

Incorporated Village of Asharoken  
Board of Trustees Meeting & public hearing in-person and teleconference  
Held on Tuesday, February 7, 2023 6:30pm  
Village Hall  
Approximate Attendance (12)

APPROVED

**Officers Present:**

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

**Officials & Appointees Present:**

Michelle Glennon, Village Clerk  
Bruce Migatz, Village Attorney  
Raymond Mahdesian, Officer-in-Charge  
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 January 3, 2023, seconded by Deputy Trustee Burke.

Trustee Jablonski	AYE
Trustee Burke	AYE
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 January 17, 2023 seconded by Trustee Burke.

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

Motioned Carried.

**Mayors Report:**

Deputy Mayor Pam Pierce and I met with officials from the town of Huntington to discuss how we can work together to use the \$1,000,000 in federal funds to repair the damaged seawall. As a first step, the Town graciously supplied the Village with several templates it could use to produce a Request For Proposal from engineering firms for design, permitting and construction supervision. In addition, we discussed the \$200,000 local share that will also will be required. The Village will also work to allocate the \$50,000 grant from NYS from Assemblyman Keith Brown toward the larger project to count toward the local share.

The Village is continuing to work on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2023-24. This is proving to be a very challenging task. Because of the effects of very high inflation, it is likely that there will need to be a

52 tax increase for the first time in seven years. Among the factors driving this are: increased costs for fire,  
53 paramedic and EMS protection, health insurance, police retirement, contractual police salary increases  
54 and insurance costs. On the revenue side, decreases in mortgage tax and building permits will impact  
55 the final budget. As more information becomes available, I will let you know.

56 During the month I had multiple conversations with local officials to determine the status of when the  
57 Village can expect to get its payment from NYS from the shared services program. Suffolk County  
58 assured me that they are continuing to do all they can to secure the funds they have requested from the  
59 state and once they have them Asharoken's share will be distributed to the Village.

60 The fire protection contract with the Village of Northport was finalized during the month. The 5-year  
61 contract for fire, paramedic and EMS services calls for a 2% annual increase as well as an additional  
62 contractual increase for the expansion of paramedic coverage to 24 hours a day. I would like to thank  
63 Northport Mayor Donna Koch for her hard work to make the new contract one that is in the best  
64 interest of both Villages.

65 The Village went through a second round of wild weather on Friday and Saturday February 3-4. A  
66 wicked blast of cold air accompanied by very strong NW winds created havoc. One house suffered  
67 damage from a fire caused by a generator. Thanks go out to the Northport FD who arrived quickly on  
68 scene, braved the frigid weather, and put the fire out before the house sustained significant damage.  
69 Several parts of the Village lost power. On Friday night a large tree fell on several electrical wires which  
70 resulted in the loss of power to all of Eaton's Neck until early afternoon on Saturday. I am in the process  
71 of speaking with PSEG to see if there is a way to change the wiring so that Bevin Road can still have  
72 power if trees fall on wires past it on Asharoken Avenue. I would also like to thank the PSEG line crews  
73 and the TOH Highway Department, Andre Sorrentino Superintendent, for braving the cold weather to  
74 get the road cleared and the power restored.

75

76 **Trustees:**

77 Deputy Mayor Pierce: During the month I reviewed the minutes, vouchers and police report,  
78 worked on the fence code with Trustee Burke and reviewed the fire and marine contracts.

79

80 Trustee Ettinger: During the past month, as usual, I had numerous meetings and conversations  
81 with Officer-in-Charge Ray Mahdesian regarding a number of police related matters. Once  
82 again, I am happy to report that we had another "good month" that Ray Mahdesian will comment  
83 on further in his report. Also during the month, Ray and I met several times regarding the new  
84 Police Budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Toward the end of last month we finalized our draft  
85 budget and submitted it to the Village Clerk and Mayor for their review and comments. Ray and  
86 I believe that we once again prepared a very fiscally responsible Police Budget for the coming  
87 year. In addition, on Friday night February 3<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday morning February 4<sup>th</sup>, I monitored  
88 the wind storm together with our police. Unfortunately, a large tree came down on the road, near  
89 551 Asharoken Avenue, forcing us to close the road for a couple of hours and where many  
90 residents lost electricity for a number of hours. In addition, there was a small house fire,  
91 apparently caused by a generator, that caused some minor damage to a garage on the property.

92 In addition, some other matters that I was involved in during the month were as follows:

- 93
- On January 17<sup>th</sup>, I attended the Special BOT Meeting regarding the certification of  
94 unpaid village real estate taxes,

- 95 • I also reviewed the foils that we received,
- 96 • I also reviewed some correspondences that we received,
- 97 • I also reviewed last month's BOT Regular Meeting's Minutes, the Special BOT
- 98 Meeting's Minutes
- 99 • I also reviewed this month's Abstract for the Payment Vouchers.

100  
 101 Trustee Burke: During the month I reviewed the police report, minutes, abstract, and worked on the  
 102 fence code and application. Reviewed the fire and marine contracts, attending the Jan 17<sup>th</sup> special  
 103 meeting and would like to hold a public hearing for approval of the revised fence code.

104  
 105 Trustee Jablonski: During the month; I reviewed, the minutes, abstract, police report and vouchers.

106  
 107 **Attorney Migatz:** The Zoning Board did not meet last month, the Planning Board did not meet last  
 108 month. The Zoning Board will be meeting this month on February 13<sup>th</sup>. I reviewed the Fire  
 109 Protection contract with the mayor and I reviewed the Marine Equipment License with the mayor. I  
 110 worked with Trustee Burke and drafted proposed revisions to the fence code. We still have no  
 111 argument date from the Appellate Division for the dock litigation.

112  
 113 **Village Treasurer:** Mayor Letica reported for the month of January were \$60,638.14. There was a  
 114 separate resolution to approve the vouchers and budget transfers.

115  
 116 **Police Report:** Officer Mahdesian reported the department dealt with the unexpected storm. They  
 117 had a busy month, issuing 75 summonses.

118  
 119 **Superintendent of Buildings:** Doug Adil reported; met with landscape designer at 25 Bevin Rd,  
 120 reviewed fence application for 148 Asharoken Ave, reviewed dock permit for Pearse property for  
 121 the Town of Huntington. Reviewed demo application for house at 238 Asharoken Ave, various other  
 122 inspections performed.

123  
 124 **Resolutions:**

125  
 126 **Resolution (2023-07)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board approves the budget transfers for the  
 127 month of January 2023.

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

129	Trustee Jablonski	AYE
130	Trustee Burke	AYE
131	Trustee Ettinger	AYE
132	Deputy Mayor Pierce	AYE
133	Mayor Letica	AYE

134  
 135 **Resolution (2023-08)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the vouchers for  
 136 the month of January 2023 in the amount of \$60,638.14.

137 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded Trustee Ettinger

138	Trustee Jablonski	AYE
139	Trustee Burke	AYE
140	Trustee Ettinger	AYE
141	Deputy Mayor Pierce	AYE
142	Mayor Letica	AYE

143  
 144 **Resolution (2022-12)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby appoint a committee of  
 145 the Board of Trustees to include, Mayor Letica, Deputy Mayor Pierce, Trustee Ettinger, Trustee

146 Burke and Trustee Jablonski as the Board of Assessment Review for the purpose of reviewing any  
147 complaints regarding the 2022/2023 assessments filed on or before Grievance Day, February 15th,  
148 2022 and to be reviewed in-person during the hours from 12:00pm to 4:00pm at Village Hall, One  
149 Asharoken Avenue, Northport, NY 11768.

150

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

152 Trustee Jablonski AYE

153 Trustee Burke AYE

154 Trustee Ettinger AYE

155 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

156 Mayor Letica AYE

157

158 **Resolution (2023-09)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby appoint a committee of  
159 the Board of Trustees to include, Mayor Letica, Deputy Mayor Pierce, Trustee Ettinger, Trustee  
160 Burke and Trustee Jablonski as the Board of Assessment Review for the purpose of reviewing any  
161 complaints regarding the 2023/2024 assessments filed on or before Grievance Day, February 21<sup>st</sup>,  
162 2023 and to be reviewed in-person during the hours from 12:00pm to 4:00pm at Village Hall, One  
163 Asharoken Avenue, Northport, NY 11768.

164

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

166 Trustee Jablonski AYE

167 Trustee Burke AYE

168 Trustee Ettinger AYE

169 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

170 Mayor Letica AYE

171

172 **Resolution (2023-10)** Be It Resolved that the Board of Trustees approves a \$100.00 weekly  
173 increase for the Village Building Inspector effective immediately. Mayor Letica made a motion to  
174 approve seconded by Trustee Burke

175 Trustee Jablonski AYE

176 Trustee Burke AYE

177 Trustee Ettinger AYE

178 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

179 Mayor Letica AYE

180

181 **Resolution (2023-11)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board, does hereby authorize the Mayor to  
182 sign the 5 year renewal contract with the Village of Northport to furnish fire protection, emergency  
183 medical services and paramedic services occurring in the Incorporated Village of Asharoken.  
184 Contract to be in force from January 1, 2023 until December 31, 2027.

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

186 Trustee Jablonski AYE

187 Trustee Burke AYE

188 Trustee Ettinger AYE

189 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

190 Mayor Letica AYE

191

192 **Resolution (2023-12)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the Mayor to  
193 sign the Revocable Marine Equipment License issued by New York State Parks, Recreation and  
194 Preservation for the 2011 Angler Registration #NY9094GC to be used for marine law enforcement  
195 purposes and training only, dated January 6, 2023.

196 Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.  
197 Trustee Jablonski AYE  
198 Trustee Burke AYE  
199 Trustee Ettinger AYE  
200 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE  
201 Mayor Letica AYE  
202

203 **Resolution (2023-13)** Be It Resolved that the Mayor does hereby appoint Deidre Lento as Village  
204 Photographer without compensation.

205 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.  
206 Trustee Jablonski AYE  
207 Trustee Burke AYE  
208 Trustee Ettinger AYE  
209 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE  
210 Mayor Letica AYE  
211

212 **Resolution (2023-14)** Be It Resolved that the Board of Trustees authorizes the Village Clerk to  
213 solicit RFPS for the engineering, design, permitting & supervision of construction for the seawall in  
214 conjunction with the \$1,000,000.00 federal funds designated for the project.

215 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Letica.  
216 Trustee Jablonski AYE  
217 Trustee Burke AYE  
218 Trustee Ettinger AYE  
219 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE  
220 Mayor Letica AYE  
221

222 **Resolution (2023-15)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board, pursuant to Article 14 of the Real  
223 Property Tax Law of the State of New York, determines to collect the amount of such unpaid taxes  
224 levied or assessed for the year 2022/2023 as certified by the Board of Trustees at the Special  
225 Meeting held January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, by a tax lien sale in accordance with procedures authorized by the  
226 Board of Trustees in the manner and after the form and resolution, certified by the Clerk, shall be  
227 transmitted forthwith to the Treasurer of the Village with the account, affidavit, and certificate of  
228 such unpaid taxes and is authorized and directed to cause to be published in the official paper of the  
229 Village, once each week for three consecutive weeks, a list as shown in the tax roll, with the amount  
230 of the tax, penalties, and charges thereon, excepting there from such parcels of property on which  
231 the Village holds and owns one or more unredeemed certificates of tax sale; and also a notice that  
232 the said real estate will, on a day subsequent to the expiration of said three weeks to be determined  
233 by said Village Clerk and specified in said notice, be sold at a place in said Village to be designated  
234 by said Village Clerk, to discharge the tax, penalties, and charges aforesaid, which may be due  
235 thereon at the time of such sale, and that the said Village Clerk, at the time and place specified in  
236 said notice, proceed with the sale of said real estate upon which such taxes are unpaid, as set forth  
237 above, and continue the same from day to day until the sale is completed. That such real estate  
238 shall be sold subject to any unpaid assessments thereon levied by the Village of Asharoken and also  
239 subject to any unpaid tax liens purchased and held by the Village.  
240

241 AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in all cases where no bid shall be made on a lot or parcel of  
242 land so offered for sale for an amount sufficient to pay the said tax, penalties, and charges, the said  
243 premises shall be deemed to have been sold to and purchased by the Village of Asharoken, New  
244 York

245 The Village Clerk has advised that the tax sale referred to in the foregoing resolution would be held  
246 on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 10am to 12 noon, at the Village Hall, 1 Asharoken Avenue,  
247 Northport, New York, and that the publication of the list of properties to be sold would commence  
248 on or about February 16, 2023, and be it further resolved that the Village Board reserves its right to  
249 authorize and direct the Village Treasurer on behalf of the Village to reject any and all bids for  
250 parcels of lands listed in the annual tax lien sale to be held as set forth herein and, to bid in and  
251 purchase if necessary the same for the Village.  
252 AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village Board reserves the right to withhold any and all said  
253 tax liens from sale and/or to cancel said tax lien sale.

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

255	Trustee Jablonski	AYE
256	Trustee Burke	AYE
257	Trustee Ettinger	AYE
258	Deputy Mayor Pierce	AYE
259	Mayor Letica	AYE
260	Motioned Carried	

261 Mayor Letica asked about new or old business. None was brought up by the Board.

262 Public Session:

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

264	Trustee Jablonski	AYE
265	Trustee Burke	AYE
266	Trustee Ettinger	AYE
267	Deputy Mayor Pierce	AYE
268	Mayor Letica	AYE
269	Motioned Carried	

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

271	Trustee Jablonski	AYE
272	Trustee Burke	AYE
273	Trustee Ettinger	AYE
274	Deputy Mayor Pierce	AYE
275	Mayor Letica	AYE
276	Motioned Carried.	

277

278 The February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Regular board meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at  
279 approximately 6:54pm.

280 Signed: 

281 Michelle Glennon, Village Clerk