

Incorporated Village of Asharoken
Board of Trustees Meeting in-person and teleconference
Tuesday, September 14, 2021, 5:30pm
Village Hall
Approximate Attendance (10)

Officers Present:

Approved

Greg Letica, Mayor
Pam Pierce, Deputy Mayor
Melvin Ettinger, Trustee
Laura Burke, Trustee
Ian Jablonski, Trustee

Officials & Appointees Present:

Nancy Rittenhouse, Village Clerk
Bruce Migatz, Village Attorney- via teleconference
Emily Hayes, Treasurer
Barry Bradley, Sanitation Operator
Raymond Mahdesian, Officer-in-Charge
William Raisch, Emergency Manager
Doug Adil, Superintendent of Buildings

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

Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for August 3, 2021, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

Trustee Jablonski	AYE
Trustee Burke	Abstained
Trustee Ettinger	AYE
Deputy Mayor Pierce	AYE
Mayor Letica	AYE

Motioned Carried.

Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve the Special Board Meeting minutes for August 13, 2021, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

Trustee Jablonski	Abstained
Trustee Burke	AYE
Trustee Ettinger	AYE
Deputy Mayor Pierce	AYE
Mayor Letica	AYE

Motioned Carried.

Mayors Report: Mayor Letica; "On Monday the Village received four bids for outside contractors for garbage pickup. The Village is reviewing the bids and will look at all the options available, including continuing in-house carting, and to decide how to best proceed. Our garbage man Barry is scheduled to retire on October 15th.

The gas main project is going well. Approximately half of the homes have been connected to the new main and Beach Plum Road was tied in today.

52 The Village is finalizing the last paperwork to access the \$50,000 grant for the dune repair. The
53 Village will be using part of its ARPA money to pay for the remaining costs that the grant does not
54 cover.

55
56 The Village staff, other than the Police Department, did not receive a pay increase in the 2020-2021
57 budget due to the financial impact of COVID. The Village will use part of its ARPA money to restore
58 the lost revenue from COVID. All the Village employees, Nancy, Emily, Doug, Barry, Ray and Bruce
59 went above and beyond during the pandemic, and this is the least the Village can do to say thank
60 you.

61
62 I would like to thank Huntington Highway Superintendent Kevin Orelli and his staff for helping the
63 Village in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida. They removed a couple of trees that fell on power lines
64 and today are repairing the shoulder of Asharoken Avenue opposite the seawall. Superintendent
65 Orelli has been a great help to the Village over the last 4 years and on behalf of the Village I would
66 like to extend our appreciation for all his assistance.

67
68 I would like to wish all our neighbors and friends celebrating Yom Kippur a good fast and a very
69 happy holiday.

70
71 **Trustees:**

72 Deputy Mayor Pierce: reported the following: On August 12th attended a meeting with Congressman
73 Suozzi regarding the American Rescue Plan. She attended the special meeting on August 13th, she
74 reviewed the minutes, vouchers, police report the upcoming ordinance on "Trees" and reviewed
75 village correspondences from village residents.

76
77 Trustee Ettinger: reported the following: During the month he had discussions with Officer
78 Mahdesian regarding the MTA agreement. The MTA will be providing 15 portable radios valued at
79 \$75,000 at no cost to the village, he thanked Officer Mahdesian and Officer Rubino. He noted that
80 due to the increase in cases of COVID a new COVID protocol for the police department has been put
81 in place. In addition, he attended the special meeting on August 13th on August 21st he attended a
82 meeting with Mayor Letica on preparation of Tropical Storm Henri. He noted that he reviewed the
83 quotes for the electronic equipment, proposals for the painting project for the police station, the
84 bids for sanitation services, correspondences, minutes, and payment vouchers.

85
86 Trustee Burke: reported the following: Reviewed the minutes, payment vouchers, the police report
87 and village correspondences and sanitation bids. She attended a training session for the marine
88 police. Attended the special meeting on "August 13th and attended the sanitation bid opening. Over
89 the holiday weekend there was a down power line, she thanked Mayor Letica for his efforts
90 reaching out to PSEG and resolving the problem. The Duck Island residents thanked him as well.

91
92 Trustee Jablonski: reported the following: He reviewed the minutes, vouchers, police report, the
93 bids correspondence from residents, regarding the catch basin project we are waiting for the
94 schedule from the contractor.

95
96 **Attorney Migatz:** Attorney Migatz reported the following: The planning and zoning board did not
97 meet last month. He provided a litigation update; he noted that one of the two lawsuits handled by
98 the insurance carrier was recently dismissed. This lawsuit was commenced by Ben Shakib, this was
99 commenced in 2019 and it arose out of the plaintiff being arrested, ordered by the village justice
100 and village court for not paying fines that were imposed. He commenced an action against the
101 village alleging various causes, false arrest, false imprisonment, assault, and battery this was all
102 dismissed on August 25th, 2021, by the supreme court. The plaintiff does have a right to appeal. We
103 will see if he chooses to do so. The remaining lawsuit our insurance carrier is handling arose out of

104 the subrogation action between the two insurance companies based upon the damages incurred to
105 the police vehicle and that action is still being handled by the insurance carriers.

106

107 **Village Treasurer:** Emily Hayes reported that the vouchers for the month of August were
108 \$55,352.92. There was a separate resolution to approve the vouchers and budget transfers.

109

110 **Police Report:** Officer Mahdesian reported that this weekend the department will be assisting
111 Northport Police Department on Cow Harbor Day. This month the department had 52 summonses
112 and 3 arrests. Water ski permits were closed out, and 53 permits were issued for the year.

113

114 **Sanitation Operator:** Barry Bradley reported that big blue is running well. Total tipping fees for
115 the month of August were \$2792.80. Trash tonnage 34.91, paper & cardboard 4.15 tons; glass .86
116 tons, plastic, and metal 1.63 tons.

117

118 **Emergency Manager:** Bill Raisch noted that we are still in Hurricane season. This is a good time to
119 review lessons for high water events.

120

121 **Superintendent of Buildings:** Doug Adil reported; he reviewed plans for installation of a
122 generator, he reviewed as-built plans for a retaining wall, he provided flood zone information to a
123 homeowner reviewed plans for solar installation, reviewed plans for a fence permit, he reviewed
124 plans for an existing home on Pheasant Lane and provided clarification for survey requirements to
125 a homeowner. He performed 17 inspections this month.

126

127 **Presentation of Bids:** Bids were opened on September 13th, 2021, Trustee Burke and Officer
128 Mahdesian were present. See attached spreadsheet.

129

1. Total Collection Bids

130

2. Dejana Industries, LLC

131

3. Bianculli Sanitation

132

4. Winter Bros. Hauling of LI., LLC

133

134 **Resolutions:**

135 **Resolution (2021-105)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the vouchers
136 for the month of August 2021 in the amount of \$55,352.92.

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

138 Trustee Jablonski AYE

139 Trustee Burke AYE

140 Trustee Ettinger AYE

141 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

142 Mayor Leticia AYE

143 Motioned Carried

144 **Resolution (2021-106)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve budget
145 transfers for August 2021.

146 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.

147 Trustee Jablonski AYE

148 Trustee Burke AYE

149 Trustee Ettinger AYE

150 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

151 Mayor Leticia AYE

152 Motioned Carried

153 **Resolution (2021-107)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby ratify the action of the
154 mayor signing the DASNY Grant Disbursement Agreement for \$50,000 to fund the Dune Restoration
155 Project.
156 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.
157 Trustee Jablonski AYE
158 Trustee Burke AYE
159 Trustee Ettinger AYE
160 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
161 Mayor Leticia AYE
162 Motioned Carried

163 **Resolution (2021-108)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the firearms
164 permit for Philip Lagana located at 178 Asharoken Avenue for clay pigeon in front of his home.
165

166 **No Motion was made. Not approved.**
167

168 **Resolution (2021-109)** Be it Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve funds from the
169 American Rescue Plan Act to be used for loss of revenue (COLA) for the following essential staff &
170 contracted members; Emily Hayes, Nancy Rittenhouse, Doug Adil, Barry Bradley, Ray Mahdesian
171 and Bruce Migatz.

172 Mayor Leticia made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.

173 Trustee Jablonski AYE
174 Trustee Burke AYE
175 Trustee Ettinger AYE
176 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
177 Mayor Leticia AYE
178 Motioned Carried

179 **Resolution (2021-110)**

180 WHEREAS, the Village of Asharoken (the "Village") is in need for restoration of its dune
181 along Asharoken Avenue, and

182 WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees finds that it is in the best interest of the Village to
183 authorize the solicitation of bids for a dune restoration project;

184 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

185 RESOLVED the Village Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to advertise for receipt of
186 competitive bids required by Section 103 of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York for
187 dune restoration work along Asharoken Avenue in accordance with the specifications provided to
188 the Village Clerk; and be it further

189 RESOLVED that the Village Clerk is hereby authorized to publicly open and read bids on set
190 day in accordance with the "Notice to Bidders"; and be it further

191 RESOLVED that the Village Clerk is hereby authorized to reject said bids for good and
192 sufficient reason and to re-advertise same under the authority herein granted without further
193 action of this Board.

194 Mayor Leticia made a motion to approve, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

195 Trustee Jablonski AYE
196 Trustee Burke AYE
197 Trustee Ettinger AYE
198 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
199 Mayor Leticia AYE
200 Motioned Carried

201 **Resolution (2021-111)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the services of
202 Manning’s Painting to paint a portion of the interior walls and doors of the police station total cost
203 \$1800.00.
204 Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.
205 Trustee Jablonski AYE
206 Trustee Burke AYE
207 Trustee Ettinger AYE
208 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
209 Mayor Letica AYE
210 Motioned Carried

211 **Resolution (2021-112)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the services of
212 Brennan Marine Service to supply and install the new electronic system in the Police Marine vessel
213 at a cost not to exceed \$12,000.00.
214 Trustee Burke made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.
215 Trustee Jablonski AYE
216 Trustee Burke AYE
217 Trustee Ettinger AYE
218 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
219 Mayor Letica AYE
220 Motioned Carried

221 **Resolution (2021-113)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board authorizes the mayor to sign the
222 Metropolitan Regional Radio System (MRRS) System Access Agreement between the Village of
223 Asharoken and Metropolitan Transportation Authority, as represented by the MTA Police
224 Department, to obtain at no cost portable radios and accessories.
225 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.
226 Trustee Jablonski AYE
227 Trustee Burke AYE
228 Trustee Ettinger AYE
229 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
230 Mayor Letica AYE
231 Motioned Carried

232 **Resolution (2021-114)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board; does hereby approve a public
233 hearing to amend Chapter 112 of the code of the Village of Asharoken entitled “Trees” to be held on
234 October 5th, 2021.
235 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.
236 Trustee Jablonski AYE
237 Trustee Burke AYE
238 Trustee Ettinger AYE
239 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
240 Mayor Letica AYE
241 Motioned Carried

242 **Resolution (2021-115)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board; does hereby approve a Special
243 meeting on September 28th at 6:30pm to review the sanitation lowest bidder.
244 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.
245 Trustee Jablonski AYE
246 Trustee Burke AYE
247 Trustee Ettinger AYE
248 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
249 Mayor Letica AYE

250 Motioned Carried

251 Old or new business:

252 Trustee Burke asked if we could arrange for a dumpster for a clean-up.

253

254 **Public Session:**

255 In-person comments:

256 1. Resident asked about the seawall and about hiring an engineering company to do a study.
257 Mayor Letica noted that we are trying to see what kind of funds the village possibly could
258 receive from Suozzi or Schumer's office.

259 The resident indicated that he has a plan that is a less expensive way to repair the seawall
260 area. He asked about an engineering company having the proper insurance policy to cover
261 any damages. He also asked about the sand replenishment from National Grid and where
262 the sand comes from.

263 Tele-conference comments:

264 2. Resident asked about the ARPA funds. How much is being allocated to loss revenue. Mayor
265 Letica pointed out approx. \$11,000. She wanted to know what the rest of the money will be
266 used for. Mayor Letica noted that the money will be used for two infrastructure projects,
267 protecting the dunes and drainage project on Asharoken Avenue.

268 Second question about the \$50,000 DASNY grant for the dunes; where the remaining funds
269 will come from, the mayor indicated ARPA funds. She also asked about the outstanding
270 invoice from the DEC. Mayor indicated that nothing has changed, a letter was sent to the
271 NYSDEC indicating that the village does not owe the money.

272 Third question was about the permit for the beach replenishment.

273

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

275 Trustee Jablonski AYE

276 Trustee Ettinger AYE

277 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

278 Mayor Letica AYE

279 Motioned Carried

280 Mayor Letica made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

281 Trustee Jablonski AYE

282 Trustee Burke AYE

283 Trustee Ettinger AYE

284 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

285 Mayor Letica AYE

286 Motioned Carried.

287

288 The September 14th, 2021, Regular board meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at
289 approximately 6:25pm.

290 Signed: _____

291 Nancy Rittenhouse, Village Clerk