



Minutes of the NVC Utilities Committee

2:30 pm • June 12, 2020 • Zoom

Attendees:

David Crofoot: Chairman
Miles Frieden: Overseer
Judy Metcalf: Overseer
Richard McElhaney: Utility Superintendent
Bill Paige: Village Agent
Janae Novotny

Meeting called to order at: 2:33 pm

Approval of Minutes: Janae N. motions to accept the minutes from the April 17th and May 8th meetings; Judy M. seconds; vote is unanimous.

David C. states that he has taken the building permit paperwork to the Town of Northport. The Northport Planning Board will be meeting on **July 14 at 6 pm** at the Town Hall and he would like as many as possible to attend the meeting on behalf of NVC.

Financial Report: David C. states that billing collections are coming down, there are currently 21 customers on the overdue billing list.

Judy M. make a motion to affirm and ratify the increase of one hour per week for Richard McElhaney that was approved for the 2020 budget; Janae N. seconds; vote is unanimous. Richard McElhaney. states that he has not been getting paid the extra one hour since January 4, 2020. David C. states that when the budget was completed, they voted to increase by one hour.

Judy M. states that there is an Overseer position on the Utilities Committee that is vacant and needs to be filled; she will recommend Jeffrey Wilt at the Overseers Meeting.

Superintendent's Report:

Richard M. states there have been positive tests for Enterococci; it is felt that this is due to issues of the colorimetric testing technique and has proposed as a solution is to lower the dilution from 1:5 to 1:10. They believe that it is a chemical interference in the IDEXX test and not a biological overgrowth. If the change in dilution eliminates the issue, they can invalidate the reported violations and have a clean record.

Bill Paige reported a big water leak (33,000 gallons) on Griffin Street, third house up the hill from Broadway. Leak occurred inside the house. Bill P. and Matt Brown dug up and repaired from the outside.

Wastewater Treatment Building Update: David C. states that Farley submitted an estimate for the groundwork portion of the project. This was offered after we had rebid the entire project and was good for one month. No action can be taken on this until after the bid opening on June 30.



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New Business: Judy M. states that Overseers have considered eliminating rental charge from the sewer budget. This would have some impact on the Village budget. The proposed budget of the Town of Northport eliminates the \$25,000 usually paid to the NVC. We discussed the need for the Overseers to meet with the Northport Selectmen to explain all of the services that NVC provides for that \$25,000 (roads, snowplowing, streetlights, etc.).

David C. suggests a meeting before the Annual Meeting to go over project progress.

Nina R. explained the cost for adding online payment capacity to the CUSI billing system for the Utilities is \$270 per year.

Judy M. moves to authorize Nina R. to work with the Treasurer to implement the contract with CUSI; Janae N. seconds; vote is unanimous.

Public Comments: None

Bill P. states that Bob Cole and his sister Laura were looking at the model of the wastewater treatment building and had some suggestions.

David C. states that he has a five-drawer file cabinet that he would be happy to donate to NVC.

Meeting Adjourned: at 3:25 pm

The Wastewater Treatment Building Construction Bid Opening is at 2:30 pm on Tuesday, June 30th.

The next Utilities Committee Meeting is at 2:30 pm on Friday, July 3rd.

Meeting minutes submitted by Nina Richard.



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Utility Superintendent’s Report

Sewer Department

April 2020 Effluent Monitoring Data

The NVC Wastewater Treatment Plant (WTP) had two exceedances of its discharge permit for enterococci during the month. One was for monthly average and the other was for exceeding the daily maximum. These exceedances are believed to be false positives due to a chemical interference with the IDEXX test methodology. Further testing and study using different sample dilutions will be required to root out the chemical interference before the exceedances can be invalidated.

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, Settleable Solids (S. S.); Fecal Coliform and Enterococci (April 15 – October 31); 5 days/week for pH; daily for total residual chlorine (April 15 – October 31); and annually for low level mercury. **TSS and BOD percent removal rates are based on assumed influent concentrations of 290 mg/l.**

Monthly Performance Table

Parameters	April	March	February	YTD Lo	YTD Hi	YTD Ave	2019 Ave	DEP Limit	Exceedances
Flow GPD	2724	15923	8090	8090	2724	1582	1391	<63,00	0
Precip	4.39	2.8	2.66	2.66	4.39	3.21	3.76	n/a	0
TSS	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.8	1.4	1.1	2.2	<76	0
TSS mg/l	6.7	10.9	13.8	6.7	13.8	11.1	23.4	<145	0
BOD ⁵	8.7	3.2	2.1	2.1	8.7	4.2	5.3	<107	0
BOD ⁵ mg/l	35.0	28.4	39.5	35.0	41.2	36.1	62.7	<203	0
TSS%	97.7	96.2	95.2	95.2	97.7	96.1	92.2	>50	0
BOD ⁵	87.9	90.2	86.4	85.8	87.9	87.5	78.4	>30	0
pH lo	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.7	6.6	6.6	>6.0	0
pH Hi	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.9	<9.0	0
S.S. ml/l	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	Repor	0
TRC mg/l	na	na	na	na	na	na	0.02	<0.3	0
Fecal	na	na	na	na	na	na	3.37	<14-	0
Fecal	na	na	na	na	na	na	6.81	<31-	0
Enterococc	>242	na	na	>242	>242	na	na	<8-ave	1



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Enterococc	>242	na	na	>242	>242	na	na	<54-	1
Mercury	na	na	na	na	na	na	20.7	33.4	0

Note: The last exceedance for flow was **168 months ago (2/2006)**. The last exceedance for fecal coliform was **91 months ago (8/2012)**. The last exceedance for BOD was **66 months ago (9/2014)**. The record annual average low for flow was 12,017 gpd in 2017.

May 2020 Snapshot

The NVC WTP will report several exceedances for enterococci in May, but again these exceedances are believed to be false positives and will likely be invalidated by the end of June once the entero study is completed and the DEP, NEL, IDEXX Labs and the NVC are all in concurrence with the study results. Flow averaged 12,913 gpd. The report for precipitation as measured by the Belfast Water District (BWD) at their Little River Station was 3.70 inches.

EPA Administrative Order on Consent Timeline Update

1. By ~~June 30, 2019~~, complete preliminary engineering study to present new physical plant options. **Completed by Dirigo Engineering on April 12, 2019 – “Disinfection & Dechlorination Options Review”.**
2. By ~~August 31, 2019~~, complete preliminary resource assessment/planning to identify potential new locations for a new physical plant. **Completed. Location options identified by Dirigo Engineering on April 12, 2019 – “Disinfection & Dechlorination Options Review”.**
3. By ~~(or before) October 31, 2019~~, select location and finalize preliminary design to support the NVC effort to secure funding for the new physical plant (select location by Labor Day 2019). **Completed – “Preliminary Design Plans for the Chlorination Building”**
4. By ~~(or before) September 30, 2020~~ complete final design and resource assessment/planning to support land use permitting and formation of construction contract documents for the new physical plant. **Completed by Dirigo Engineering on April 6, 2019 – “Project Drawings for the New Chlorination Building”**
5. By **(or before) September 30, 2020**, secure approval of funding from the residents of NVC **(at their August 2019 or 2020 Annual Meeting)** for financing the new physical plant.
6. By **(or before) December 31, 2020**, complete construction of new physical plant.



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The NVC must submit semi-annual progress reports summarizing its compliance with the provisions of this Consent Order on or before June 1st and December 1st of each year. Furthermore, whereas, the Consent Order requires a specific action to be performed within a certain time frame, NVC shall in addition submit a written notice of compliance or non-compliance within 14 days of each deadline. The first of two progress reports for 2020 was submitted to EPA/MEDEP on June 1, 2020. The NVC asked the EPA/DEP to consider extending the deadline one year to complete the construction of the chlorination building in the event the current year end deadline could not be met. Copy of this report was sent to committee members under separate cover.

Drinking Water Department

April 2020 Usage and Water Quality

Purchased water for the month averaged 15,305 gpd compared to 15,018 gpd for the same month in 2019. The weekly free chlorine residual in the drinking water ranged from 0.33 - 0.36 ppm/Cl² compared to the recommended goal of >.20 to <1.0 ppm/Cl². The EPA maximum concentration level (MCL) not to be exceeded for chlorine residual is 4.0 ppm. The monthly total coliform and e-coli water sample test results were both negative.

Lower Griffin Street Water Leak

A 33,000 gallon metered water leak from the second floor bathroom of a dwelling located at 5 Griffin Street was found in early June. The home was unoccupied. It took several days to contact the out of state owner to report the loss. Extensive water damage occurred to both first and second floors. Matt Brown Construction was called in to dig up and replace the curb stop valve since it could not be completely shut off at the street, the water valve inside the dwelling was still open and there was no way for Bill Paige to access the premises to shut the inside valve off.