

Northport Village Corporation  
Utilities Department Meeting  
January 7, 2005

**Minutes**

Present: David Crofoot, Chairman, Jim Coughlin and, by telephone, Judy Metcalf.  
Also attending were Dick McElhaney, Bill Paige, Beverly Crofoot and Karen Hoedtke

Minutes of the last meeting were accepted.

Superintendent's report:

**Sewer Department:**

I&I continues to be a problem. November's average of 55,000 gal/day nearly doubled from the month before; this rise in flows in November is a typical seasonal occurrence due to lack of evapotranspiration and to infiltration of precipitation into the sewer system; November's precipitation totaled 5.26"/mo. compared to 1.94"/mo. in October and 3.34"/mo. yr-to-date. December was very wet and we had heavy flows; we must report to DEP a flow violation of the 63,000gal/day monthly average limit for our license.

BOD averaged 7 lbs/day in November compared to 34 lbs/day in October and 18 lbs/day year-to-date; TSS averaged 4 lbs/day in November, 5 lbs/day in October and 7 lbs year-to-date. This decrease in organic concentrations with increased flows further indicates effects of I&I. South Shore Pump Station: Stevens Pump and Electric and Moore's Septic Tank Cleaning are tentatively scheduled to install new check valves on the vertical lines inside the wet well on January 21<sup>st</sup>. The estimate is \$2,300. The Committee approved this expenditure by a vote of 3:0. The remainder of the repair consists of replacing the breakaway couplings and rail guides; this repair will be done in late 2005 and budgeted for payment in 2006.

**DEP Meeting:** McElhaney, Jim Fitch of Woodard & Curran, and Bill Ferdinand of Eaton Peabody met with representatives of the DEP to discuss the DEP's comments on W&C's "Wastewater Collection System Analysis Report" and the "Stage II Facility Plan." The DEP agreed that W&C could submit an addenda letter to clarify the Wastewater Collection report. The Committee reviewed and approved the draft letter: vote 3:0; McElhaney to so advise Fitch. The DEP requested that NVC revise the Stage II Facility Plan with additional options and cost comparisons and resubmit to DEP by February 1, 2005. The DEP has recognized that a secondary wastewater treatment system may not be affordable to NVC but that repairs to the existing system may be viable as long as EPA's 301(h) waiver is in effect. Woodard & Curran's will revise the Plan and submit the revision by the February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline at a proposed cost of \$9,900.

It was moved, seconded and approved to authorize up to \$9,900 for the revision: voted 3:0. The committee will wish to see the conclusions of this report with enough time to comment before the February 1 deadline.

**Water Department Operations:**

Sample for coliform analysis was negative.

Bill Paige discovered a water leak at a George Street residence, for which he is to be commended. The leak of approximately 6400 cu. ft was on the consumer's side of the meter, and is therefore the responsibility of the customer who will be billed for the usage (as indicated by the meter).

Metcalf returned to the I&I problem. In spite of the improvements accomplished with the Phase I infrastructure work this is still a significant problem which will have to be addressed in the context of daily operations and also in any Phase III work on our existing system. An area of concern is heavy flows into the manhole at Poulin's. This remnant of the old sewer line only serves two seasonal houses. This stretch of collector may need to be relined, replaced, or rerouted. We currently have regulations in place that any house which is winterized with a new foundation must completely replace their existing service line with leak proof material.

Budgets:

McElhaney is to prepare a revised budget to present at the January Overseer's meeting. The Water Budget revenues will be \$10,000 short of expenses for 2005. After discussion, the Committee will recommend to the Overseers that we seek a water rate increase of \$46/yr to the current base rate of \$380—a total of \$426. McElhaney will investigate the procedure to request a rate increase from the PUC. After presentation to the voters this summer, this rate increase will not be in effect till the 2006 budget cycle. As Ken Vlodek has reminded us, the voters fully expected a water rate increase when they voted nearly unanimously to approve the Phase II deep water extension to Shore and Bluff Roads.

Water Meters:

There are still a number of meters which have not been installed. A letter is to be sent to those customers indicating that the meters must be installed this spring, either in the house or, if that is not feasible, then in a meter pit. A price for the meter pit installation is to be developed. The customer is responsible for the cost of this installation.

A resident living beyond the current sewer lines has filed an application to attach to the nearest sewer line. The current treatment system does not have excess capacity as demonstrated by our recent violation of flow limits. In addition, the 301(h) waiver does not allow expansion of our collection system. Until upgrades to our system allow us to operate within the limits of our license, we cannot permit expansion. McElhaney will prepare a letter to the resident to so indicate.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Hoedtke