**Northport Village Corporation**

**Village Agent Report**

**December 12, 2021 Board of Overseers Meeting**

**Parks**

* Ruggles Park – status of newly seeded grass: After a couple of frosts, Farley will pre-seed for spring, and when the floats are removed in the spring, Farley will return to deal with that area.
* Bottom of Ruggles Park: Water running down the public walkway between 3 and 5 Park Row that washes silt and rocks down the side of the Park Row extension and around the corner of the boat ramp down toward the Bay. Met with contractor to discuss installing a storm drain to capture that water. Still waiting for an estimate. Infrastructure Committee is discussing.
* Water runoff in front of the new treatment plant: The hot top elevation is not high enough to prevent water runoff from collecting at the stairs to the new treatment plant. In discussion with contractor to remedy. Contractor unofficially saying that it is “up to grade” and not really a problem.
* Parks maintenance: Plan to work with Tree Warden/Tree Committee to recommend scope of a parks/grounds maintenance contract (not the lawn mowing contract.)

**Wharf and floats**

* Infrastructure Committee agrees that wharf delayed maintenance is the first priority.
* Necessary repairs identified in annual wharf inspection by Pinnacle Hill Marine Engineering. Prock is waiting for materials to arrive to begin the authorized repairs. Have called twice for an update from Prock.
* Swim float: Will need two new ladders for next summer. Looking at options. Getting estimates from a metal fabricator. Metal and woodwork for landing that the ramp sets on the float needs repair. Waiting for an estimate from Scott Munroe.
* New stairs installed on the north shore seawall have been removed for the winter.
* Boat float repairs: Need new rub rail on south end of the boat float. Have purchased new rub rail and will need to coordinate with volunteers in the spring to install. Need to inspect boat float and dinghy float for needed repairs.
* Signage: Safety Committee and Wharfmaster have requested new signage regarding swimming safety and fishing rules. Will work with Safety, Wharfmaster and Communications to have new signs ready for next season.
* Personal watercraft: Thanks to Gordon Fuller, all personal watercraft are out of the park. For the second year in a row, Gordon moved the last two to the Brewer Cottage porch when the owners failed to remove them.

**Roads**

* Spent about half a day reviewing all Village roads with Steve Kazilliones and identifying issues for the Infrastructure Committee.
* Pleasant Street and Pleasant Alley: Continue to respond to Pleasant Street and Pleasant Alley issues.
* Water at head of Pleasant Lane: Talked with Road Commissioner about possibility of a storm drain on Broadway to address water running down Pleasant Lane. He advised me to have Brown’s Excavation to look at it and give an estimate for the work. He asked me to check into raising up the storm drain at Merithew Square to reduce the depth of the “speed bump” there and give him the estimate. Unlikely that the Town will be able to address these issues in the current budget.
* Road wash out on a driveway on upper Griffin Street has been repaired. Under torrential rains, problem will continue, so it has been referred to the Infrastructure Committee. Washed out again in the Halloween storm.
* Shore Road and Bluff Road: Asked the Road Commissioner to cut back the brush in the road right-of-way at points along these roads where tree limbs and shrubs are hanging over/in the roadway. Has not been done yet.
* New encroachments on NVC property. 34 Main Street owners have been informed in writing that their in-progress arbor and cement block flowerbed are in the 45-foot Main Street road right-of-way and must be removed. Encroachments have not been removed. Will work with the President to contact property owner who cleared brush and dumped it on Village property.
* Storm damage: At least two more storms since November meeting caused further Village road damage requiring repairs. Town has not yet repaired October storm damage on Broadway between Griffin and Main Streets.
* Storm drain cleanout: Bill from Town for storm drain cleanouts was more than $6,000. We pay half and the Town pays half. Our normal share is about $2500.
* Property owner complaints about water runoff from village roads: Whenever I have an opportunity, I advise property owners building new structures or doing major remodels to build their foundations higher than the crest of the road grade to avoid flooding. Property owners who ignore this advise then complain that runoff from the road floods their property and they want the village to do something about it. I suggest that we figure out some other ways to communicate this information. Website? Zoning ordinance?

**Miscellaneous**

* I continue to field calls from private contractors working throughout the Village on current and planned projects in the Village.
* I continue to deal with various villagers with issues they want addressed.
* Community Hall cleaning. We still need to find an affordable option for annual spring-cleaning upstairs. (Commercial companies want $1,000+ for one annual cleaning.)
* Streetlights: CMP has repaired all non-working streetlights.
* Pending issues: (1) determined that tree near 34 Clinton Street that needs to be removed is in the Village 40 foot right-of-way in that area. Arborist determined that it is not dead, but dead limbs need to be removed. Property owner disagrees and would like tree removed.

**Village projects/needs on the near and far horizon with budget implications**

* **Ruggles Park Playground:** New playground equipment needed soon**;** committee working on this.
* **Basketball court**: Resurfacing needs to be included in 2023 budget.
* **Parking Ordinance Implementation**: Requires new signage and work to prepare Cradle Park/Grove Street for parking.
* **Community Hall**: The back of the hall needs to be assessed for potential reshingling needs. The bottom trim needed to repaired, patched and cracks filled to reduce a rodent issue.
* **Floats replacement:** It is time to begin setting aside and saving money to replace the swim float. Replacement cost ballpark: $25-45, 000. Then, it will be time to save for a new boat float. Working on refining a cost estimate.
* **Inshore mooring block for the boat float**: The block is near the end of its life and needs to be replaced. The cement and metal block was ballast out of a Great Northern Paper Company locomotive that was donated to the Village many years ago. The previous owner of Oriental Cottage was a Great Northern manager and he donated the block and cables used for years to pull in the floats.
* I am still seeking estimates from companies and individuals who consistently do good work with projects like Merithew Square and Library ground maintenance, so that we can add these areas to our parks maintenance plan to be included in the budget and managed by the Village. Donations can continue to be accepted, as available, and the work will be arranged for and overseen by the Village.
* **Bayview Park**: The estimate to reshingle the gazebo (old gatehouse roof) on Bay Street with good architect shingles, and add some needed bracing is $5,000.

**Recent Utilities Activities**

* Researching future water line on Bluff Road.
* 40 acres on Route 1 has been purchased for an event center and development of several lots. They want water access. I have spent hours explaining that our system cannot provide water service unless they engineer an extension of the water main at their cost. They are not happy with this information. Same issue with The Scone Goddess who wanted water to their new building on Route 1. They were surprised to learn that water from our system is not availably unless they pay for a water line under Route 1 to connect to our main. But, her property has a fairly new well that the business owner can use.

Submitted by Bill Paige, Village Agent.