

APPROVED

Officers:

Greg Letica, Mayor
Pam Pierce, Deputy Mayor
Melvin Ettinger, Trustee
Laura Burke, Trustee
Ian Jablonski, Trustee – Absent with previous notice

Officials & Appointees Present:

Michelle Glennon, Village Clerk
Bruce Migatz, Village Attorney
Emily Hayes, Treasurer
Raymond Mahdesian, Officer-in-Charge
Doug Adil, Building Inspector
Bill Raisch, Emergency Manager

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

Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for February 3, 2026, seconded by Trustee Burke.

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

Motioned Carried.

Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve the Board of Assessment Review meeting minutes for February 17, 2026, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

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

Motioned Carried.

Mayors Report: Mayor Letica reported, During the month, as part of our continued efforts to secure seawall funding from Governor Hochul, Catherine Fee, the Village lobbyist, and I met with Huntington Supervisor Ed Smyth, Suffolk County Executive Ed Romaine's Chief Deputy, Assemblyman Steve Stern, Assemblywoman and Local Government Committee Chair Michaelle Solages, Assemblyman Phil Ramos, Assemblyman Kwani O'Pharrow, a representative from the office of Senator Monica Martinez, a representative from the office of Senator Kirsten Gilibrand, and a representative from Assemblywoman Rebecca Kassay's office. The Village has also received numerous letters of support. Everyone has been super supportive of the project and has offered their help.

52 The Village spent some time working with Congressman Nick LaLota and Senator Gillibrand's
53 offices to explore the possibility of securing a federal grant to support the seawall reconstruction.

54 The Board of Assessment Review met on February 17th. Twenty-six requests for assessment
55 reduction were reviewed, and all twenty-six applications were denied due to insufficient
56 supporting documentation.

57 The Village has made substantial progress on the fiscal year 2026-27 budget. The budget will be
58 reviewed by the Trustees at a special work session on March 24th at 4 PM and will be available for
59 public review after that meeting. A public hearing will be held during the April regular BOT
60 meeting.

61 I thank Officer Brian O'Connor for once again securing a JCAP grant for the Village. The \$8,570 grant
62 is to add additional shades to the meeting room windows. As many of you know, sitting in the
63 audience during a summer meeting is like staring into the sun. These new blinds will eliminate that
64 problem.

65 Big thanks to Huntington Highway Superintendent Andre Sorrentino, his dedicated staff and the
66 Asharoken PD, led by Officer Ray Mahdesian, for their great work during the worst snowstorm in LI
67 history.

68 Just a reminder that the Asharoken Save the Fireworks dinner/dance on March 21st at the
69 Northport Yacht Club is selling out quickly. This fun event supports our annual Fourth of July
70 fireworks and offers a great opportunity to meet neighbors, bid on wonderful raffle baskets, enjoy a
71 delicious meal, and dance the night away.

72 If you would like to donate an item for a raffle basket, please contact the organizer, Carole
73 Casamassima, at 631-261-1895. Please RSVP soon to reserve your seat. I look forward to seeing you
74 there.

75 **Trustees:**

76 Deputy Mayor Pierce: I reviewed the February 3rd regular meeting draft minutes, the BAR minutes
77 of February 17, the engagement letter from our auditors, Skinnon & Faber, the poultry permit
78 application, the police report, vouchers, checks and abstract.
79 I attended the BAR on the 17th. I also worked on the Suffolk County Hazard Mitigation new 5 year
80 plans as well as a Community Project Funding (CPF) opportunity for the village with Mayor Leticia.
81 To that effect, I participated in 2 webinars during the month and several conference calls.

82
83 Trustee Ettinger: Last month was another busy month for the police and once again, and I am happy
84 to report that it was another good month. In addition to the usual activities, the Police had to deal
85 with a few snow storms as well as a major Nor Easter/Blizzard last weekend. Fortunately, we
86 survived the Nor Easter, as did our Seawall and fortunately we did not need to close the road. I
87 want to thank OIC Ray Mahdesian and the all the police officers that were available to help man the
88 force during the storms.

89 Additionally, during the month I spent considerable amount of time meeting with OIC Ray
90 Mahdesian to finalize the Police Budget for our next fiscal year. We also met with some members of
91 our police force to discuss and review the need for various projected expenditures, prior to
92 including them in our budget. Ray and I then reviewed all the expenditures one more time and then

93 we submitted our Budget to the Mayor and Village Clerk. Once again, we have submitted a very
94 carefully constructed and fiscally responsible budget. Some other matters that I was involved in
95 during the month are as follows:

- 96 • On February 17th I attended the Board of Assessment Review Meeting, and
- 97 • On February 18th I completed the mandatory Cyber Awareness Training Webinar Course,
98 and
- 99 • On February 22nd I monitored the Nor Easter/Blizzard with Ray and our Police, and
- 100 • I reviewed the Poultry Application, and
- 101 • I also reviewed some correspondence that we received from some of our residents,
- 102 • I reviewed the foils that were received during the past month,
- 103 • I reviewed last month's BOT Regular Meeting's Minutes and the Board of Assessment
104 Review Meeting, and finally,
- 105 • I also reviewed this month's Abstracts for the Payment Vouchers

106 **Trustee Burke:** I reviewed the Feb 3rd minutes, the BAR minutes, the Police Report, checks,
107 vouchers and the abstract. I also reviewed the Skinnon & Faber engagement letter and the poultry
108 permit application.

109 **Attorney Migatz:** Attorney Migatz said there was nothing to report.

110
111 **Village Treasurer:** The total for the February vouchers is \$48,426.56. There is nothing unusual to
112 report. There will be a separate resolution to approve the vouchers and budget transfers.

113
114 **Emergency Manager/Deputy Harbormaster:** Bill Raisch is continuing to work with the Mayor on
115 a simplified protocol for emergency management in the event of a large event, hopes to finalize in
116 the next 2 to 3 months. Will be renewing the DEC permit for oyster culturing.

117
118 **Police Report:** Officer Mahdesian reported 66 summons (43 for speed) were issued for the month,
119 there were no reported burglaries in the village. The police had some unusual events this month
120 including having to rescue someone from an elevator. The police also assisted Northport PD
121 regarding a person brandishing a weapon, he was later arrested by Northport PD. The Police Dept
122 is arranging for extra protection for the Coast Guard station due to the situation in Iran. The
123 department did a great job during the snow storm and although there was splash over, luckily they
124 did not have to close the road.

125
126 **Superintendent of Buildings:** Building Inspector Doug Adil:

127 **REVIEWS/CONSULTATIONS:**

128 Reiterated to the homeowner at 7 Duck Island that the Village cannot permit tree removal based on
129 the future construction of a new home without either an approved Building Permit or Tree Permit.
130 Received notification from the homeowner at 200 Asharoken Av. that their architect is working on
131 restoration drawings and will be getting them to the Village in the near future.

132 Re-reviewed construction drawings for construction of a swimming pool at 232 Asharoken Av.

133 Drawings were determined to be Approved for a Building Permit.

134 Discussed Building Code requirements for a planned substantial renovation with the builder for the
135 project for 391 Asharoken Av.

136 Due to the extent of damage from a recent fire at 150 Asharoken Av. (replacing the exterior siding
137 near the point of origin, some non-bearing wall studs and sheetrock, and a few floor joists) a
138 Building Permit was required to perform the repairs.

139 Reviewed tree removal plans as part of Tree Permits for 7 Duck Island, 1 Lobster Way and 90 Cove
140 Road, all of which involve construction of new homes.

141 Reviewed plans for the installation of a new emergency backup generator at 284 Asharoken Av,
142 which was approved for a Building Permit.

143 Reviewed plans for the installation of a new emergency backup generator at 28 Bevin Rd., and
144 issued a Letter of Denial due to the need for relief from Zoning requirements. Conducted 10 site
145 inspections.

146
147 **Old Business:** Poultry Permit – The applicant spoke to the BOT; he spoke of other municipalities
148 allowing residents to have chickens and various articles and history regarding the issue. The Board
149 discussed the issue. The majority of the BOT was in favor of issuing a permit with a time limit,
150 although the Deputy Mayor was not in favor because she felt that a 50ft wide lot is not large enough
151 to house chickens. The Village Attorney said the main problem with the code as drafted is that it
152 does not set forth any guidelines for when a permit can or cannot be issued. The Village has the
153 authority to require permits but based up his research on similar laws, if a code requires a permit
154 but does not set forth regulations for issuing that permit, the Board cannot deny it but the Board
155 can put restrictions on it when issued. This is not a zoning code but is quite common in that
156 applicants are required to obtain a special use permit allowing the board to put time restrictions on
157 the permit to see how it goes, to revisit it. He thinks the suggestion of a time limit is an appropriate
158 suggestion. Mayor Letica suggested issuing a permit that expires August 1st. If there are issues then
159 they can be addressed at that time. The applicant was agreeable. The Deputy Mayor was not in
160 favor but the Mayor stated, as per the Village Attorney, the Board cannot deny the application due
161 to the way the existing code is written. The Mayor said it will be addressed at next month's BOT
162 meeting.

163
164 **Resolutions:**

165
166 **Resolution (2026-31)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board approves the budget transfers for the
167 month of February 2026.

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

169 Trustee Burke AYE
170 Trustee Ettinger AYE
171 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
172 Mayor Letica AYE

173 Motioned Carried.

174
175 **Resolution (2026-32)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the vouchers for
176 the month of February 2026 in the amount of \$48,426.56, check #'s 12131 to 12154.

177
178 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.

179 Trustee Burke AYE
180 Trustee Ettinger AYE
181 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
182 Mayor Letica AYE

183 Motioned Carried.

184
185 **Resolution (2026-33)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the budget
186 adjustment to increase the Start Income Account by \$5,000 and increase account Seawall/Shoreline
187 Engineering Expenditure Account (A1490.200) by \$5,000 for the monthly payment to Empire
188 Government Strategies.

189
190 Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

191 Trustee Burke AYE
192 Trustee Ettinger AYE
193 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

194 Mayor Letica AYE
195 Motioned Carried.

196
197 **Resolution (2026-34)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the Village
198 Treasurer to transfer \$5,000 from the Feasibility Reserve Account to the Money Market Account for
199 the March 2026 monthly payment to Empire Government Strategies.

200
201 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Mayor Letica.

202 Trustee Burke AYE

203 Trustee Ettinger AYE

204 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

205 Mayor Letica AYE

206 Motioned Carried.

207
208
209 **Resolution (2026-35)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the scheduling of
210 a public hearing on Tuesday, April 7th, 2026 at 6:30pm on the tentative budget for fiscal year
211 beginning 6/1/2026.

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

213 Trustee Burke AYE

214 Trustee Ettinger AYE

215 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

216 Mayor Letica AYE

217 Motioned Carried.

218
219 **Resolution (2026-36) SUPPORTING INCREASED AID TO MUNICIPALITIES AND**
220 **STRENGTHENING NEW YORK'S STATE-LOCAL PARTNERSHIP**

221 WHEREAS, Governor Kathy Hochul released her 30-day amendments to the Executive Budget, which
222 include an additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance (TMA) to be allocated in the same
223 manner as in the past two years; and

224 WHEREAS, these additional investments reflect a recognition that New York's strength begins in its
225 cities, villages, and towns, and that a strong state-local partnership is essential to delivering the services,
226 infrastructure, public safety, and quality of life that residents expect and deserve; and

227 WHEREAS, local governments across New York continue to face mounting fiscal pressures driven by
228 inflation, increased service demands, infrastructure needs, and rising operational costs, while striving to
229 provide relief to taxpayers amid a rising cost of living; and

230 WHEREAS, NYCOM Executive Director Barbara Van Epps, along with mayors from across the State,
231 testified at the Local Government Joint Budget Hearing in Albany, advocating for increased unrestricted
232 aid and a strengthened state-local partnership; and

233 WHEREAS, the additional \$100 million in TMA will offer meaningful assistance to many municipalities
234 statewide, helping to address fiscal challenges and maintain essential services for residents;

235 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Asharoken applauds Governor Hochul for
236 recognizing the importance of investing in local governments and for reaffirming her commitment to
237 strengthening New York's cities and villages; and

238 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Asharoken urges the New York State Legislature to
239 include, at a minimum, this additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance in the adopted
240 state budget; and

241 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Asharoken calls upon the Governor and the State
242 Legislature to develop a more permanent and predictable solution for unrestricted municipal aid to ensure
243 long-term fiscal stability for New York's local governments; and

244 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
245 Temporary President of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the members of the State
246 Legislature representing the Village of Asharoken.

247 Dated: Asharoken, New York

248 March 3, 2026

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

250 Trustee Burke AYE

251 Trustee Ettinger AYE

252 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

253 Mayor Letica AYE

254 Motioned Carried.

255
256 **Resolution (2026-37)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the mayor to
257 sign the engagement letter with Skinnon & Faber, Certified Public Accountants for the year ended
258 May 31st, 2026, cost of the audit & filing of the Annual Financial Report (AFR) required by the State
259 of New York is \$14,150 and for the Justice court audit examination is \$700.00.

260
261 Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

262 Trustee Burke AYE

263 Trustee Ettinger AYE

264 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

265 Mayor Letica AYE

266 Motioned Carried.

267

268 **New Business:**

269

270 No new business

271

272 Mayor Letica opened public session

273 Public Session:

274 1. A property owner had a question regarding seawall public access. The Mayor responded
275 that we are looking to reconstruct the seawall and it has nothing to do with public access.

276

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

278 Trustee Burke AYE

279 Trustee Ettinger AYE

280 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

281 Mayor Letica AYE

282 Motioned Carried.

283

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

285 Trustee Burke AYE
286 Trustee Ettinger AYE
287 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
288 Mayor Letica AYE
289 Motioned Carried.

290
291 The March 3, 2026 Regular board meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at approximately
292 7:07pm.

293 Signed: 
294 Michelle Glennon, Village Clerk