carried.

257

258 The March 19th, 2024, Regular board meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at
259 approximately 7:08pm.

260

261 Signed: _____

262 Michelle Glennon, Village Clerk