

**Officers Present:**

**DRAFT**

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

**Officials & Appointees Present:**

Nancy Rittenhouse, Village Clerk  
Bruce Migatz, Village Attorney- via teleconference  
Emily Hayes, Treasurer  
Barry Bradley, Sanitation Operator  
Raymond Mahdesian, Officer-in-Charge  
William Raisch, Emergency Manager  
Doug Adil, Superintendent of Buildings-via teleconference  
Marty Cohen, Conservation Chair-via teleconference, attended meeting around 6:50pm

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

Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for September 14, 2021, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.

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

Motioned Carried.

Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve the Special Board Meeting minutes for September 28, 2021, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

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

Motioned Carried.

**Mayors Report:** Mayor Letica; "The majority of the month was focused on the new sanitation system. The lowest bidder Total Collection Services was invited to the Village and Deputy Mayor Pierce, Trustee Ian Jablonski, Clerk Nancy Rittenhouse, and I interviewed Joe Carillo. We were very impressed during our 1 hour conversation by Total Collection Services professionalism and flexibility to work with Asharoken. At the same time, Trustee Mel Ettinger was speaking to people in the Towns of Islip, Brookhaven, and Smithtown as well as the Village of Islandia. Trustee Laura Burke spoke to the Village of Northport. All the references had only positive things to say about TCS. The Village approved the bid of TCS at a special meeting September 28<sup>th</sup>. Since then then the Village has been working with them to assure a smooth transition when they take over from Barry on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Yesterday, Richie and Sage from TCS drove with Barry to start familiarizing themselves with the route. They will do four more runs with Barry prior to taking over. Lastly, the Village is preparing a packet to send to the residents fully explaining the new system

54 The gas main project is nearing completion with 27 houses left to be hooked up. Approximately 15  
55 will be done this week and 12 are scheduled for next week.  
56 Finally, the Village hired Hirani Professional Engineering to design and supervise the dune  
57 reconstruction project in the beach lot area. Because the grant has been approved by NYS the  
58 Village hopes to get going on the restoration in the very near future.

59  
60 **Trustees:**

61 Deputy Mayor Pierce: reported the following: reviewed the minutes for the regular board meeting  
62 the special meeting, the vouchers, the police report, the financial statements, and the proposed  
63 amendment to the tree ordinance. The trustees are working on amendments to the village code for  
64 the new sanitation services and the fire prevention code.

65  
66 Trustee Ettinger: reported the following: During the month he had discussions with Officer  
67 Mahdesian regarding police related matters. The police department is performing well. As the  
68 mayor reported I followed up on the references provided by Total Collection Services and each of  
69 the references gave TCS excellent rating and highly recommended them. He reviewed the draft of  
70 the financial statements, payment vouchers, draft of the tree ordinance, reviewed correspondence  
71 and Foil's, the regular and special board meeting minutes.

72  
73 Trustee Jablonski: reported the following: He reviewed the minutes, vouchers, police report, the  
74 bids correspondences from residents, tree ordinance and he attended the special meeting.

75  
76 **Attorney Migatz:** Attorney Migatz reported the following: The planning and zoning board did not  
77 meet in the month of September, and nothing additional to report.

78  
79 **Village Treasurer:** Emily Hayes reported that the vouchers for the month of September were  
80 \$179,708.07. There was a separate resolution to approve the vouchers and budget transfers.

81  
82 **Police Report:** Officer Mahdesian reported that department assisted during the Cow Harbor  
83 weekend. This month the department had 25 summonses and 1 traffic related arrest.

84  
85 **Sanitation Operator:** Barry Bradley reported that big blue is running well. Total tipping fees for  
86 the month of September were \$2,555.20. Trash tonnage 31.94, paper & cardboard 3.65 tons; glass  
87 1.94 tons, plastic, and metal 1.21 tons. He noted that the two operators from TCS worked out well.

88  
89 **Emergency Manager:** Bill Raisch noted that we are still in Hurricane season. As the deputy harbor  
90 master, we are working with Cornell Extension Center to develop an option for an oyster garden.

91  
92 **Superintendent of Buildings:** Doug Adil reported; he reviewed discussed plans for alterations to a  
93 home on Asharoken Ave., he reviewed plans for the as-built conditions of a retaining wall on Duck  
94 Island, he provided flood zone information to a homeowner who is renovating their home,  
95 reviewed plans for an addition to an existing garage, reviewed plans for a PV solar installation and a  
96 fence application and reviewed plans for a new home at 399 Asharoken Ave. He performed 15  
97 inspections this month.

98  
99 **Public Hearing:** A local law amending chapter 112 of the code of the Village of Asharoken entitled  
100 "Trees".

101 Village Clerk, Nancy Rittenhouse read the legal notice.

102  
103 Mayor Letica summarized; proposing an amendment to the existing tree ordinance, any tree alive  
104 or dead that is large enough to qualify with Conservation board based on its size requires a permit.  
105 Presently a dead tree can be taken down without a permit. We believe that clarifying the code is

106 good idea. Marty Cohen, Conservation Board chair is in favor of these changes. If there is an  
107 emergency several members can authorize removal.

108 We received two emails pertaining to this proposed amendment.

109 Mayor Letica opened the public hearing:

110 1. A resident commented that he reviewed the new amendment as well as the present law. He  
111 noted that the definition of tree is incorrect. We don't want clear cutting, but the village  
112 seems to be overreaching on my personal rights. He noted that under exceptions during a  
113 storm I want to remove a damaged tree immediately, but under this new amendment I may  
114 have to wait for the board or member to give me permission. I want the ability to take dead  
115 trees and invasive trees down if I want to. Also, you are changing the area between a  
116 structure and a tree, I don't want to go to the board and ask for permission, same as  
117 cesspools. This can be altered to accomplish the needs of all the people.

118 Mayor Letica noted that its to the benefit of the village to keep trees, we can go back and modify it.

119 Mayor Letica asked attorney Migatz regarding the definition in the ordinance. Attorney Migatz  
120 noted that the definition has been in the code from the beginning, he would rather defer to Marty  
121 Cohen on that point.

122 2. A resident noted that he agreed with the first resident about the definition and would like to  
123 know what is considered a tree or a bush.

124 3. A resident noted that what was sent out was just the amendment, in the code it notes the  
125 trunk size and what falls under the requirement to get a permit.

126 4. Marty Cohen, Conservation chair via teleconference noted the sizes that are in the code  
127 were there from the very beginning. He noted that he is happy with the definition.

128

129 Mayor Letica made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

130 Trustee Jablonski AYE

131 Trustee Ettinger AYE

132 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

133 Mayor Letica AYE

134 Motioned Carried

135 **Resolutions:**

136

137 **Resolution (2021-120)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the vouchers  
138 for the month of September 2021 in the amount of \$179,708.07.

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

140 Trustee Jablonski AYE

141 Trustee Ettinger AYE

142 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

143 Mayor Letica AYE

144 Motioned Carried

145 **Resolution (2021-121)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve budget  
146 transfers for September 2021.

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

148 Trustee Jablonski AYE

149 Trustee Ettinger AYE

150 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

151 Mayor Letica AYE

152 Motioned Carried

153 **Resolution (2021-122)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby accept the audited  
154 financial statements for 5/31/2021, prepared by Skinnon and Faber Certified Public Accountants,

155 the financial statements have been filed with the Village Clerk, published and available for  
156 inspection.  
157 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.  
158 Trustee Jablonski AYE  
159 Trustee Ettinger AYE  
160 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE  
161 Mayor Letica AYE  
162 Motioned Carried

163 **Resolution (2021-123)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the mayor to  
164 sign the engagement letter for the year ended May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, cost of the audit & filing of the Annual  
165 Update Document (AUD) required by the State of New York is \$10,250 and for the Justice court  
166 audit examination is \$700.00.

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

168 Trustee Jablonski AYE  
169 Trustee Ettinger AYE  
170 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE  
171 Mayor Letica AYE  
172 Motioned Carried

173 **Resolution (2021-124)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the Firearms  
174 permit application for Barry F. Bradley located at SCTM 0401-004-01-037-000 sound side beach lot  
175 for clay pigeon use.

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

177 Resolution was tabled, need more information.

178

179 **Resolution (2021-125)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve local law 3-  
180 2021 amending Chapter 112 of the code of the Village of Asharoken entitled "Trees" of the Village  
181 Code.

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

183 **Roll Call:**

184 Trustee Jablonski NAY  
185 Trustee Ettinger AYE  
186 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE  
187 Mayor Letica AYE  
188 Motioned Carried

189 **Public Session:**

190 In-person comments:

191 1. No In-person comments.

192 Tele-conference comment:

193 1. A resident asked about the roadway work. He wanted to know if the concrete will be  
194 repaired before the final paving. He also suggested using drones to police the waterways  
195 within the village. Mayor Letica noted that they will be repairing the concrete roadway prior  
196 to repaving. The Mayor thanked the resident for his suggestion regarding the use of drones.

197

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

199 Trustee Jablonski AYE  
200 Trustee Ettinger AYE  
201 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE  
202 Mayor Letica AYE  
203 Motioned Carried

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

205 Trustee Jablonski AYE

206 Trustee Ettinger AYE

207 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

208 Mayor Letica AYE

209 Motioned Carried.

210

211 The October 5th, 2021, Regular board meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at

212 approximately 7:10pm.

213 Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

214 Nancy Rittenhouse, Village Clerk