

Approved

**Officers Present:**

Greg Letica, Mayor  
Pamela Pierce, Deputy Mayor  
Melvin Ettinger, 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

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

Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for August 2, 2022,  
seconded by Deputy Mayor Burke.

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

Motioned Carried.

**Mayors Report:** The primary focus for the month of August was continued efforts to improve the seawall area. In early August the Village assisted by the Town of Huntington Highway Department, led by Superintendent Andre Sorrentino, did a repair to the two sinkhole areas. Approximately 173 tons of rock were added to the wall in an effort to strengthen it for the upcoming hurricane and nor'easter season. The project will be paid for by utilizing part of a \$50,000 grant that State Assemblyman Keith Brown secured for the Village. The total cost of the project was \$10,106.65 for the materials and \$8160 for GEI's engineering fees. This leaves the Village approximately \$32,708.35 that can use as needed for future repairs until the grant expires on May 5, 2026. The Village deemed it prudent to keep a reserve for now as any future comprehensive reconstruction of the wall and beach are probably years away. Until then it is likely that parts of the wall will need to be fixed.

On Thursday August 24<sup>th</sup> Deputy Mayor Pam Pierce, Clerk Michelle Glennon and I had a kickoff meeting with Christa Hay from the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services to discuss the \$1,000,000 Hazard Mitigation Grant for Sea Wall Shoreline/Rehabilitation that was awarded to the Village in July. This money funds the Village to engage an engineering firm to review the entire seawall area, including the beach, and come up with a comprehensive reconstruction design. The Village expects to start writing up a Request for Proposal for engineers in the next few months.

The Village continued to work with the NYS DOT to finalize the FAPP form in order to go forward with the \$1,000,000 earmark that was secured for Asharoken by Senator Chuck

52 Schumer. This money is for construction to rebuild the most deteriorated section of the wall. The  
53 Village next week will interview an engineering firm to assist it with completion of the FAPP  
54 form as well as working on RFPs for both of these projects.  
55

56 During the month I wrote to Town of Huntington Supervisor Ed Smyth and the members of the  
57 Town Board requesting that the Town assist Asharoken in paying for the local share of the  
58 earmark and grant. The maximum local share of the grant is \$107,000 and the local share of the  
59 earmark is \$250,000. These numbers will be lower if not all of the monies are used. I also spoke  
60 with State Senator Matera and Assemblyman Brown to request NYS assistance for the local  
61 share cost. Although the Village has sufficient funds in a reserve account to cover these costs, it  
62 will do all it can to get the Town and State to be financial partners as well.  
63

64 Deputy Mayor Pierce and I participated in a very productive conference call with Assemblyman  
65 Brown and people from the Village of Northport and the Town of Huntington. This call covered  
66 the seawall as well as Village of Northport and Town of Huntington projects. The Village of  
67 Northport was able to share the name of their engineer who I hope will be able to work with  
68 Asharoken to complete the DOT paperwork and help with the two RFPs for seawall engineering  
69 and construction. Overall, it was a very productive call.  
70

71 At last Friday's seawall meeting Village Resident John Ross's asserted that, according to Jason  
72 Shea of the USACOE, the ACOE would consider overseeing a reconstruction of just the seawall  
73 area. In an effort to verify this I emailed Jason Shea. I informed Mr. Shea of what John Ross said  
74 and asked Mr. Shea to provide a good time when Mr. Ross, Assemblyman Keith Brown and  
75 myself could speak and get more details. Today I received an email reply and I quote, "I have not  
76 stated USACE's support, or lack thereof, for any specific plan. The USACE position has not  
77 changed since the study was terminated in February 2020." The ACOE's position is that it will  
78 only fix the seawall area if it is part of a restoration of the entire beach from the power plant to  
79 the seawall. This plan was overwhelmingly turned down by the Village residents in 2016  
80 because of the public beach access requirements. Mr. Shea went on to say that, "What I did  
81 communicate is that USACE would come to the table to discuss possible paths forward but this  
82 request must come through NYSDEC."  
83

84 Deputy Mayor Pierce and I attended a meeting sponsored by State Senator Mattera at the seawall  
85 last week. The purpose of the meeting was to have Rob Caralaco, head of District 1 of the  
86 NYSDEC, visit the site and give us his input as to what we could expect going forward. The  
87 takeaway message was that reconstruction of a beach in front of the wall was likely the best  
88 solution and that hard structures like breakwaters were very unlikely to be approved.  
89

90 During the month I also had a chance to have a brief conversation about the seawall with Matt  
91 Chelbus from the NYSDEC. We agreed to talk again after the Labor Day weekend.  
92

93 The Village received bids on its decommissioned Crown Victoria police car during the month.  
94 There is a resolution on the agenda to accept the highest bid.  
95

96 I would like to thank the Huntington Highway Department for helping the Village by fixing  
97 numerous potholes on Bevin Road. The Village has decided to hold off repaving until next  
98 spring. An advantage to waiting is that the Village will receive another deposit from NYS into  
99 its CHIPS account to pay for a greater share of the project.  
100

101 **Trustees:**

102 Deputy Mayor Pierce: During the month I participated in the meetings and two conference calls  
103 regarding the seawall. I reviewed the minutes, vouchers and police report. I submitted the  
104 Asharoken Hazard Mitigation plan to Suffolk County. This is updated approximately every five  
105 years.

106  
107 Trustee Ettinger: Good Evening Everyone.

108 During the past month, as usual, I spent time meeting with Officer-in-Charge Ray Mahdesian on  
109 various Police related matters and once again, I'm happy to report that we had another good month,  
110 that Ray will comment on further in his report.

111 I also want to advise you that our new Part-Time Police Officer Pat Ennis, that was sworn in early  
112 July, has been successfully completed his initial training and he has been performing assigned tours  
113 during August and he appears to be performing very well.

114 Also, during the month we solicited bids for our old Ford Crown Vic unmarked police car. We  
115 received five (5) written bids and there is a resolution on tonight's Agenda to accept the highest bid.  
116 In this regard, we also completed the necessary modifications to the older Dodge Durango police  
117 car, A-4, which is now our the "new" unmarked police car.

118  
119 Some other matters that I was involved in during the month are as follows:

- 120 • I reviewed some correspondences that we received from some of our residents,
- 121 • I also reviewed the foils that were received during the past month,
- 122 • I also reviewed last month's BOT Regular Meeting's Minutes and finally,
- 123 • I also reviewed this month's Abstracts for the Payment Vouchers.

124  
125 Trustee Jablonski: During the month; I reviewed the minutes, vouchers and police report.

126  
127 **Attorney Migatz:** The Zoning Board did meet on August 17<sup>th</sup>, one case was heard, Dr. Anthony  
128 Finuoli. That was an application for a side yard/rear yard setback to construct a 315 ft deck at 9  
129 Duck Island Lane. The Zoning Board requested the applicant to reduce the size of the deck to 250 sq  
130 ft and increase the side yard setback and the applicant agreed to do that so the application was  
131 granted on the condition that the side yard setback is increased to 24 ft and the size of the deck is  
132 reduced to 250 sq ft. The Zoning Board will meet again September 27<sup>th</sup>, the Planning Board did not  
133 meet. There is still no date from the Appellate Division for the appeal on the dock litigation.

134  
135 **Village Treasurer:** Emily Hayes reported for the month of August. The vouchers totaled  
136 \$65,418.44. Included in the vouchers this month was a bill from A&R Materials of \$10,106.65 for  
137 seawall repairs along with a bill from GEI Consultants for \$5,440.00 for engineering of the seawall  
138 repair. There will be a separate resolution to approve the vouchers. There are no budget transfers  
139 this month.

140  
141 **Police Report:** Officer Mahdesian stated that the marine patrol was very successful, the police boat  
142 will be used again in three weeks for Cow Harbor weekend to assist Northport Police. There were  
143 33 summonses this past month, 16 of which were for speeding.

144  
145 **Superintendent of Buildings:** Doug Adil reported the following: Provided clarification of the  
146 Living fence code requirements to a resident on Asharoken Av.

- 147 ▪ Reviewed drawings for an addition to a home at 284 Asharoken, and subsequently  
148 issued a Letter of Denial for a building permit due to non-conforming setbacks.
- 149 ▪ Issued a Denial Letter for proposed alterations to a home at 327 Asharoken Av, due to  
150 non-conforming exterior staircase and trash enclosure.

- 151     ▪ Requested certification regarding the height of the new garage at 276 Asharoken Av,  
152         confirmed in person that it is less than 24 feet above average grade.  
153     ▪ Reviewed foundation location surveys for new constructions at 238, 276 and 399  
154         Asharoken Av.  
155     ▪ Issued a gas test report for use by National Grid for new gas service at 219 Asharoken  
156         Av. and upgraded gas service at 148 Asharoken Av.  
157     ▪ Revise Denial Letter for a home at 3 Clamshell Lane due to inconsistencies between the  
158         site plan and survey.  
159

160     **Resolutions:**

161     **Resolution (2023-90)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the vouchers for  
162     the month of August 2023 in the amount of \$65,418.44.

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

164     Trustee Jablonski                             AYE

165     Trustee Ettinger                             AYE

166     Deputy Mayor Pierce                         AYE

167     Mayor Letica                                 AYE

168     Motioned Carried

169  
170     **Resolution (2023-91)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the mayor to  
171     sign the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (NYS DHSES)  
172     agreement for the Sea Wall Shoreline/Rehabilitation Scoping.

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

174     Trustee Jablonski                             AYE

175     Trustee Ettinger                             AYE

176     Deputy Mayor Pierce                         AYE

177     Mayor Letica                                 AYE

178     Motioned Carried

179  
180     **Resolution (2023-92)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby accept the bid of  
181     \$3,157.00 from Alex Bernhart for the 2008 Crown Victoria police vehicle to be paid by certified  
182     check. Sale to be completed by September 8<sup>th</sup>.

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

184     Trustee Jablonski                             AYE

185     Trustee Ettinger                             AYE

186     Deputy Mayor Pierce                         AYE

187     Mayor Letica                                 AYE

188     Motioned Carried

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190     **Resolution (2023-93)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve a permit  
191     application submitted by Philip Evangelista for 76 Bevin Road to have a temporary tent erected  
192     from October 4<sup>th</sup> until October 11<sup>th</sup>.

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

194     Trustee Jablonski                             AYE

195     Trustee Ettinger                             AYE

196     Deputy Mayor Pierce                         AYE

197     Mayor Letica                                 AYE

198     Motioned Carried

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200

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202

203 **Mayor Letica opened Public Session:**  
204 One resident spoke about the meeting that he attended that took place at the seawall on September  
205 1<sup>st</sup> with Senator Mattera and Assemblyman Brown. He then reviewed his view of the events that  
206 transpired.

207 A discussion involving the Village Board, the Village Attorney and a number of residents then took  
208 place regarding the seawall, conditions of the grants that have been awarded to the Village and the  
209 use of the money pegged for the feasibility study.

210 Another resident questioned whether the removal of the groins on the beach  
211 would benefit the area of the seawall.

212  
213 Mayor Letica made a motion to exit public session, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

214  
215 Trustee Jablonski AYE  
216 Trustee Ettinger AYE  
217 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE  
218 Mayor Letica AYE  
219 Motioned Carried

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

221 Trustee Jablonski AYE  
222 Trustee Ettinger AYE  
223 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE  
224 Mayor Letica AYE  
225 Motioned Carried.

226  
227 The September 5, 2023 board meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at approximately  
228 7:14pm.

229  
230 Signed:   
231 Michelle Glennon, Village Clerk