

NVC UTILITIES MEETING
MINUTES
May 9, 2014

Present: Chairman David Crofoot; Committee members: Marge Brockway, Denis Wang; **absent,** Ned Lightner; Judy Metcalf by phone; Office Manager Paul Bartels; Superintendent Richard McElhaney; Distribution Operator Bill E. Paige; Resident Dick Brockway.

Chairman Crofoot called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

Minutes

Denis Wang moved to accept the minutes of the March meeting, seconded by Marge Brockway – **Voted and approved.**

Financials

Bill Cressey provided P&L reports with a brief analysis via email. The Committee reviewed the reports.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
NORTHPORT VILLAGE CORPORATION - UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

May 9, 2014

Clean Water Treatment Plant

March 2014 Effluent Monitoring Data

The NVC Clean Water Treatment Plant was in full compliance with its discharge license in March. There were no license exceedances.

March flow averaged 12,194 gpd compared to 14,635 gpd in 2013 and 9,106 gpd in 2012. Daily flow ranged from a low of 2,300 gpd to a high of 96,800 gpd during the month. Precipitation for the month measured 3.75” versus 1.32” in 2013 and 1.49” in 2012.

TSS and BOD⁵ averaged 1.3 lbs/day (19.3 mg/l) and 3.3 lbs/day (50.5 mg/l), respectively compared to 2.0 lbs/day (10.4 mg/l) and 4.0 lbs/day (20 mg/l) in March of 2013. However, because there were quality control (QC) issues with the NVC’s in-house BOD dilution water blanks, the DEP has asked the NVC to make up the March tests including future BOD testing using a certified outside lab (NEL) until the DEP believes the QA/QC issue is resolved and DEP can give the NVC the “go ahead”. Also see below remarks under “In-House BOD Testing”.

See performance table below for this month’s comparisons, averages, year-to-date highs and lows, permit limits, and year-to-date (YTD) exceedances. Testing frequency is

continuous for flow, weekly for TSS, BOD⁵ and fecal coliform (May thru Sept), daily for pH and settleable solids, and twice per day for total residual chlorine (May thru Sept).

Performance Table

Parameters	March	February	January	YTD Lo	YTD Hi	YTD Ave	2013 Ave	DEP Monthly Limit	Exceed-ances
Flow GPD	12,194	5,054	26,135	5,054	26,135	14461	9602	<63000	0
Precip Inches	3.75	3.28	5.67	3.28	5.67	4.24	3.26	n/a	0
TSS lbs/day	1.3	1.0	1.7	1.0	1.7	1.37	1.9	<76	0
TSS mg/l	19.3	22.8	13	13	22.8	18.4	25.7	<145	0
BOD ⁵ lbs/day	3.3	1.6	1.5	1.5	3.3	2.17	7.0	<107	0
BOD ⁵ mg/l	50.5	51.9	31.9	31.9	51.9	44.8	80.2	<203	0
TSS% Removal	93.4	92.1	95.5	92.1	95.5	93.7	91.1	>50	0
BOD% Removal	82.6	82.1	89.0	82.1	89.0	84.6	70.8	>30	0
pH lo	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.0	6.97	6.8	>6.0	0
pH Hi	7.4	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.0	<9.0	0
S.S. ml/l	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	Report	0
TRC mg/l	na	na	na	na	na	na	.02	<.052	0
F Col/100 ml	na	na	na	na	na	na	<1.4	<15-ave	0
F Col/100 ml	na	na	na	na	na	na	<1.6	<50-max	0

Note: The last exceedance for flow was **96 months ago (2/2006)**. No exceedance for pH, TRC, TSS and BOD⁵ has occurred for **102 months (8/2005)**. The last exceedance for fecal coliform was **19 months ago (8/2012)**.

April 2014 Snapshot

The NVC Clean Water Treatment Plant was in compliance with its discharge license in April pending DEP's review of the NVC's monthly discharge monitoring report and laboratory reports. Flow during the month averaged about 27,000 gpd. The report for precipitation as measured by the BWD at the Little River Station was about 5 inches.

Spring Septic Tank Cleaning

Moore's Septic is scheduled to be in the Village today Friday, May 9, 2014 to clean out the road side train of septic tanks at the Clean Water Treatment Plant that was used over the winter months. Moore will also pump down the chlorination tank and de-chlorination manhole so that they can be flushed with clean water in preparation for the disinfection season.

Chlorination/Dechlorination System

Fernie Barton is presently preparing the start-up of the Chlorination/Dechlorination system for the upcoming swimming season. The NVC discharge permit requires chlorination from May 15 to Oct 1. The department uses liquid sodium hypochlorite to inactivate disease causing bacteria (pathogens) and then de-chlorinates to remove residual chlorine using liquid sodium bisulfite to eliminate the toxic effects chlorine has on aquatic life. During the season, Fernie also takes grab samples twice per day to test for chlorine residual and then once per week to test for fecal coliform (an indicator organism for potential pathogen presence) to further confirm that the disinfection of the effluent is fully complete.

In-House BOD Testing

The DEP has asked the Department to split effluent water samples with a certified lab (NEL) until further notice to enable a time for their inspector to come back down and observe Billy perform the BOD test procedures again. NEL no longer offers courier services, but does have an employee who commutes from Northport each day to their Winslow lab who will transport the samples for the NVC for \$10 a trip. General Courier gave the NVC an estimate of \$80 per trip for comparison.

ISCO Effluent Refrigerated Composite Sampler

The effluent composite sampler would not pump last week and was shipped back to the manufacturer to diagnose and determine the cost for repairs. An attempt to troubleshoot and correct the problem with the Isco Tech Support Technician by phone was not successful. The old non-refrigerated back-up sampler will be used with cool packs in the interim to keep samples cool while they are being composited.

Grade Risers

Two 8-inch and six 6-inch concrete grade risers have been ordered to raise the depressed manhole covers above the septic tanks back up to grade.

“Hands-On-Laboratory Tests” Training

The Collection System Operator/Lab Tech and Utility Superintendent attended a DEP recommended course on water testing in Portland on May 6, 2014. The course was sponsored by the Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee (JETCC) to prepare and refresh operators to test water for such things as TSS, BOD and fecal coliform. Two of the trainers were southern Maine DEP inspectors.

Drinking Water

March 2014 Usage and Water Quality

Water consumption during March averaged 10,338 gpd compared to 10,369 in 2013 and 11,498 in 2012.

The average weekly chlorine residual in the drinking water was .23 ppm/Cl² compared to the recommended goal of >.20 to <1.0 ppm/Cl². The monthly coliform test result was negative. The NVC serves its customers with pre-chlorinated drinking water it purchases from the Belfast Water District.

2013 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

The CCR and Water Quality Report will be mailed out with May's trimesterly billing.

Spring Meter Installations

Bill Paige experienced several incidents in mid to late April while installing meters where groundwater that had built up above the street valves during the winter was still frozen solid. The frozen ground and deep frost this year has effectively delayed the installation of many of the water meters so that for some of the NVC customers their water might not be turned on until as late as May 15 instead of the goal to have everyone up and running by May 1.

What is more, on a couple of instances where Customers had requested their water to be turned on early, and Bill was able to do so, meters quickly froze up costing the Customer significant dollars for plumbing repairs and meter replacement. The extra labor it took Bill to deal with the freeze-ups unfortunately often times come when Bill, among all of his other jobs, is extremely busy trying to accommodate the many wishes of almost everyone.

Adjourn

Next meeting scheduled June 6th 2014 at 9:30 AM.

Judy Metcalf moved to adjourn at 3:15 PM, seconded by Denis Wang, **Voted - majority approved.**

Submitted by Paul Bartels