

Approved

Officers Present:

Greg Letica, Mayor
Pam Pierce, Deputy Mayor
Melvin Ettinger, Trustee
Laura Burke, Trustee
Ian Jablonski, Trustee came on the call during the Police Report

Officials & Appointees Present:

Nancy Rittenhouse, Village Clerk
Bruce Migatz, Village Attorney
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 December 7, 2021, seconded by Trustee Burke.

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

Motioned Carried.

Mayors Report: Mayor Letica reported, "2021 was the year of infrastructure work in the village and it has continued on in 2022.

I am happy to report that National Grid has finally completed the gas main replacement project between Village Hall and 285 Asharoken Ave. In the early spring that section of road will be fully repaved and restriped at National Grid's cost. I would like to thank everybody for their patience, understanding and cooperation during the last six months of almost daily construction on the road.

The village will also be repaving a section of Asharoken Ave from approximately 355 Asharoken Avenue to 501 Asharoken Avenue in the spring. This project will be funded by a \$70,000 multi modal grant and money from CHIPS.

The dune repair project began this week and is going well. It is anticipated that the work will be completed by Friday. The cost of this project will be covered by a \$50,000 DASNY grant as well as funds from the American Rescue Plan Act.

The Village will be using \$17,507 of the \$66,256 ARPA money to reimburse its employees for lost wages as a result of the COVID pandemic. In the fiscal year 20-21 the Village employees voluntarily decided not to take a pay raise. A portion of the ARPA money will be used to compensate the employees for the salary increase they did not get in 20-21 and to adjust their salary for 21-22 which was lower than it would have been had the employees got a raise in 20-21.

The drainage project between 103 and 105 Asharoken Avenue has also been started and is expected to be completed soon.

On December 20th the Village received a bid in the amount of \$30,101 for the garbage truck from Dijana Industries LLC. A resolution is on the agenda tonight to accept this bid and sell Big Blue.

54 On Sunday December 19th Santa and Mrs. Claus, accompanied by an entourage from the Northport
55 fire department, paid a visit to the Village. It was a truly joyous event, and it was wonderful see the
56 excitement in the children's eyes when Santa pulled up to village hall. Pictures of the event are on
57 the village website.
58

59 **Trustees:**

60 Deputy Mayor Pierce: During the month I participated in an onsite dune restoration meeting,
61 finalized the fire protection code with Trustee Burke and Attorney Migatz, attending the Santa Visit,
62 reviewed the minutes, vouchers, police report and checks for the month.
63

64 Trustee Ettinger: During the month I had discussions with Officer Mahdesian regarding police
65 related matters. The police department is performing well. Suffolk County appointed Rodney
66 Harrison as the new Suffolk County police commissioner last month. On December 12th Officer-in-
67 Charge Mahdesian and I had a conversation with Rodney Harrison, and he expressed his support to
68 the Asharoken police department. I reviewed the final draft of the sanitation and fire prevention
69 codes, reviewed correspondences, Foil's, minutes, and the payment abstract.
70

71 Trustee Burke: During the month I reviewed the minutes, abstract, vouchers, police report, finished
72 reviewing the draft local law for fire prevention, attended the Santa visit event and took photos for
73 the website. I am working on updating the tree removal application.
74

75 Trustee Jablonski: During the month; I have been working on the drainage project. We had the old
76 gas main removed, when the contractor started, they came across utilities not on the plan and not
77 marked out; the work was stopped, and a decision was made to create catch basins 2 feet in height
78 instead of 3 feet of height in order for the catch basins to sit on top of the utilities. The engineer was
79 satisfied. We are now waiting for the contractor to resume work.
80

81 **Attorney Migatz:** Attorney Migatz reported The Zoning Board met on December 21st, 2021 and
82 heard three cases. Application by William and Barbara Raisch for side yard and front yard setback
83 variances for a new detached garage on the premises 60 South Harbor Road was denied.
84 Application of Mark and Karen Pearce for front yard setback variances for additions to single-family
85 dwelling at the premises 86 South Harbor Road was granted. Application by Lucy Verdone was
86 from two letters of denial. The application for side yard and rear yard setback variances to legalize
87 an existing deck at the premises 285 Asharoken Avenue was granted. The application for side yard
88 and rear yard setback variances to construct a solar array at the premises 285 Asharoken Avenue
89 was continued to a date to be determined. The Planning Board did not meet in December and no
90 meeting is scheduled.
91

92 **Village Treasurer:** Nancy Rittenhouse reported for Emily Hayes; the vouchers for the month of
93 December were \$38,933.09. There was a separate resolution to approve the vouchers and budget
94 transfers.
95

96 **Police Report:** Officer Mahdesian reported that they had a challenging year. During the course of
97 the year three of our members tested positive for COVID, we have two men out on leave. We can
98 maintain our patrols and no crime occurred this past year. We had six arrests, and zero burglaries.
99 Our main function is to protect and serve. We have only had 7 motor vehicle accidents during the
100 entire year. We are happy that we have the support of the commissioner and the board of trustees.
101

102 **Emergency Manager:** Bill Raisch noted that he continues to monitor the pandemic related
103 information. Also doing a review of the 2011 emergency management planning, worth reviewing
104 the 10 years that has passed.
105

106 **Superintendent of Buildings:** Doug Adil reported; he responded to an inquiry regarding a
107 homeowner on Beach Plum Drive who wanted to pump water in his crawl space out to a new
108 leaching field, we noted that permits are required from the NYSDEC. Reviewed drawings for
109 extension to an existing garage at a home on Asharoken Avenue. Responded to a report of a
110 homeowner starting a construction project on North Harbor without a permit. The homeowner was
111 notified to stop work. Reviewed as-built drawings for and addition to a home on Asharoken Avenue
112 plans were returned for correction. Provided flood zone information to a designer who is designing
113 a project for a home on Asharoken Ave. Performed 13 inspections.

114
115 **Chairman of Conservation Board:** Marty Cohen reported that the board had a busy December. We
116 had two requests for permits for tree removals. With the expansion of the board to six members;
117 we had a tie vote on one application and discussions on the other one. We issued two results to the
118 homeowners, and we hope that the winter season will be slower for tree removal permits.

119
120 Presentation of Bids by Clerk Rittenhouse: All bids were received on Monday, December 20th at
121 11:00am. Sanitation Vehicle Bids: One bid was received from DeJana Industries LLC for \$30,101.00.

122
123 **Public Hearing:**
124 Local Law #1-2022 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General
125 Municipal Law §3-c for fiscal year commencing 6/1/2022. Publication was read by Clerk
126 Rittenhouse.
127 Mayor Letica; reported that the proposed local law (1-2022) to allow the Board of Trustees to
128 override the NY State 2% tax cap. This is the first step in the budget process. The proposed local law
129 (1-2022) gives financial flexibility without the constraints of an arbitrary tax limit imposed by NY
130 State. Passage of this law gives a safety net should unexpected expenses arise, or revenue shortfalls
131 occur prior to finalizing the budget. Examples are unusual high snow removal costs or police
132 overtime incurred due to an unanticipated storm. The board is in the initial phase of preparing the
133 2022-2023 budget. I would like to stress that adoption of the override law should not be
134 interpreted or assumed to mean that the board intends to have a tax increase above the 2%
135 threshold. We must finalize the assessment roll, determine our projected revenues and
136 expenditures, and develop a realistic budget for the next fiscal year. It is in the best interest of the
137 village to adopt the law with the hope and expectation that it may not be needed. Please keep in
138 mind due to the current inflationary environment a tax increase may be needed. Since I was elected
139 Mayor 10 years ago, the average annual tax increase has been .86% and there has been no tax
140 increase for the last 6 years. We have a long history of fiscal conservatism. The Board and I will do
141 our best to develop a budget that maintains and improves all the necessary services for the village
142 and its residents for next year.

143
144 No Comments were made.

145
146 Mayor Letica made a motion to close the public hearing on 1-2022, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.
147 Trustee Jablonski AYE
148 Trustee Burke AYE
149 Trustee Ettinger AYE
150 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
151 Mayor Letica AYE
152 Motioned Carried.

153
154 Local Law #2-2022 amending local law Chapter 80 Solid Waste Management. Publication was read
155 by Clerk Rittenhouse. Mayor Letica noted that this law was needed for our new sanitation
156 procedures.

157

158 One comment was made by K. Wenderoth; she asked about section 80-4 (B); what does it mean by
159 placing in waste containers.
160 Mayor noted that this gives residents an option to place in a container.
161
162 Mayor Letica made a motion to close the public hearing on 2-2022, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.
163 Trustee Jablonski AYE
164 Trustee Burke AYE
165 Trustee Ettinger AYE
166 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
167 Mayor Letica AYE
168 Motioned Carried.
169

170 **Resolutions:**

171 **Resolution (2022-01)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the vouchers for
172 the month of December 2021 in the amount of \$38,933.09.

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

174 Trustee Jablonski AYE
175 Trustee Burke AYE
176 Trustee Ettinger AYE
177 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
178 Mayor Letica AYE
179 Motioned Carried

180
181
182 **Resolution (2022-02)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve budget transfers
183 for December 2021.

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

185 Trustee Jablonski AYE
186 Trustee Burke AYE
187 Trustee Ettinger AYE
188 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
189 Mayor Letica AYE
190 Motioned Carried

191 **Resolution (2022-03)** Be it Resolved that the Village Board does hereby accept the bid from
192 DeJana Industries LLC for \$30,101.00 for the 2007 International Sanitation vehicle as is.

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

194 Trustee Jablonski AYE
195 Trustee Burke AYE
196 Trustee Ettinger AYE
197 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
198 Mayor Letica AYE
199 Motioned Carried

200 **Resolution (2022-04)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board, does hereby approve the amended
201 local code for Chapter 80 Solid Waste Management.

202
203 ROLL CALL:

204 **Trustee Jablonski** AYE
205 **Trustee Burke** AYE
206 **Trustee Ettinger** AYE
207 **Deputy Mayor Pierce** AYE

208 **Mayor Letica** **AYE**

209

210 **Resolution (2022-05)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board, does hereby approve proposed local
211 law authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c
212 for the fiscal year commencing 6/1/2022.

213

214 ROLL CALL:

215 **Trustee Jablonski** **AYE**

216 **Trustee Burke** **AYE**

217 **Trustee Ettinger** **AYE**

218 **Deputy Mayor Pierce** **AYE**

219 **Mayor Letica** **AYE**

220

221 **Resolution (2022-06)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board, does hereby approve the scheduling
222 of a public hearing on Tuesday, February 1st, 2022, at 6:30pm at Village Hall for a proposed local
223 law amending local code Chapter 70 "Fire Prevention".

224 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.

225 Trustee Jablonski **AYE**

226 Trustee Burke **AYE**

227 Trustee Ettinger **AYE**

228 Deputy Mayor Pierce **AYE**

229 Mayor Letica **AYE**

230 Motioned Carried

231 **Resolution (2022-07)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve a street opening
232 permit for National Grid #T102443120 for a 4'x4'x3' bell hole at the corner of Asharoken Avenue
233 and Duck Island Lane for a new gas service for 355 Asharoken Avenue.

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

235 Trustee Jablonski **AYE**

236 Trustee Burke **AYE**

237 Trustee Ettinger **AYE**

238 Deputy Mayor Pierce **AYE**

239 Mayor Letica **AYE**

240 Motioned Carried

241 **Resolution (2022-08)** Be it Resolved that the Village Board, does hereby approve in accordance
242 with the provisions of the Election Law of the State of New York, the 2022 Annual Village Election in
243 the Village of Asharoken shall be held on June 21st, 2022, and be it further resolved that the offices
244 to be filled at said election and the terms thereof are as follows:

245 Mayor, two (2) years

246 Trustee, two (2) years

247 Trustee, two (2) years

248 Justice, four (4) years

249

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

252

253 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Letica.

254 Trustee Jablonski **AYE**

255 Trustee Burke **AYE**

256 Trustee Ettinger **AYE**

257 Deputy Mayor Pierce **AYE**

258 Mayor Letica **AYE**

259 Motioned Carried

260 **Resolution (2022-09)** Be it Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the following
261 budget adjustment for year end 5/31/2022 to increase base & contractual salaries due to loss of
262 revenue from COVID; account (A1410.100) Clerk Personnel for \$2070.00, (A1325.100) Treasurer
263 Personnel \$573.00, (A1440.100) Engineer Personnel \$677.00, (A3120.100) Police Personnel
264 Officer-in-Charge \$3356.00, (A8160.100), Sanitation Personnel \$640.00, Law Contractual
265 (A1420.401) \$1236.00, total budget adjustment of \$8552.00 and to increase revenue (A3089.000)
266 Other General Government for \$33,128.11 for year end 5/31/2022 and to ratify a one-time
267 adjustment for loss of revenue incurred in 5/31/2021 due to COVID for Clerk Personnel \$2010.00,
268 Treasurer Personnel \$557.00, Engineer Personnel \$657, Law Contractual \$1200, Police Personnel-
269 Officer-in-charge \$2633, Sanitation Personnel \$1899 totaling \$8955.00 to be paid out of the
270 American Rescue Plan funds (ARPA).

271

272 The above resolution adjusts staff salaries due to loss of revenue for 5/31/2021 and 5/31/2022
273 year ends and adjusts the budget for 5/31/2022 to reflect \$33,128.11 which is the first half of the
274 ARPA money received.

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

276 Trustee Jablonski AYE

277 Trustee Burke AYE

278 Trustee Ettinger AYE

279 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

280 Mayor Letica AYE

281 Motioned Carried

282 Public Session: No Comments

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

284 Trustee Jablonski AYE

285 Trustee Burke AYE

286 Trustee Ettinger AYE

287 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

288 Mayor Letica AYE

289 Motioned Carried

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

291 Trustee Jablonski AYE

292 Trustee Burke AYE

293 Trustee Ettinger AYE

294 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

295 Mayor Letica AYE

296 Motioned Carried.

297

298 The January 4th, 2022, Regular board meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at
299 approximately 7:20pm.

300 Signed: _____

301 Nancy Rittenhouse, Village Clerk