

DRAFT

Officers Present:

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

Officials & Appointees Present:

Nancy Rittenhouse, Village Clerk
Emily Hayes, Treasurer
Raymond Mahdesian, Officer-in-Charge
Doug Adil, Building Inspector
Bill Raisch, Emergency Manager

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

Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for April 5, 2022,
seconded by Trustee Jablonski.

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

Motioned Carried.

Mayors Report: Mayor Letica reported, "On Monday, April 16th the Village had a relatively strong Nor'easter. The sheet steel at the seawall sustained additional damage and at this time it is my opinion that the wall has failed. The Village is working with our local elected officials to secure funding to rebuild the wall as quickly as possible. In addition, the snow fence that was placed in the newly restored beach lot area was taken down by the storm and some of the new dune was eroded. It is ironic that the Village went through an entire winter without a major eroding storm event until just after the dune project was completed.

As I just mentioned, the Village applied for seawall repair funding from the offices of both Senator Chuck Schumer and Congressman Tom Suozzi. Asharoken requested \$14,500,000 from Senator Schumer and \$1,000,000 from Congressman Suozzi. The \$14,500,000 is a sum that would rebuild the seawall and the \$1,000,000 would be used to repair the seawall also it was the maximum we could apply for actually the maximum was \$1,200,000 per Deputy Mayor Pierce. I would like to thank both the Congressman and the Senator for including us in their requests for federal money to fix the failed seawall. In addition, I want to thank Deputy Mayor Pam Pierce for an incredible job she did putting together the two packages for funding with very little lead time. The applications were complicated and required letters of support from many people: including Northport Police Department, Northport Fire Department, Eaton's Neck Fire Department, Northport School District, NYS Senator Schumer, NYS Assemblyman Keith Brown, Huntington Supervisor Ed Smyth, Suffolk Executive Steve Bellone and others. Despite being under a

50 severe time crunch Pam came through and got everything in on time. Really an amazing job. The
51 Village has not heard anything about the BRIC grant it applied for.

52 During the month the Village also applied for a DASNY grant through the office of Senator Gaughran in
53 the amount of \$110,000. If the Village gets the grant \$40,000 is allocated for a new police car and
54 \$70,000 for a guide rail across from the seawall.

55 The drainage project at 103-105 Asharoken Avenue was completed this month with the repaving of the
56 shoulder. Again, thanks to Trustee Ian Jablonski who worked very hard to get this project done.

57 The bid package for repaving Asharoken Avenue is almost done and I hope to have this project completed
58 by the end of June. The section from Village Hall to 285 Asharoken Avenue will be paid for by National
59 Grid and the section from 355-501 will have the bulk of its cost covered by a \$70,000 Multimodal grant
60 and CHIPS money.

61 I attended the Northport Fire Department installation dinner and thanked out outgoing Chief Dennis
62 Sheridan for the terrific job he did over the last 2 years.

63 **Trustees:**

64 Deputy Mayor Pierce: During the month participated in two webinars given by Suffolk County
65 regarding upcoming Hazard Mitigation grants and completed the applications as the Mayor just
66 noted. Reviewed the stormwater report, police report, minutes, payment vouchers and met with a
67 property owner regarding exposed metal on the sound side east beach.

68
69 Trustee Ettinger: During the month I had discussions with Officer Mahdesian regarding police
70 matters. During this past month two of our officers had COVID, both officers stayed home in
71 isolation for the required period. During the month on April 18th. we monitored the storm that came
72 through, we had a telephone pole come down and PSEG came immediately to repair the pole and
73 wires. We did have to close the road for a significant period. I reviewed the payment vouchers,
74 stormwater, correspondences, FOIL's, and minutes.

75
76 Mayor Letica noted that he called the Government Affairs of PSEG and complimented the crew that
77 came out and repaired the damage pole and lines.

78
79 Trustee Jablonski: During the month; I reviewed, the minutes, payment vouchers, police report,
80 stormwater report and various correspondences.

81
82 **Attorney Migatz:** Mayor Letica reported for Attorney Migatz who was unable to attend. Nothing to
83 report on the zoning board and planning board.

84
85 **Village Treasurer:** Emily Hayes reported for the month of April. Payment vouchers totaled
86 \$107,752.70. Included in the vouchers this month was a bill from All Shore Excavation Inc for
87 \$36,500 for the drainage project and the workers compensation insurance bill for \$25,140.80.
88 There will be a separate resolution to approve the vouchers and budget transfers.

89
90 **Police Report:** Officer Mahdesian reported 41 summons and one arrest. He noted that in the past
91 few months there has been an increase in car thefts along the north shore, no car thefts recently in
92 the village. He discussed how these criminals operate, they work in groups and travel up and down
93 the streets until they find a car that is unlocked, they don't necessarily break into cars. We did have
94 an incident a few years ago. This individual came into the village with a stolen vehicle, the car
95 became disabled the individual then proceeded to check each car along Asharoken Avenue until he
96 found a car with keys in it. He noted that on April 19th a pole come down and the road was shut
97 down for several hours. Several residents needed to get through, but we couldn't move the repair
98 vehicles out of the way until the repairs were complete. Some of these individuals called Ubers and

99 were escorted across the down pole area so they could get to their destination. The road at times
100 closes and we need to prepare for these things. We also had one person stick a gun in the back of
101 another for fun, that person was arrested. Other than that we are doing well.

102
103 Mayor Letica noted that you can follow the village on Twitter we make real time postings on road
104 closures and reopening's as well.

105
106 **Superintendent of Buildings:** Doug Adil reported the following: issued denial letter for a
107 homeowner seeking to build an addition in the rear yard, plans have been referred to the zoning
108 board for a variance. Inspected a new driveway on Asharoken Avenue that turned out to be re-
109 paving of an existing driveway. Met with a homeowner to discuss specific generator location
110 requirements. Reviewed construction drawings for a new residence on Asharoken Avenue,
111 returned the plans for corrections. Discussed flood plan requirement for a third new home.
112 Provided information to a homeowner who wants to install a new swimming pool and issued a
113 letter in lieu of a C/O for an existing home at 238 Asharoken Avenue and performed 17 inspections.

114
115 **Emergency Manger:** Bill Raisch noted that he began an outreach for contacts needed for an
116 emergency response if we lose the roadway.

117
118 **Public Hearing: Stormwater Annual Report for year-end 3/9/2022.**

119 Clerk Rittenhouse read the publication.

120 Mayor Letica noted the following.

121 Every year the Village must file an annual Stormwater report called an MS4, the annual reports'
122 year end is March 9th.

123 MS4 is a (small municipal stormwater sewer system). The MS4's is regulated under EPA's Phase II
124 stormwater rule, along with the NYSDEC. The MS4 program is to develop a stormwater
125 management program that will help reduce the number of pollutants carried by stormwater run-off
126 into our water bodies (our bay, sound and wetlands). The program has six elements call minimum
127 control measurements.

- 128
- 129 • Public Education/outreach
 - 130 • Public Participation/involvement
 - 131 • Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
 - 132 • Construction Site Runoff control
 - 133 • Post construction Run-off control
 - 134 • Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping

135
136 When implementing these measurements together they are expected to result in lower or reduced
137 pollutants into our waterways. The goal is to improve water quality and recreational use of our
138 waterways. A public hearing and approval to sign the MS4 annual report is required and must be
139 filed by June 1st to the NYSDEC office, Division of Water.

140 **Ways our Village has made progress in satisfying the control measurements over the past several**
141 **years.**

142 We installed two catch valves in our main drainage pipe behind village hall to mitigate flooding
143 from Northport Bay. During exceptional tides the tide water would rise enter the leaching pool and
144 fill up the drainage pipe and catch basins on Asharoken Avenue causing saltwater flooding. By
145 installing these catch valves once the water rises to a point the valve closes preventing any salt
146 water from entering the drainage pipe and therefore the roadway.

147

148 Recently we installed several catch basins and drywells to reduce water collecting on Asharoken
149 Avenue by 103-105 Asharoken Avenue, the cost \$36,500.

150
151 Every year our drywells and catch basins are cleaned out to maintain clean basins for the collection
152 of stormwater runoff.

153
154 Our Building Department continues to educate our contractors and residents of the importance of
155 minimizing stormwater runoff, by having the necessary stormwater control measures put in place
156 such as hay bales and slit screening. Our building department continues to review applications for
157 driveways and aprons and incorporate proper drainage systems to avoid stormwater runoff.

158 Mayor Letica opened the public hearing.

159 1. A residents noted correction to the minutes, Mayor Letica noted this is a public hearing
160 for the stormwater annual report.

161 No comments on the stormwater annual report.

162 Mayor Letica made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

163 Trustee Jablonski AYE

164 Trustee Ettinger AYE

165 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

166 Mayor Letica AYE

167 Motioned Carried.

168
169 Mayor Letica introduced Carole Casamassima Chairperson for Save the Fireworks and Linda Letica
170 chairperson for AVT-Shirts; Jean Bonawandt was unable to attend but is a Co-Chair with Carole
171 Casamassima. Both committee chairs presented the village with a check in the amount of \$13,000 to
172 towards the cost of the barge, tugboat, and fireworks event.

173
174 Mayor Letica thanked the committees for all their hard work and generous donation. It is amazing
175 effort and gets better every year.

176

177 **Resolutions:**

178
179 **Resolution (2022-46)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board approves the budget transfers for the
180 month of April 2022.

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

182 Trustee Jablonski AYE

183 Trustee Ettinger AYE

184 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

185 Mayor Letica AYE

186 Motioned Carried.

187
188 **Resolution (2022-47)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the vouchers for
189 the month of April 2022 in the amount of \$107,752.70.

190
191 Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

192 Trustee Jablonski AYE

193 Trustee Ettinger AYE

194 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

195 Mayor Letica AYE
196 Motioned Carried.
197
198 **Resolution (2022-48)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the Mayor to
199 sign the MS4 Stormwater Annual Report for year-end March 9th, 2022, subject to board’s approval.
200
201 Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.
202 Trustee Jablonski AYE
203 Trustee Ettinger AYE
204 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
205 Mayor Letica AYE
206 Motioned Carried.
207
208 **Resolution (2022-49)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby appoint the following
209 election inspectors, Hillary Candelora as Chairperson, Debbie Manning, Mary Brabender and
210 Barbara Raisch for the June 21, 2022, Village Election from 12 Noon to 9PM.
211 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.
212 Trustee Jablonski AYE
213 Trustee Ettinger AYE
214 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
215 Mayor Letica AYE
216 Motioned Carried.
217
218 **Resolution (2022-50)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby accept the donation from
219 “Save the Fireworks” committee in the amount of \$11,250.00 these funds will support the cost of
220 the barge, tugboat and the 2022 Fireworks Event.
221
222 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.
223 Trustee Jablonski AYE
224 Trustee Ettinger AYE
225 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
226 Mayor Letica AYE
227 Motioned Carried.
228
229 **Resolution (2022-51)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby accept the donation from
230 “AVT-Shirts” committee in the amount of \$1,750.00 these funds will support the cost of the barge,
231 tugboat and the 2022 Fireworks Event.
232
233 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.
234 Trustee Jablonski AYE
235 Trustee Ettinger AYE
236 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
237 Mayor Letica AYE
238 Motioned Carried.
239
240 **Resolution (2022-52)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve a tent permit for
241 David & Jeannine Halpern located at 3 Clam Shell Lane from May 19, 2022, thru May 24, 2022.
242 Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.
243 Trustee Jablonski AYE
244 Trustee Ettinger AYE
245 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
246 Mayor Letica AYE
247 Motioned Carried.

248 **Resolution (2022-53)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve a tent permit for
249 Elizabeth Gold located at 205 Asharoken Avenue from June 24, 2022, thru June 27, 2022.

250

251 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

252 Trustee Jablonski AYE

253 Trustee Ettinger AYE

254 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

255 Mayor Letica AYE

256 Motioned Carried.

257

258 **Resolution (2022-54)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the budget
259 adjustment for 5/31/2022 to increase Public Works-Catch Basin A1490.400 for \$36,500.00 and
260 increase Start up Income (A1000.00) for \$36,500.00.

261

262 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

263 Trustee Jablonski AYE

264 Trustee Ettinger AYE

265 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

266 Mayor Letica AYE

267 Motioned Carried.

268

269 **New Business:**

270 Mayor Letica brought up any new business to the board, Trustee Jablonski noted when we plan the
271 guide rail project, we should allow space for a payload to get through.

272

273 Mayor Letica opened Public Session:

274

275 Public Session:

276 1. A resident noted that he wanted the minutes to reflect accurately a name that was
277 mentioned during last month's meeting. Line item 155 and 165 a name was mentioned by
278 the mayor which both my wife and I avoided mentioning. If there is an issue down the road,
279 we would have that as recourse regarding the law. For the record we would ask that the
280 name be inserted.

281 Same resident, Regarding the Seawall. The resident noted this is a concern for his family and
282 noted that there is an outstanding bill from the NYSDEC for \$292,000.

283 Mayor Letica noted that the village has a feasibility reserve set up but added that the village
284 received a letter from the DEC approximately a year ago noting the outstanding balance. We
285 wrote the DEC back indicating that we are not responsible for the outstanding balance
286 because the feasibility study was never produced or completed. We believe that the DEC
287 will not follow up with the outstanding bill since the study was never completed.

288 The same resident asked about the BRIC grant and how much the village will have to
289 contribute if the grant is awarded and why a resolution was not approved.

290 Mayor Letica noted that a resolution is not necessary at this point only an application for
291 the BRIC was submitted. Nothing has been awarded at this time. If we are awarded the
292 grant and there is a local share attached to it, I will do everything I can to have the Town of
293 Huntington partner with the Village.

294 Same resident: As far as the Feasibility Study and the \$292,000 how much of it has to do
295 with the Town of Huntington.

296 Mayor Letica noted this predates our partnership and was originally incurred under former
297 Mayor Kelly.

298 Same resident: Do we have any commitments from the Town of Huntington?

299 Mayor Letica noted that we are not responsible for 5 cents; the DEC is not trying to collect
300 the outstanding invoice since they did not provide the study. As far as the BRIC grant we

301 always have the option we want to commit or not. We have the Feasibility Study reserves
302 fund put aside which can be repurposed for design and planning for the seawall.
303 We just applied for over \$15,000,000 million dollars and are looking for other grants as
304 well. We are working on the new HMGP grant which includes the COVID relief funds.
305 Same resident, he noted that he is concerned about the seawall.
306 Mayor Letica noted that if the wall fails the USACOE is responsible to fix the wall at that
307 point in time.

308
309 2. A resident discussed the condition of the beach after LIPA deposited the sand. This fall we
310 should be getting sand again. He explained that he separated the sand out of a 10-pound
311 sample. He noted that a significant amount was rocks and not sand. We are missing more
312 sand which was substituted with rocks. We would need 28,400 of there fill to get 45,000CY
313 of sand. This should be raised in October with National Grid. Is there some way to audit?
314 Mayor Letica noted that we are considering working with an engineering company to verify
315 the material and amounts. We also have copies of the delivery tickets to verify the tonnage.

316
317 3. A resident noted that maybe we can find a different time of the year where we would have
318 fewer storms.
319 Mayor Letica noted that there are restrictions on the time of the year because of the piping
320 plovers.

321
322 4. A resident commented on the placement of sand. Suggested that the sand should be placed
323 closer to the preserve property since it will travel down the beach anyway.
324 Mayor Letica noted that the sand is supposed to placed 1,000 from the jetty. We will discuss
325 this with National Grid.

326
327 Mayor Letica made a motion to exit public session, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

328 Trustee Jablonski AYE

329 Trustee Ettinger AYE

330 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

331 Mayor Letica AYE

332 Motioned Carried

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

334 Trustee Jablonski AYE

335 Trustee Ettinger AYE

336 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

337 Mayor Letica AYE

338 Motioned Carried.

339

340 The May 3, 2022, Regular board meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at approximately
341 7:05pm.

342 Signed: _____

343 Nancy Rittenhouse, Village Clerk