



Minutes of the Meeting of the Northport Village Corporation Board of Overseers

9:00 am, April 19, 2020

Virtual – Zoom

Attendees

President: John Spritz
Treasurer: Steve Kazilionis
Village Agent: William Paige

Overseers

David Crofoot
Miles Frieden
Lisa Fryer
Michael Lannan
Vicky Matthews
Judy Metcalf
Michael Tirrell
Jeffrey Wilt

Meeting called to order: 9:00 am

Approval of Minutes: Jeff W. motion to approve the minutes from the April 5th meeting; Judy M. seconded the motion; vote was unanimous.

Coronavirus Task Force Update:

- Michael T. discussed that they have had three weekly meetings to address the current state of the Governor's Executive Order active through April 30, 2020. There is consensus regarding addressing the swimming area and beachfront and the impact to the swim floats and dinghy floats.
- Jeff W. the Waterfront Safety Committee has had two meetings and has two recommendations and one action item:
 - Invite individuals to continue to use the waterfront within the CDC and State of Maine guidelines, have them bring their own items and take everything with them when they leave.
 - Install boat floats as planned and within two weeks the committee will recommend appropriate guidelines within the CDC and State of Maine guidelines. Want to understand any changes the Governor makes before any changes or recommendations are made.
 - Waterfront Safety Committee has voted and approved these recommendations.
 - Jeff W. motion to accept proposals by Waterfront Safety Committee; Michael T. seconded; vote was unanimous.
- John S. states that in addition to Dan W. posting on website, info needs to be sent to rental agencies.
- Lisa F. states that she is posting and sending things out regularly, but signage is being removed by unknown person(s).
- Michael L. states that we need to develop communication regarding self-policing and cooperation from individuals.

Seawall Update:

- Michael L. states that the contract with new version is ready to go. Two days ago he received the specifications for the wastewater treatment building and that there are many conflicts between the two projects. He will send for review. May need more time for coordination.
- Judy M. states assurances that the final contract on the building will address those concerns and shouldn't delay the seawall contract.
- John S. asks for the contract to be sent to Steve K. and himself.

Report of the Treasurer:

- Steve K. states that the financials will be available next week.
- He asks if everyone has looked at the spreadsheet sent to them about the financing of the seawall project. At this year's annual meeting he will be looking for approval to cover the first interest payment with reserves and in following years proposes taking \$25,000 from reserves annually to contribute to the bond payment, which will reduce tax liability for taxpayers. The \$25,000 is just a number and can be larger.
 - John S. asks if the number is changed from \$25,000, what happens.
 - Steve K. states that the spreadsheet details this in regards to other bonds and the future.

Infrastructure Committee:

- Michael L. believes the vote on the wastewater treatment building is not legal.

Tree Committee:

- Lisa F. purchased the bonds for Merithew Square plantings, got a quote from Plants Unlimited that was lower than anticipated, and needs to talk to Mr. White next week.
- The cleaning of the area has come to a standstill because landscapers have slowed down but positive it can still be completed.

Tree Warden:

- Vicky M. trying to coordinate on Merithew Square being completed in May. Two recent storms have resulted in tree trimmers and landscapers being extremely busy.
- Four trees in Auditorium Park have been pruned and waiting for Treeworks to treat the remaining trees and complete browntail moth treatments.
- Received communication from the O'Bergs near Bayview Park about a tree there that had been mislabeled. She has asked Treeworks for an estimate on the cost to treat the tree, but hasn't received yet.
 - Vicky M. motion for \$1,500 to be used for the oak tree at Bayview Park; Judy M. seconded the motion.
 - Judy M. amends motion to use \$1,500 from tree donation fund and then get the remainder from the tree budget; vote was unanimous.
- Vicky M. has given the arborist the go ahead to remove the tree on West Street. A tree on Main Street below the Haverty's house, on Village property, identified as a throughway, is overgrown. She has asked the arborist for a quote on taking the tree down.

Communications Committee:

- Lisa F. has been sending out emails, been in contact with rental agencies, and given to Dan W. to post. She needs to repost the Governor's order, and put something online with Dan W. urging people to leave the signage up.
- She asks about additional signage to Lower Bayview; Michael T. thinks the look of the signage needs to be looked at for consistency and longevity.
- Info needs to be shared with Northport and people not living in the Village.

Finance Committee:

- Judy M. - Nothing to report

Governance Committee:

- Judy M. states that they are going to have a public meeting on the parking ordinance and have receive comments from people about Upper Bayview Park, they plan to put that in and present again at the May 10th meeting. They will know then about the public meeting date.

Personnel Committee:

- Jeff W. met early in April to discuss and believes they will need an Executive Session for the next Overseers meeting to bring them into the loop on what has been discussed.

Utility Committee:

- Judy M. states that the committee met on Friday, April 17th, and regrets to inform that Gordon Fuller has resigned as a member. They now need a member of the community to fill the spot. Before Gordon was comfortable resigning, he groomed Janae N. to fill the role.
- Judy M. makes a motion for Janae N. be appointed to finish Gordon F.'s term; she is a former attorney, utilities customer, member of the community for 30 years, and lives here year-round.
 - Michael L. makes a point of order that it should be opened up to everyone. He is not suggesting Janae N. isn't right for the position, but should be transparent and open to anyone, then decide.
 - John S. wants the Utilities Committee to give info to Dan to solicit the position, if multiple names come in, he will contact them independently and he will make his recommendation to the Overseers.
- Michael L. has a point of order regarding removing Judy from the Utilities Committee because of a conflict of interest due to working at Eaton Peabody.
 - Overseers discuss possible Executive Session to deal with this, as it was unexpected. Need to prepare minutes of the Utilities meeting, send to Overseers only, arrange an Executive Session at some point.
- Judy M. states that on Friday the Utilities Committee met to review the design process and Michael L. brought a presentation, they reviewed the design, and the design from March 13th was ratified. Bids will open on April 24. Richard M. will communicate with the chair on how many bids come in, open them and report back. The Superintendent's report states the system is working well, working towards testing; bills were due April 15th, had one customer complaint about increase in bill and was addressed.
- Michael L. does not agree with the process at the Utilities meetings.

- Jeff W. states that he has received calls from the public regarding the design and he suggested they attend the meetings and make comments there.
- Judy M. states that the process started last summer with public comments on July 13th, every single meeting is public, Dick Brockway has made models, the 85% design was approved in October, the drawings have been on the wall.
- Michael T. asks if Michael L. has raised these concerns in the meetings. Michael L. states that he has raised these comments through the meetings and is not satisfied. Michael T. asks if this is the first time he has raised it with the Overseers. Michael L. says with respect to design.
 - Nina R. will send meeting minutes to Overseers for accuracy purposes.
- David C. states that they have votes and try to come to consensus by compromise, there have been numerous compromises, sought advice, looked at roof pitch, there has been disagreement from one member and has been out voted.
- John S. tables this discussion and that the Utilities Committee needs to fix it internally.

Safety Committee

- Michael T. has two proposals:
 - Hiring Danny Ryosa for police officer; has been vetted by Michael T. and Bill P. and met separately with committee members; he is from Michigan, background check received and passed; with Danny onboard, they do not need Ben this season; would like to proceed with hiring Danny within the job sharing agreement with Michael B. He would start around June 1st, work about 30 hours per week at roughly \$8,500; Michael would work the rest. Recommendation is \$20/hr.
 - Michael T. motions to hire Danny R. under the direction of Michael B; Lisa F. seconded; vote was unanimous.
 - Hiring Thomas Parker and MacKenzie Treadwell as lifeguards. Thomas P. at \$15/hr for five days a week; MacKenzie at \$15.50/hr for two days a week and mentor Thomas P.
- Dock signage is held off for now in regards to other signage.

Waterfront Safety Committee:

- Jeff W. - Nothing to report

Town of Northport Issues:

- Vicky M. will attend meeting on April 20th to see what they are doing about COVID-19.
- Judy M. needs to coordinate Bay Street with the town, still waiting.

Report of the President:

- John S. passes.

Village Agent Report:

- Bill P. has one issue regarding the Fire pond on Bluff Road, the well pump or the wiring needs to be fixed. Has an estimate to fix for \$4,328.03 to replace the pump, wiring, control box, site fee, labor, and miscellaneous, could be more. Steve K. agrees it is an emergency fix.



- Judy M. motions for approval of up to \$5,500 for fix; Vicky M. seconded; vote was unanimous.
- Bill P. is trying to get a welder to fix the boat float; spring cleanup is moving forward; he is installing water meters.

Office Manager Report:

- Nina R. has given Bill access to voicemail and email outside of the office.

Community Comments:

- Dan W. will send email to Nina R. regarding wedding for Megan Elizabeth Williams.
- Craig represents a coalition of concerned citizens regarding the wastewater treatment building and they do not think the design is the best. He intends to campaign a people's petition requesting the Overseers to direct the Utilities Committee to review and redesign the building. They would like the building shorter and more visually appealing.
- Dan W. doesn't think there is a Town of Northport distribution list. He would appreciate public comment before votes; the utilities issue may not be able to be handled in Executive session per Maine law.
- Charlie asks about impact on water turn-on.
 - Judy M. states that the water will be turned on by May 1st, per PUC.
 - Jim C. adds that in regards to the boat float and wharf, one lobsterman uses it and Bayside Marine uses it. He senses an overall tone of how not to open Bayside, and he would like it to be as open as possible within guidelines.
 - Michael T. wonders if next meeting should be earlier because the Governor's order may change; John S. would like the task force to make recommendation in advance of the Overseers meeting; will try to figure time for Executive Session after next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: at 11:54 am

The next Overseers Meeting is at 9 am on Sunday, May 10th.

Meeting minutes submitted by Nina Richard.