

Officers Present:

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

Officials & Appointees Present:

Michelle Glennon, Village Clerk
Emily Hayes, Village Treasurer
Doug Adil, Building Inspector
Raymond Mahdesian, Officer-in-Charge

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

Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for October 1, 2024, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.

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

Motioned Carried.

Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve the Special Board Meeting minutes for October 17, 2024, seconded by Trustee Jablonski.

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

Motioned Carried.

Mayor Letica reported; The Village submitted all of the required paperwork to the New York State Department of Homeland Security/Emergency Services to request FEMA to change the scope of the Hazard Mitigation grant to include a feasibility study and engineering to move Bevin Road away from the seawall. As soon as more information is available, I will let you know.

The Village met with Hayduk Engineering to get their opinion on a short-term patch for the seawall in the area where the sheet steel was pulled up. There is a resolution on the agenda to engage them to create a plan. This repair project will be funded by the remainder of the DASNY grant that Assemblyman Keith Brown got for the Village a couple of years ago.

The Village has a meeting planned with GEI and the NYS DEC on November 15th to discuss the possibility of placing groins on the beach by the seawall. In recent communications with the DEC they have expressed the opinion that the agency may now be in favor of them.

49 The Village is continuing to evaluate the best way to use the \$1,000,000 earmark from Senator
50 Schumer for an intermediate repair of the seawall.

51 The Village received the Court audit from Skinnon and Faber CPAs. They reported that “As a result
52 of our examination, it is our opinion that the Village of Asharoken is substantially in compliance
53 with its fiscal responsibilities as outlined in the Handbook for Town and Village Justices and Court
54 Clerks.” I would like to thank Police Officer Brian O’Connor for his terrific work as Court Clerk and
55 preparation of materials needed for the audit.

56 I thank Rita Rover for bringing her award-winning Chrysanthemum to display on the steps of
57 Village Hall. Every year Rita grows these incredible plants and enters them into competitions. This
58 year she got Best in Group at the New Jersey State Chrysanthemum Society. At the Long Island
59 Chrysanthemum Society she was awarded First Award and Best Container Grown in Show.

60 On election day for about thirty minutes two Bald Eagles were soaring over Village hall and then
61 landed in a tree across the street. Just before they left a third eagle did a fly by. Many of the people
62 who were voting got a chance enjoy the sight of our national bird as they arrived at Village Hall. It
63 was an awe inspiring sight and was so symbolic of the fact that we are a great nation even if we
64 have differing political preferences.

65 **Trustees:**

66 Deputy Mayor Pierce: On October 15th I participated in a call with the Mayor and GEI on our
67 planning grant and our two repairs to our seawall, later in the month a meeting with Hayduck
68 Engineering on the seawall repair. I reviewed the violation by the owner on Bevin Road, a quote for
69 the seawall repair from Hayduck, a letter to DHSES for amending the planning scope grant, the IMA
70 with Huntington on animal control, the resolution for increased municipal aid from New York State,
71 contracts for the license reader cameras and patrol car equipment and the conceptual plan from
72 GEI. I submitted a Conflict of Interest form to New York State as part of the audit. I reviewed the
73 report from Skinnon & Faber showing we’re in compliance and reviewed the vouchers, abstract,
74 police report and the October meeting minutes.

75
76 Trustee Ettinger: During the past month, as usual, I had numerous meetings and conversations
77 with Officer-in-Charge Ray Mahdesian regarding a number of police related matters. Once again, I
78 am happy to report that we had another “good month”, that included a record number of
79 summonses, which Ray Mahdesian will comment on further, in his report. At last month’s BOT
80 meeting we swore in two (2) new part-time police officers. During the month, both officers
81 completed their orientation training and both of them have successfully completed some individual
82 tours on their own. Also at last month’s meeting I announced that the Village received the \$54,999
83 from the Justice Department for the Grant that was previously awarded to us for the purchase of
84 some new Law Enforcement Technology Equipment. At tonight’s we will be offering a Resolution to
85 purchase this equipment.

86 During the month I reviewed the correspondences and the Resolution of the Intermunicipal
87 Agreement with the Town of Huntington regarding Animal Control, I also reviewed the
88 correspondences and the Resolution from Hayduck Engineering to replenish the stones at the
89 seawall, the correspondences and the Resolution from NYCOM regarding the Resolution to Have
90 Continued and Increased State Aid to Local Governments, the correspondences we received from
91 GEI regarding their Partial Plans for the Asharoken Seawall Rehabilitation Project, the foils that

92 were received during the past month, last month's BOT Regular Meeting's Minutes, and this
93 month's Abstracts for the Payment Vouchers.

94
95 Trustee Jablonski: During the month; I reviewed; the minutes, the vouchers, the police report, court
96 audit the IMA, the GEI engineering report and drawings and other correspondence.

97
98 **Attorney's Report:** On October 21, 2024 the Board of Zoning Appeals heard two (2) applications
99 for David Halpern, owner of 3 Clam Shell Lane.

100 The first application was for side yard setback variances of Section 125-16B of the Village Code to
101 construct a two story rear addition to the existing two story dwelling on the Premises, with a first
102 floor open walkway, stairs from the open walkway to grade, first floor support piers and stone
103 terrace on grade. The application was granted.

104 The second application was for a rear yard setback variance of Section 125-16B of the Village Code
105 to construct a fishing shed and deck as an accessory structure to the existing two story dwelling.
106 The application was granted.

107 The Planning Board did not meet.

108
109 I reviewed the Hayduck Engineering proposal and approved as to form.
110 I reviewed the proposed IMA with the Town of Huntington for animal control services and, after
111 revisions I requested, I approved as to form.

112
113 **Village Treasurer:** The total for the voucher is \$62,817.11 for the month of October. There is
114 nothing unusual to report this month. There will be a separate resolution for budget transfers.

115
116 **Police Report:** Officer Mahdesian reported the police department completed their firearms
117 training. 80 summonses were issued (79 Traffic, 1 Village), no arrests were made.

118
119 **Superintendent of Buildings:** This month I consulted with an architect regarding zoning and
120 building requirements at 145 Asharoken Ave. I inspected alterations done without a building
121 permit at 11 Beach Plum Dr. Re-reviewed plans for installation of a swimming pool at 561
122 Asharoken. Reviewed a road opening permit to install utilities at 399 Asharoken, reminded the
123 builder at 106 Cove Rd that a silt fence is required, reviewed the foundation location survey for 284
124 Asharoken, which was accepted. Reviewed construction plans for a new home on Lobster Way,
125 plans were returned for corrections. Reviewed Asharoken Ave Seawall Rehabilitation 30% plans,
126 provided comments. Issued a Notice of Violation for the property at 13 Bevin Road, the owner has
127 stored chain link fence rolls and posts for an extended period of time with no fence or building
128 permit issued. 19 inspections conducted.

129
130 **Resolutions:**

131 **Resolution (2024-124)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the vouchers
132 for the month of October 2024 in the amount of \$62,817.11, check numbers 11525 to 11563.
133 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

134 Trustee Jablonski AYE

135 Trustee Ettinger AYE

136 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

137 Mayor Letica AYE

138 Motioned Carried

139

140 **Resolution (2024-125)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve budget
141 transfers for October 2024.

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

143 Trustee Jablonski AYE

144 Trustee Ettinger AYE

145 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

146 Mayor Letica AYE

147 Motioned Carried

148

149 **Resolution (2024-126)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the purchase
150 of 3 new computers for the patrol vehicles and 2 new license plate readers not to exceed
151 \$54,499.00. Purchase financed by Law Enforcement Technology grant.

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

153 Trustee Jablonski AYE

154 Trustee Ettinger AYE

155 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

156 Mayor Letica AYE

157 Motioned Carried

158

159 **Resolution (2024-127)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve a road opening
160 permit for CDL Industries in order to bring the electric service at 399 Asharoken Avenue from the
161 Sound side under the road.

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

163 Trustee Jablonski AYE

164 Trustee Ettinger AYE

165 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

166 Mayor Letica AYE

167 Motioned Carried

168

169 **Resolution (2024-128)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve a road opening
170 permit for National Grid to install gas service at 399 Asharoken Avenue.

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

172 Trustee Jablonski AYE

173 Trustee Ettinger AYE

174 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

175 Mayor Letica AYE

176 Motioned Carried

177

178 **Resolution (2024-129)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the Mayor to
179 sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Huntington to provide animal control services
180 for the Village of Asharoken approved as to form by the village attorney. Trustee Jablonski made a
181 motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

182 Trustee Jablonski AYE

183 Trustee Ettinger AYE

184 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

185 Mayor Letica AYE

186 Motioned Carried

187

188 **Resolution (2024-130)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the Mayor to
189 sign the Hayduck Engineering proposal dated November 7, 2024 to provide scoping services to
190 replenish the stone at the seawall, not to exceed \$3,000 approved as to form by the village attorney.
191 Funds to be reimbursed to the village by the DASNY grant. Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to
192 approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

194 **Resolution (2024-131) Whereas**, until 2024, cities, villages and towns had not received an
195 increase in unrestricted state aid (AIM funding) in 15 years, significantly impacting their ability to
196 provide essential services to their residents; and

197 **Whereas**, after a prolonged period without financial support, local governments finally
198 received an increase of \$50 million in unrestricted state aid; and

199 **Whereas**, local officials express their gratitude for the \$50 million increase in unrestricted
200 state aid, recognizing it as a positive step towards addressing long-standing funding challenges; and

201 **Whereas**, the State has referred to this new aid as Temporary Municipal Assistance,
202 suggesting that such increase may not continue, jeopardizing the sustainability of crucial municipal
203 programs and services; and

204 **Whereas**, the property tax cap further limits the ability of local governments to properly
205 fund the programs and services their residents need; and

206 **Whereas**, increased and ongoing state aid for local governments is vital for maintaining
207 infrastructure, public safety, housing and other municipal services; and

208 **Whereas**, the challenges of inflation, the increasing costs of labor and supplies, and the end
209 of extraordinary federal aid only accentuate the need for consistent and predictable funding to
210 effectively plan for the future and meet the growing needs of their residents;

211 **Now, therefore, be it resolved**, that the Village of Asharoken calls upon the Governor and the State
212 Legislature to commit to continuing the additional \$50 million in unrestricted state aid in the 2025-
213 26 State Budget and beyond, and

214 **Be it further resolved**, that the Village of Asharoken urges state officials to recognize the need for
215 a long-term plan that ensures consistent and predictable increases in financial support for local
216 governments that keep pace with inflation.

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

218 Trustee Jablonski AYE

219 Trustee Ettinger AYE

220 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

221 Mayor Letica AYE

222 Motioned Carried

223 **Resolution (2024-128) Be It Resolved** that the Village Board does hereby accept the court
224 audit performed by Skinnon & Faber CPAs for the period of October 1, 2023 through
225 September 30, 2024.

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

227 Trustee Jablonski AYE

228 Trustee Ettinger AYE

229 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

230 Mayor Letica AYE

231 Motioned Carried

232

233 New Business: No new business

234 Old Business: No old business

235

236

237 Mayor Letica opened Public Session:

238

239 1. A resident had a question about resolutions that had been passed. The same resident also
240 had a comment regarding a speed sign.

241 2. A resident had a question regarding IMA's (Intermunicipal Agreements).

242 3. Residents had questions regarding the animal control IMA.

243 4. A resident asked about the amendment to the scope modification for the Hazard Mitigation
244 grant.

245

246

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

248 Trustee Jablonski AYE

249 Trustee Ettinger AYE

250 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

251 Mayor Letica AYE

252 Motioned Carried

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

254 Trustee Jablonski AYE

255 Trustee Ettinger AYE

256 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

257 Mayor Letica AYE

258 Motioned Carried.

259

260 The November 12, 2024, board meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at approximately
261 6:55 pm.

262

263 Signed: _____

264 Michelle Glennon, Village Clerk