

Approved

Officers Present:

Greg Letica, Mayor
Laura Burke, 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
Joe Affrunti, Harbormaster

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

Trustee Burke made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for February 6, 2024, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.

Trustee Jablonski	AYE
Trustee Burke	AYE
Mayor Letica	AYE

Motioned Carried.

Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve the Board of Assessment Review Meeting minutes for March 18, 2024, seconded by Trustee Burke.

Trustee Jablonski	AYE
Trustee Burke	AYE
Mayor Letica	AYE

Motioned Carried.

Mayors Report: The Request for Proposal from engineering firms to create a complete redesign of the seawall and restoration of the beach in front of it was published on February 15th. On the 29th approximately 13 firms came to the Village to attend a site visit. Many of the firms have a highly regarded reputation for working on projects similar to this one. The bid will be awarded later in the spring. This project will be paid for by a \$1,000,000 Hazard Mitigation Grant that the Village secured through FEMA. This grant carries a maximum matching share of \$107,600. Although the Village has sufficient reserve funds to cover the local share, it will negotiate with the Town of Huntington and our NY State elected officials to seek assistance in paying for the local share. Once the Village has a comprehensive plan in place it can seek the major funding that will be required to restore the seawall area.

I also spent significant time working on securing the funds from the \$1,000,000 earmark that Senator Schumer obtained for the Village to rebuild the most compromised section of the seawall. I expect that this reconstruction will secure the damaged section of the seawall until the full

51 reconstruction can be done. The obstacle to securing the funds is persuading the Federal Highway
52 Administration and the NYS Department of Transportation to agree to the Village's proposed use of
53 the money. To try to resolve this problem, I wrote directly to the Secretary of Transportation Pete
54 Buttigieg last week.

55 During the month the bid packages for repaving Bevin Road and Asharoken Avenue (from Bevin
56 Road to approximately 561 Asharoken Avenue) were completed. The bids will be awarded at the
57 end of March. The Bevin Road project will be paid for by a \$100,000 DASNY grant, CHIPS money,
58 and, if there is a balance, the Village Highway capital reserve account. The Asharoken Avenue
59 project will be reimbursed to the village by PSEG.

60 I signed onto a letter that the New York Conference of Mayors submitted to Governor Hockul
61 requesting an increase in AIM funding. AIM funding is assistance the Village gets from the State
62 annually and, has not increased in 15 years. Every increase in outside funding the Village receives
63 helps keep our taxes lower.

64 Extensive time was devoted to the budget during the month. As I recently reported in a note to the
65 residents the Village will remain below the NYS 2% Tax Cap levy. At this time, it appears that the
66 percentage increase will be higher than it has historically been since I became Mayor in 2012. The
67 rise is driven by large increases in some of the Village's biggest expense categories over which it has
68 no control. The Village Board will hold a tax workshop on March 19. A public hearing will be held at
69 the April BOT meeting before the adoption of the budget. In advance of the public hearing, the
70 budget will be available for anyone to review by email, on the website, and at Village Hall.

71 The Village is also dealing with a historically high number of tax grievances. Depending on how
72 they are resolved there could be an additional impact on next year's percentage tax increase.

73 Every effort will be made by this administration to keep any tax increase to a minimum.

74 In conclusion, multiple residents saw Bald Eagles in the Village during the last ten days. Keep your
75 eyes open and you may be fortunate to see these magnificent birds yourself.

76

77 **Trustees:**

78

79 Trustee Burke: During the month I reviewed the minutes from the last meeting, attended the tax
80 grievance session, reviewed the firearms permit, reviewed the public comments from the noise
81 ordinance hearing; attended the budget meeting/reviewed the budget and the IMA resolution.

82 Trustee Jablonski: During the month; I reviewed the minutes for both meetings, the vouchers, the
83 firearms permits. I reviewed the budget, attended the Board of Assessment Review yesterday and
84 the budget work session earlier today.

85

86 **Attorney Migatz:** Attorney Migatz reported that he nothing to report for the month of February.
87 The Zoning Board did not meet in February and the Planning Board did not meet in February. There
88 is no decision yet on the dock litigation. There was a discussion regarding the agricultural status of
89 Sandpiper Farm.

90

91 **Village Treasurer:** Emily Hayes reported the vouchers for the month of February through the first
92 half of March were \$84,504.71. The number was a little higher than usual as we paid some of the
93 March invoices.
94

95 **Police Report:** Officer Mahdesian reported there were 60 summonses in the month of February
96 which is unheard of. Of the 60 summonses, 34 were for speed. Of the 34, 12 were for 50, 60mph and
97 higher. A lot of speeding summonses are delivery people. We are virtually crime free in the village
98 but the town around us is very active with automobile break ins and thefts.
99

100 **Superintendent of Buildings:** Rejected the final survey for the newly constructed 122 Asharoken
101 Ave due to apparent inconsistencies. Final survey was re-done and accepted by the Village. I
102 reviewed revised drawings for alterations to 561 Asharoken Ave. I completed and submitted the
103 Annual Report of Code Enforcement Activities for the State with the assistance of the Village Clerk. I
104 responded to concerns over the interior environment at 3 Bevin Road, and determined that no
105 interior environmental testing is required. Discussed demolition permit requirements with an
106 architect for a home on Lobster Way.
107

108 **Harbormaster:** The marine hours have been revised so the police boat will run later in the
109 morning and therefore, later in the evening. Mr. Affrunti has been in touch with Volpi Marine to
110 coordinate getting the signs in the water, one sign needs repair. A call has gone into KG Marine to
111 get the police boat prepared to go in the water.
112

113 **Resolutions:**
114

115 **Resolution (2024-19)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board approves the budget transfers for the
116 month of February through March 19, 2024.

117 Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.

118 Trustee Jablonski AYE

119 Trustee Burke AYE

120 Mayor Leticia AYE

121 Motioned Carried

122 **Resolution (2024-20)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the vouchers for
123 the month of February through March 19, 2024 in the amount of \$84,504.71.
124

125 Mayor Leticia made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

126 Trustee Jablonski AYE

127 Trustee Burke AYE

128 Trustee Ettinger AYE

129 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

130 Mayor Leticia AYE

131 Motioned Carried

132 **Resolution (2024-21) TO AUTHORIZE AN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH THE**
133 **SUFFOLK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**
134

135 **Whereas,** General Municipal Law (GML) § 239 requires the referral of certain proposed
136 planning and zoning actions to the Suffolk County Planning Commission by local Towns and
137 Villages within the County, and
138

139 **Whereas**, GML also allows for the County to enter into an agreement with a referring body or
140 other duly authorized body of a Town or Village to provide that certain proposed actions be
141 deemed matters of local rather than inter-community or county-wide concern and, therefore, not
142 subject to referral, and

143
144 **Whereas**, the Village of Asharoken has proposed a litany of actions which are consistent with
145 the intent of GML and represent matters of local not county-wide concern, and

146
147 **Whereas**, the adoption of an inter-municipal agreement would streamline the referral review
148 process without any compromise to county-wide or inter-community planning considerations,
149 now therefore be it

150
151 **Resolved**, that pursuant to the above the Suffolk County Planning Commission considers the
152 following list of actions to constitute matters of local determination which are NOT subject to
153 the referral process:

- 154
- 155 All area variances associated with single-family residences.
 - 156 Change of one permitted use to another with no changes in parking
157 requirements (i.e. retail to office).
 - 158 Minor additions less than 1,000 square feet with no change to use or
159 occupancy.
 - 160 Site plan applications proposing less than 5,000 square feet of new or
161 renovated floor area or less than 10,000 square feet of land disturbance.
- 162

163 *Exception – actions that have been given a Positive Declaration pursuant to SEQR or actions*
164 *involving property abutting state or county parkland, the Atlantic Ocean, Long Island Sound,*
165 *any bay in Suffolk County or estuary of any of the foregoing bodies of water shall be subject to*
166 *the full review process.*

167
168 **Resolved**, That the Town/ Village Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the
169 Suffolk County Planning Commission and to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals
170 of the Village of Asharoken.

171
172 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.

173 Trustee Jablonski AYE

174 Trustee Burke AYE

175 Mayor Letica AYE

176 Motioned Carried

177 **Resolution (2024-22)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the purchase
178 and installation of a new police server from Axe Creatives for \$10,000.00.

179
180 Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Letica.

181 Trustee Jablonski AYE

182 Trustee Burke AYE

183 Mayor Letica AYE

184 Motioned Carried

185 **Resolution (2024-23)** Be It Resolved that the Village board does hereby approve the budget
186 adjustment for 5/31/2024 to increase start income (A1000.000) \$10,000.00, (utilizing building

187 restoration reserve funds) and increase Police Equipment (A3120.200) \$10,000.00 for the purchase
188 of the new Police Department server.
189
190 Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.
191 Trustee Jablonski AYE
192 Trustee Burke AYE
193 Mayor Letica AYE
194 Motioned Carried

195 **Resolution (2024-24)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the scheduling of
196 a public hearing on Tuesday, April 9th, 2024 on the tentative budget for fiscal year beginning
197 6/1/2024.
198
199 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.
200 Trustee Jablonski AYE
201 Trustee Burke AYE
202 Mayor Letica AYE
203 Motioned Carried

204 **Resolution (2024-25)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the mayor to
205 sign the engagement letter with Skinnon & Faber, Certified Public Accountants for the year ended
206 May 31st, 2024, cost of the audit & filing of the Annual Financial Report (AFR) required by the State
207 of New York is \$13,250 and for the Justice court audit examination is \$700.00.
208
209 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.
210 Trustee Jablonski AYE
211 Trustee Burke AYE
212 Mayor Letica AYE
213 Motioned Carried

214 **Resolution (2024-26)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the firearms
215 permit for Jean Bonawandt of 387 Asharoken Ave for the purpose of shooting clay pigeons.
216 Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Letica.
217 Trustee Jablonski AYE
218 Trustee Burke AYE
219 Mayor Letica AYE
220 Motioned Carried

221 **Resolution (2024-27)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the mayor to
222 sign the retainer for Egan & Golden to provide legal services in regards to Eatons Neck LLC vs.
223 Board of Assessment Review of the Village of Asharoken at an hourly rate of \$375 per hour for Mr.
224 Besunder and \$325 per hour for associate attorneys.
225 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.
226 Trustee Jablonski AYE
227 Trustee Burke AYE
228 Mayor Letica AYE
229 Motioned Carried

230 **Resolution (2024-28)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the firearms
231 permit for James Ackerson at 516 Asharoken Ave for the purpose of shooting clay pigeons.

232 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.
233 Trustee Jablonski AYE
234 Trustee Burke AYE
235 Mayor Letica AYE
236 Motioned Carried

237 **Resolution (2024-29)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve a Suffolk County
238 Water Authority road opening permit application for street work to install a secondary water
239 service to 238 Asharoken Ave.

240 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.
241 Trustee Jablonski AYE
242 Trustee Burke AYE
243 Mayor Letica AYE
244 Motioned Carried

245 Public Session:

246 A resident had questions regarding the agricultural status of Sandpiper Farm.

247 Another resident had questions regarding the Intermunicipal Agreement with Suffolk County.

248 Mayor Letica made a motion to exit public session, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.
249 Trustee Jablonski AYE
250 Trustee Burke AYE
251 Mayor Letica AYE
252 Motioned Carried

253 Mayor Letica made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.
254 Trustee Jablonski AYE
255 Trustee Burke AYE
256 Mayor Letica AYE
257 Motioned Carried.

258

259 The March 19th, 2024, Regular board meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at
260 approximately 7:08pm.

261

262 Michelle Glennon, Village Clerk