

Northport Village Corporation
Board of Overseers
Minutes of the Meeting
June 23, 2002

President Ken Vlodek convened the meeting of the Northport Village Corporation Board of Overseers at 10:00 AM in the Community Hall with Overseers Smith, Lightner, Trenholm, O'Malia, Doucette, Whitten, Rohweder, Treasurer Handler, and Clerk Lagner present. Also attending were Bill Paige, Ed Williams, Jane Phillips, John Fancy, the Haywoods, Todd Merolla, David Crofoot, Joe Krulis, Ramona Rowe, and Galen Plummer.

On June 22, 2002, Sal Demeo was sworn in as police officer for NVC, in the presence of Judy Rohweder, Overseer.

The minutes of the May 19, 2002, meeting were accepted as amended.

Treasurer Russ Handler's report was accepted as follows:

General Government	
Checking	\$29,751.95
Community Hall	290.98
Money Market	<u>42,608.68</u>
Total Government	<u>\$72,651.61</u>
Water Department	
Checking	89,670.19
Checking	<u>10.00</u>
Total Water Department	<u>\$89,680.19</u>
Sewer Department	
Checking	24,753.40
Checking	10.00
CD721053	19,359.70
Money Market	<u>21,794.10</u>
Total Sewer Department	<u>\$65,917.20</u>

The Board requested that the warrant sheets be sent out before the meeting, so Overseers would have time to study them.

Ken gave the following highlights of several town meetings he attended:

Northport Harbor Committee: The boat tax and mooring fee money will be deposited into a special fund, to be seeded with \$25,000. On a tour of the Bayside waterfront, the Harbor Committee noted future problem areas: the south side of the causeway, the causeway stone, cribbing adjacent to the wharf, and in the future, the boat float and north side sea wall. In a letter to the Overseers and Village agent, the Committee asked that requests for shoreline funding be submitted in writing yearly and at other times of need, to be considered at the next meeting of the committee, who will then present them to the Town Selectpersons for prioritization. Requests should outline briefly the projects needed, and the estimated cost.

Northport Selectpersons' Meeting: Bill Magruder has swept the sand-covered roads. Some road areas where gravel meets paving cause problems. There will be an effort to stabilize the gravel, possibly with calcification. Bluff Road drainage, and the Kelly Cove bridge are scheduled for work. A request to lower speed limits on the South Shore Road has been denied, as 25 mi/per/hr was deemed adequate. Fire hydrants at Birch Crest and Gallagher's Corner-Route 1 are being discussed. There is also a plan to identify public rights-of-way to the water.

Ken and John Fancy presented the Phase I infrastructure plans.

Meetings have been changed to the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. Still needed are volunteers to work on the Roads Committee.

Village Resident Concerns

Todd Merolla-Mussel Farm: Todd suggests that our ordinance needs a special clause to protect us from future expansion. We should select members of the Harbor Committee to represent our interests.

Russ Handler: Russ requested that a "Hardship Fund" be established to help those having trouble paying taxes, etc. The town of Northport has a General Assistance Fund which is reimbursable from the state. It was suggested that criteria for application to this fund be established with the Northport selectpersons. John pointed out that the waste water/water departments already have an abatement policy, so those outstanding bills should be excluded from such a discretionary fund. The Board felt that a Village Discretionary Fund should be set up, and Dan Doucette will chair a committee to design a format.

Matthew O'Malia: There is a metal ring in a tile which may be hazardous at the corner of George and Griffin. Bill Magruder will be asked to remove it.

Village Agent

Parks: Mowing is going well, but Ken will contact Lawns-R-Us to ask that weekend mowing be discontinued.

Ramps and Tanks: To be offered for salvage, but ramps and tanks must be taken together.

Ruggles Park: Removal of rocks will now be postponed until fall, or next spring.

Village Office: A bid of \$1,500 for construction materials based on Matt O'Malia's drawings has been received.

Picnic Table: Estimated cost of cedar is \$75. Approved.

Playground: Needs more bark. Lenny Holt has painted the merry-go-round.

Erosion of public path behind Union cottage: Bill will look into the problem.

Trash Bags: Some bags are oversized. Bill will put out a reminder about allowable bag size and weight, and that they must be placed in a sealed container.

Wharfmaster

A check for \$50 will be sent to the Department of Conservation, with the paper work, to obtain a constructive easement for the wharf.

It was **voted** to change the color of the wharf house to dove gray with white trim. Bartlett's estimate for repainting was \$1,700, but the Board felt painting could be done by volunteers.

Water/Wastewater

About 50 people attended the information meeting on June 22.

Bids on the Phase I infrastructure project will be opened on July 9. A meeting is scheduled with the Northport selectpersons and Birchcrest on their project, and the on July 21 a presentation will be made to the Board.

DEP Wastewater Treatment License: John Fancy presented a copy of a letter to Mr. Glowa requesting a discussion of future plans to upgrade the system. The NVC primary system was originally granted as an EPA waiver, and few of these special licenses in the state have received renewals. After discussion, DEP agreed to give a 5-year renewal license on the basis of the long-term plans, copies of which were presented to the Board. (See attached)

A new contract for John Fancy as Utilities Manager was discussed.

Water Rates: It was moved that the NVC apply to the PUC for a water rate increase up to 21% based on the current per-fixture rate. An amendment was proposed that we include the language that within 18 months after the new rate is in place, the Board shall apply to the PUC for a rate based on metered consumption. The vote on the amendment was passed with one vote in opposition. The main motion was **voted**.

Utilities Sub-Committee Report: The LMI study is complete, showing that 70% of the residents in the three target areas are year-round residents, and about two-thirds of them show income in the low to moderate range. An informational meeting about the arsenic situation is scheduled for July 21 at 1 PM. For on-going activities of the committee, see the filed report.

Pursuit of Rural Development and CBDG funds is continuing.

Parks

Work is in progress on the children's play area and the octagonal seat in Ruggles Park. At the library, the memorial planting in the Ponds' memory is completed. A dedication service will be held in August.

Information

The next issue of the Sea Breeze, which includes the Information Pack and directory, and the Community Calendar, will be out this week.

Recreation

The Community Garden Party plans are finalized. Use of the Community Hall in case of rain requires approval from the Board, as liquor is not permitted in the hall. Since insurance coverage has been approved, the Board gave permission for this one-time use.

Legal

The suit to clear titles for the NVC-owned lands has been settled. Titles are being recorded.

New Business

Ken is preparing a guidebook for all village officials, giving job descriptions and responsibilities.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 to go into an EXECUTIVE SESSION. Upon re-opening, the Board voted to authorize the president to negotiate a contract for the Overseers to approve an additional amount for the services of John Fancy as utilities manager not to exceed \$2,600 per account (water/wastewater). **Voted.**

The next meeting of the Board of Overseers will be July 21, 2002, in the village office meeting room. The meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor D. Lagner, Clerk