

Mayor's Report May 2 2023

I would like to thank the Asharoken Garden Club for their very generous donation of \$750 to help the Village buy oysters to restock Duck Island Harbor this year. Village Emergency Manager Bill Raisch accepted the donation at the AGC's annual luncheon. Last year, Bill spearheaded a plan to grow the baby oysters on the marine signs and then distribute over 5000 of them into Duck Island Harbor in early October.

After extensive conversations with PSEG, I am happy to report that they have agreed to make some modifications to the power grid in Asharoken and Eaton's Neck to make our electrical service more reliable. Bevin Road will have a redundant service and will be able to remain energized if the rest of EN needs to be turned off. The planned modifications are described below from an email I received from PSEG:

1-The first project scope includes extending the current underground cable approximately 1 mile from Bevin Road to North Creek Rd via directional drill. This project will also install a switch located just west of Bevin Road and a supervisory smart switch, with sectionalizing capabilities, at North Creek Rd.

If there are future faults on the underground system, there is switching redundancy to restore power faster. If there are faults on the overhead system, the redundancy will reduce the number of customers that will experience an outage. Estimated construction start is Q1 2024.

2-The second project scope is replacing the overhead switch feeding Asharoken and EN with a newer smart switch that will be configured to help improve and reduce momentary outages (<5 minute outages). Estimated construction start Q2/Q3 2023.

I have several important items to report on the seawall. The Village finally received the Grant Distribution Agreement for the \$50,000 grant that Assemblyman Keith Brown got for Asharoken. As soon as the final document is returned from NYS the Village and Town will commence a plan to shore up the area of the collapsing sheet steel and sink hole.

Additionally, on April 28th Trustee Ian Jablonski, Clerk Michelle Glennon and I met with the NYS Department of Transportation for a Local Project Initiation Meeting for the \$1,000,000 earmark that Senator Schumer and Congressman Suozzi obtained for the Village. This meeting reviewed all of the steps required to access the money. There were two major takeaways from the meeting. This is going to be a very complicated and long process that is likely going to take several years to complete. There is also a local share of \$250,000. The Village plans to work with the Town of Huntington and NYS to help with this obligation.

The Village received final approval of the \$100,000 grant that former State Senator Jim Gaughran acquired for Asharoken. I met with a paving company this month to get a rough estimate on the cost of resurfacing the road. It appears that between the grant and Village CHIPS money the cost of the project could be fully covered. The next step is to bid out the project.