

Approved

Officers Present:

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

Officials & Appointees Present:

Michelle Glennon, Village Clerk
Bruce Migatz, Village Attorney
Raymond Mahdesian, Officer-in-Charge

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

Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve the Regular BOT Meeting March 3, 2026, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

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

Motioned Carried.

Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve the BOT Budget Worksession March 24, 2026, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

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

Motioned Carried.

Mayors Report: I would like to recognize the outstanding efforts of several Trustees this month.

Deputy Mayor Pam Pierce worked diligently to submit federal funding applications for federal funding for the seawall to the offices of Senators Schumer and Gillibrand, and Congressman LaLota. She also completed the Village's portion of the Suffolk County Emergency Management Plan. These were complex and time-sensitive tasks, and Pam once again went above and beyond to ensure they were completed. Thank you, Pam.

Trustee Laura Burke, with assistance from Trustee Ian Jablonski, submitted a grant request exceeding \$50,000 for records management. If awarded, this funding will support the digitization

49 of all property records. This was another complex and time-intensive effort, and both Laura and
50 Ian did an excellent job bringing it to completion.

51 During the month, the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) sent representatives to the Village to
52 confirm that National Grid is complying with its sand placement permit. The ACOE and DEC
53 were scheduled to meet with National Grid today to present their findings and any required
54 remediation. I will provide updates as more information becomes available.

55 The Village also continued its efforts to secure funding from Governor Hochul for seawall
56 replacement. Our consultant, Empire Government Strategies, delivered over 800 signed and
57 bound petitions to the Governor, as well as to Assembly Speaker Hastie and Majority Leader
58 Andrea Stewart-Cousins. The village also had a zoom meeting with members of the NYS Senate
59 finance committee. The New York State budget has not been finalized and the Village has not
60 yet received any updates.

61 The Board met on March 24 to finalize the proposed 2026–27 fiscal year budget. The budget was
62 emailed to residents and posted on the Village website. A public hearing will be held later this
63 evening.

64 The final claims audit report from the New York State Comptroller's Office was received in
65 early March. The report, along with the Village's response and corrective action plan, was shared
66 with residents and posted online. The Village has implemented all eight recommendations.

67 During the month, I also reviewed all letters of opposition regarding DeLuca's request for a
68 poultry permit.

69 Lastly, Linda and I attended the ENFD installation dinner, and the Osprey returned to
70 Asharoken.

71 **Trustees:**

72 **Deputy Mayor Pierce:** In addition to what Mayor Letica mentioned, I reviewed the final financial
73 statement from Skinnon & Faber, participated with the Mayor and the Village Clerk for our DHSES
74 call on our grant for our seawall plan. I attended the budget review worksession on March 24th,
75 reviewed the plans for nearshore structures with Mayor Letica and GEI for the seawall area, the
76 Grucci proposal, the Breakwater Marine proposal, the application and proposal for worker's
77 compensation insurance. I reviewed the draft minutes of the March 3rd board meeting, the budget
78 review minutes on the 24th, the police report, the proposed local law for the Bureau of Fire Marshals
79 and the letters regarding the poultry permit application. I also attended the fireworks dinner on
80 March 21st. The fireworks committee selected Mayor Letica to honor for all his hard work over all
81 the years he has been mayor. He was given a beautiful photo by our village photographer, Dee
82 Lento of an osprey.

83 **Trustee Ettinger:** During the past month, as usual, I spent a great deal of time working with
84 Officer-in-Charge Ray Mahdesian regarding various Village Police related matters. March, as it
85 turned out, was an extremely busy and active month for our police, and they issued 80
86 summonses. It's probably a sign that the weather is finally getting warmer, as the summer
87 months always seem to produce more speeders than in the winter months. Once again, I am

88 happy to report it was another good month and Ray will comment further with some of the
89 details of this month's activity in his report.

90 On March 21st, my wife and I attended the Annual Fireworks/Holiday Party with many of
91 our friends and residents, and once again we had a great time. I want express my thanks and
92 appreciation to Carole Casamassima and Linda Leticia and their committee for all the hard work
93 in producing this event, and on March 24th I attended the Budget Work Session. I also reviewed
94 the Poultry Application as well as visiting the site. I also reviewed some correspondences that we
95 received from residents, foils received during the past month, the Fireworks by Grucci and the
96 Breakwater Marine Contracts. I reviewed last month's BOT Regular Meeting's Minutes as well
97 as the Minutes of the BOT Budget Worksession Meeting, and this month's Abstracts for the
98 Payment Vouchers. I want to wish our Deputy Mayor a very Happy Birthday!

99
100 **Trustee Burke:** This past month I worked on and submitted a grant to the NYS Archives
101 Records Management Improvement Fund that proposes to convert our building documents to
102 digital format. Building records are considered permanent by NYS and must be protected and
103 maintained by the village. If we succeed in procuring grant money, we'll be able to use an
104 outside scanning service to digitize our building department records for storage ... This will
105 greatly improve accessibility and efficiency for our local government and ensure the preservation
106 of these documents. I'd like to thank Clerk Michelle Glennon and Trustee Jablonski for their
107 help during the application process. This is our third time applying for the grant. I attended the
108 working budget meeting on March 24th; reviewed the vouchers, abstracts, police report, new
109 local law "bureau of the fire marshal" and resident correspondence.

110 **Trustee Jablonski:** This month; I reviewed the minutes, payment vouchers, police report, the
111 monthly bank statements, the financials from Skinnon & Faber, the poultry application, the local
112 fire marshal law, the proposals from Grucci and Breakwater Marine, various correspondence and
113 the grant extension submission.

114 **Village Attorney:** Attorney Migatz reported that the boards did not meet last month. The Zoning
115 Board is meeting this month, April 20th. We have two cases on the agenda. I want to mention,
116 since some trustees mentioned the proposed fire marshal law, that it is a 'draft law', strictly a
117 draft for comments from the Board to which I can respond and then schedule the public hearing.

118
119 **Village Treasurer:** Mayor Leticia reported for Treasurer Emily Hayes for the month of March.
120 Payment vouchers totaled \$160,273.31. Included in the vouchers this month is \$99,700 paid to
121 GEI Consultants for work on the seawall. There will be a separate resolution to approve the
122 vouchers and budget transfers.

123
124 **Superintendent of Buildings:** Mayor Leticia read the report from Building Inspector Doug Adil.
125 Doug received preliminary construction plans from the homeowner at 200 Asharoken Av., which
126 were restoration drawings. We discussed the drawings and building code parameters for houses
127 located in the most severe flood zone.
128 Reviewed construction drawings for construction of a new detached garage /accessory structure
129 at 160 Asharoken Av., which were approved to proceed.

130 Plans were submitted to the Village for repairs due to fire, with damage from the recent fire at
131 150 Asharoken Av., which involved replacing the exterior siding near the point of origin, some
132 non-bearing wall studs and sheetrock, and a few floor joists. Homeowner applied for a Building
133 Permit, which is in review. Provided a summary of the duties of the Fire Marshal that Asharoken
134 will be utilizing for emergency services to the Village.

135 Site inspections:

136 160 Asharoken Av. New Accessory Garage Inspected the excavation and footings-
137 PASSED

138 250 Asharoken Av. Structural improvements to existing home Stop Work Order still in effect.

139 • Revised construction drawings were submitted and comments were returned.

140 • Revised plans have not yet been received.

141 196 Asharoken Av. Garage reconstruction Deficient foundation conditions were repaired.

142 Repairs are underway.

143 196 Asharoken Av. Garage reconstruction Rough framing completed. Exterior strapping
144 inspection- PASSED

145 284 Asharoken Av. New Backup Generator installation Final inspection- PASSED

146 540 Asharoken Av. Retaining wall construction Final inspection- PASSED

147 7 Duck Island New construction of a single family residence Construction drawings are in
148 development

149 1 Lobster Way New construction of a single family residence Site stormwater control and
150 construction fence are in place.

151 86 Cove Rd. Alterations to existing home Interior finishes completed; other interior work
152 continues.

153 90 Cove Road New construction of a single family residence Footing inspection- PASSED
154 Foundation wall forms/rebar- PASSED

155 106 Cove Rd. New Construction •Building permit renewed

156 Interior finishes are nearly completed

157 Painting, landscaping is continuing

158 3 Clamshell Footings & Foundation Structural framing is continuing, nearly ready for
159 inspection.

160

161 **Police Report:** Officer Mahdesian reported things are going well in the village. There were 80

162 summonses issued during the month. The Police Department is getting ready for the summer.

163

164 **Public Hearing: Tentative Annual Budget for year-end 5/31/2027.**

165 Clerk Glennon read the publication.

166 Mayor Letica read the budget Letter:

167

168 The proposed budget includes a 1.95% increase in Village taxes, with a total tax levy of

169 \$1,936,615—\$28,117 below the New York State 2% tax cap.

170

171 Over the past 14 years, during my tenure as Mayor, the Village has had an average annual tax

172 increase of just 1.11% and has never exceeded the NYS 2% tax cap. In seven of those years, there

173 was no tax increase. By comparison, several Long Island municipalities exceeded the tax cap in the

174 last few years.

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The Village remains in a strong financial position, with a healthy cash balance and well-funded reserves. For the past 10 years, the New York State Office of the State Comptroller has awarded Asharoken its highest fiscal stress rating: "No Designation."

This year's modest tax increase reflects higher costs driven by contractual obligations, externally set expenses, and general inflation. While we pursued cost savings and revenue opportunities, these increased expenses could not be fully offset. However, growth in the Village's assessment roll—due to recent construction—helped lower the tax rate. The proposed budget maintains all current services and continues to fund future needs.

I thank Village Clerk Michelle Glennon and Treasurer Emily Hayes for their work in preparing this budget. Michelle's diligence and Emily's extensive experience helped ensure a practical and fiscally responsible plan.

Mayor Letica opened the public hearing for comments;

One resident had a comment regarding the hard work of the BOT and a question regarding how the budget information is published.

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

Trustee Jablonski AYE

Trustee Burke AYE

Trustee Ettinger AYE

Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

Mayor Letica AYE

Motioned Carried.

Old Business: Poultry permit application

The Mayor opened the meeting up to anyone who wanted to make comments in regards to the application.

The applicant spoke to the BOT regarding his permit request.

Several residents spoke against granting the permit and two residents spoke in favor of the permit.

The applicant's brother and sister both spoke in favor of the application.

There were a number of correspondence and a petition signed by 22 residents against allowing chickens on Asharoken Ave.

The Mayor asked the Village Attorney for comments. The Village Attorney stated that he reviewed the correspondence and the petition. He made a few comments on the legal points. First, the property is held by 3 trusts as tenants in common. Mr. DeLuca is a trustee of one of the trusts and as such has the authority to make the application. The other two trusts do not have to join the application, it is an internal matter within the 3 different trusts but Mr. DeLuca has standing to make the application. Mr. Migatz stated that Huntington law does not apply in the village. Charges that housing chickens in a garage is a change of use, he disagrees with. He gave the example of housing a dog in your house does not make your home a kennel. He commented on the legal point regarding public health, safety and welfare. He said the problem is the local law of 1934 is very poorly drafted and it does not set forth standards that would address the public health, safety and welfare and sanitary conditions that are a valid concern. That is where the law is lacking. Since the last meeting Mr. Migatz has done a lot of research and found a case with a pet goat, an Appellate Division case. Their code was similar to our code. It was entitled "Animals" and our code is entitled "Dogs and Other Animals". That code said "no person or corporation shall keep a domestic animal without a permit from the zoning board". The Appellate Division held that since there are no standards for the zoning board to follow, consequently the general prohibition of the ordinance

226 therefore applies and that the denial of the request is properly sustained. The general description of
227 that law starts off with "no" and our law starts off with "no". No poultry can be maintained without
228 a permit. Mr. Migatz changed his opinion from the previous meeting. Based upon that case which
229 dealt with a similar law, and since there are no standards set forth in our law the "no" must prevail
230 and based upon that case law he thinks the permit has to be denied.

231
232 The BOT took into consideration all comments and emails received from village residents, the
233 Village Attorney's opinion, discussed the situation and decided to deny the poultry permit
234 application.

235
236 **Resolutions:**

237
238 **Resolution (2026-38)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board approves the budget transfers for the
239 month of March 2026.

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

241 Trustee Jablonski AYE

242 Trustee Burke AYE

243 Trustee Ettinger AYE

244 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

245 Mayor Letica AYE

246 Motioned Carried.

247
248 **Resolution (2026-39)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the vouchers for
249 the month of March 2026 in the amount of \$160,273.31, check #'s 12156 to 12190.

250
251 Trustee Jablonski made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.

252 Trustee Jablonski AYE

253 Trustee Burke AYE

254 Trustee Ettinger AYE

255 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

256 Mayor Letica AYE

257 Motioned Carried.

258
259 **Resolution (2026-40)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the budget
260 adjustment to increase the Start Income Account by \$5,000 and increase account Seawall/Shoreline
261 Engineering Expenditure Account (A1490.200) by \$5,000 for the April monthly payment to Empire
262 Government Strategies.

263
264 Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

265 Trustee Jablonski AYE

266 Trustee Burke AYE

267 Trustee Ettinger AYE

268 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

269 Mayor Letica AYE

270 Motioned Carried.

271
272 **Resolution (2026-41)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the Village
273 Treasurer to transfer \$5,000 from the Feasibility Reserve Account to the Money Market Account for
274 the April 2026 monthly payment to Empire Government Strategies.

275
276 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pierce.

277 Trustee Jablonski AYE
278 Trustee Burke AYE
279 Trustee Ettinger AYE
280 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
281 Mayor Letica AYE

282 Motioned Carried.

283 **Resolution (2026-42)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the village
284 annual budget for fiscal year-end 5/31/2027.

285

286 Trustee Ettinger made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke.

287 **Roll Call:**

288 Trustee Jablonski Aye
289 Trustee Burke Aye
290 Trustee Ettinger Aye
291 Deputy Mayor Pierce Aye
292 Mayor Letica Aye

293 Motion Carried

294

295 **Resolution (2026-43)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the Tax Warrant
296 in the amount of \$1,936,615.00 for the fiscal year-end 5/31/2027.

297

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

299 Trustee Jablonski AYE
300 Trustee Burke AYE
301 Trustee Ettinger AYE
302 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
303 Mayor Letica AYE

304 Motioned Carried.

305

306 **Resolution (2026-44)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby appoint Village Treasurer,
307 Emily Hayes and Village Clerk, Michelle Glennon to collect taxes that may be due for the 2026-2027
308 fiscal year, either by mail or in person during Village Hall office hours, Monday through Friday, 9am
309 to 3pm.

310

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

312 Trustee Jablonski AYE
313 Trustee Burke AYE
314 Trustee Ettinger AYE
315 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
316 Mayor Letica AYE

317 Motioned Carried.

318

319 **Resolution (2026-45)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize, that pursuant
320 to Section 1428 of the Real Property Tax Law the Warrant and Tax Roll for Collection of Village
321 taxes of the Incorporated Village of Asharoken will be filed with the Village Treasurer for the fiscal
322 year beginning June 1, 2026, taxes will be received at the Village Hall, One Asharoken Avenue,
323 Northport, NY 11768, from June 1, 2026 through and including July 1, 2026 without penalty. Five
324 percent will be added to taxes received after July 1, 2026, and one percent for each month
325 thereafter until paid in full.

326

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

328 Trustee Jablonski AYE
329 Trustee Burke AYE

330 Trustee Ettinger AYE
331 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
332 Mayor Letica AYE
333 Motioned Carried.

334
335 **Resolution (2026-46)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the scheduling
336 of a public hearing on proposed Local Law #3-2026 entitled, "Bureau Of Fire Marshal" on Tuesday,
337 May 5th, 2026.

338
339 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

340 Trustee Jablonski AYE
341 Trustee Burke AYE
342 Trustee Ettinger AYE
343 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
344 Mayor Letica AYE

345 Motioned Carried.

346
347 **Resolution (2026-47)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby approve the amended
348 minutes of the February 3, 2026 regular Board of Trustees meeting.

349
350 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

351 Trustee Jablonski AYE
352 Trustee Burke AYE
353 Trustee Ettinger AYE
354 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
355 Mayor Letica AYE

356 Motioned Carried.

357
358 **Resolution (2026-48)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the Mayor to
359 sign the NYS DHSES Appendix X-1 Modification Agreement Form, no cost time extension to extend
360 the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant performance period, approved by Village Attorney as to form.

361
362 Deputy Mayor Pierce made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Burke .

363 Trustee Jablonski AYE
364 Trustee Burke AYE
365 Trustee Ettinger AYE
366 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
367 Mayor Letica AYE

368 Motioned Carried.

369
370
371 **Resolution (2026-49)** Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the Mayor to
372 sign the workers compensation insurance agreement with Comp Alliance for \$10,831 to replace the
373 pre-existing policy with NYS Insurance Fund.

374
375 Mayor Letica made a motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

376 Trustee Jablonski AYE
377 Trustee Burke AYE
378 Trustee Ettinger AYE
379 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE
380 Mayor Letica AYE

381 Motioned Carried.

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Resolution (2026-50) Be It Resolved, that the Village Board does hereby ratify the signing of the contract with Breakwater Marine for \$15,820 to provide the tug and barge for the 2026 July 4th fireworks, approved by Village Attorney as to form.

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

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

Motioned Carried.

Resolution (2026-51) Be It Resolved, that the Village Board does hereby accept the \$250 donation from Craig Corona to be used for the 2026 Fireworks display.

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

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

Motioned Carried.

Resolution (2026- 52) Be It Resolved that the Village Board does hereby authorize the Mayor to sign the 5 year Fireworks contract between the Village of Asharoken and Fireworks by Grucci Inc. to be held on the 4th of July of each year for the following years and amounts, pending Village Attorney approval:

7/4/2026	\$30,000
7/4/2027	\$32,500
7/4/2028	\$34,000
7/4/2029	\$34,500
7/4/2030	\$35,000

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

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

Motioned Carried.

New Business: The Board of Trustees, Village Attorney, Building Inspector and Village Clerk will be undergoing an ECode training session to access the potential revisions to the village code.

Mayor Letica opened Public Session:

Public Session:

1. A resident commented that she supported having chickens in Asharoken.
2. A resident asked about the status of the seawall permits.
3. A resident commented about implementing the blighted property law for 3 Bevin Rd.

436 4. A resident discussed their issue with the National Grid sand replenishment and they along
437 with other residents had sent a package to the Army Corp of Engineers and DEC regarding
438 the quality of the material.

439
440 Mayor Letica made a motion to exit public session, seconded by Trustee Ettinger.

441 Trustee Jablonski AYE

442 Trustee Burke AYE

443 Trustee Ettinger AYE

444 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

445 Mayor Letica AYE

446 Motioned Carried.

447

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

449 Trustee Jablonski AYE

450 Trustee Burke AYE

451 Trustee Ettinger AYE

452 Deputy Mayor Pierce AYE

453 Mayor Letica AYE

454 Motioned Carried.

455

456 The April 7, 2026, Regular board meeting of the Board of Trustees was adjourned at approximately
457 7:31pm.

458

459 Signed: 

460 Michelle Glennon, Village Clerk