

NVC Utilities Committee
Trustee Meeting
Community Hall and by Zoom link
Friday, October 6, 2023, 1:00 p.m.

Trustees Present: Brady Brim-Deforest, Jeffrey Wilt, Judy Metcalf, David Crofoot

Trustees Absent: Casey Brown

Staff: Chuck Applebee, Bill Paige

The October meeting of the NVC Utilities Trustees convened at 1:03. Utilities chair, Jeffrey Wilt called the meeting to order.

Community Member Comments:

Rachel Rossa asked a clarification on some points reflected in the September meeting minutes

Approval of minutes:

David moved (Judy second) approval of minutes of September 8, 2023, minutes. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Superintendent Report:

- Pumping out tanks due to August & September BOD (biological oxygen demand) exceedances.
- Numbers are much higher than normal untreated wastewater. Organic waste going out is strong than should be coming in.
- System made for human waste and toilet paper and that is it. Look for unusual occurrences – home brew, commercial baking, etc. Send e-mail blast reminding people what can go in system. Also use Village Website, Dan’s website, invoices in November.
- System is not made to treat soluble BOD – paint, grease, etc..
- No known commercial users in Village.
- Large number of contractors—paint in system.
- Numbers are much higher than normal untreated wastewater. Organic waste going out is strong than should be coming in.
- What is the consequence of people misusing the system? They could be fined.

- Rainy summer, Village is full
- Rent portable samplers to track BOD concentration at different points
- TSS is level. What soluble BOD is coming in untreated? Wastewater system does not make soluble BOD.
- Chuck has been talking to our DEP inspector. Show state we are jumping on this but do not understand source of soluble BOD.
- One option is the addition of a “mixer” in our tanks to further break-down organics. Include in next year’s budget
- The Tank holding sodium hypochlorite is leaking. Leak of approximately 2 gallons of sodium hypo. Tank is being emptied.
- Is it the correct tank? Look at condition of tank when it is empty.
- Big “thank-you” to Fernie for assistance in clean-up

Moratorium

- Our efforts to control BOD exceedances – us of all three trains, cleaning out tanks – have not created stability in our system. Numbers are worse than when we started.
- We are reminded that a Moratorium is not permanent, it buys us more time.
- A six-month extension would extend the moratorium to mid-April.

Judy Metcalf presented a motion to expand the moratorium that prohibits permits to be processed or approved for new connections to the sewer system for the period of October 6, 2023 to April 6, 2023. Motion was seconded by Brady Brim-Deforest. The motion was adopted with yes votes from David Crofoot, Judy Metcalf, Jeffrey Wilt, Brady Brim-Deforest

Water Department

- **Belfast Water District will increase water rates by 30% on January 1, 2024.**
- **Rates have not changed for 9 years.**

Contract with Water Quality Maine (Chuck Applebee)

Our contract with WQM will automatically renew January 7, 2024 as it is a re-occurring contract with 60 day notice.

- Jeffrey reminded the Trustees that in, January 2023, when we entered into the WQM contract we planned to issue an RFP before renewing contract.
- The Trustees discussed the fact that the RFP commitment when made when Chuck was an unknown.
- RFP's cost \$ and take time. Should we invest \$ in RFP when we have real satisfaction.
- Brady reminded the trustees that he made over 70 calls/emails in 2022 to assess our options for system management—two firms responded—WQM and a much larger firm which recommended WQM.

Judy Metcalf presented a motion to not proceed with an RFP and allow our WQM contract to renew for 2024. Motion was seconded by Brady Brim-Deforest. The motion was adopted with yes votes from David Crofoot, Judy Metcalf, Jeffrey Wilt, Brady Brim-Deforest

Budgeting

The Trustees reviewed a draft sewer system budget for 2024.

Other Business

Meeting time

The next meeting of the Trustees is **November 10, 1:00 p.m.**, Community Hall and on-line (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82961508196?pwd=ekpzTlZcml3cnJEZmlHRmlwR3ZSZz09>)

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jeffrey Wilt, Chairman

Oct. 6, 2023

Utility Department Monthly Operating Report Sewer Department

September 2023 Effluent Monitoring Data

During the September operating period there was one exceedances for BOD percent removal and one for BOD mg/l monthly average. See performance table below for further details of the regulatory monitoring data. For the month September 2023 there maybe 2 exceedances to report.

See updated Flow, TSS and BOD Trend Charts at the end of this report.

WWTP Monthly Performance Table

Parameters	Sept.	August	July	YTD Low	YTD Hi	YTD Ave	2022 Ave	DEP Limit	YTD Exceed- ances
Flow GPD	18124	23961	27178	13383	27950	20203	20228	63,000	0
Precip inches	3.97	8.16					n/a	n/a	0
TSS lbs/min	2	3	2	0.59	2.13	1.30	2.6	<76	0
TSS lbs max	3	4	5	2.6	5	2.58	5.1	report	0
TSS mg/l ave	15	17	4	7.4	15	11.44	26.1	<145	0
TSS mg/l max	18	19	16	8.9	16	13.5	37.5	report	0
TSS % removal	92.6	94.1	94.8	84.8	97	95.88	89.7	>50	0
BOD lbs/min	29	48	27	5.4	33.84	21.88	15.2	<107	0
BOD lbs max	62	58	92	8.2	92	47.6	26.9	report	0
BOD mg/l ave	333	298	203	62.3	203	190	140.1	<203	2
BOD mg/l max	420	350	260	56	380	279	161.6	report	0
BOD % removal	-36	-3	30	40.07	49	37.2	51.6	>30	2
pH low	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.7	6.7	6.5	>6.0	0
pH high	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.9	6.9	6.7	<9.0	0
St solids ml/l	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.15	report	0
TRC mg/l max	0.05	0.05	.05	0.02	0.8	0.07	.03	<0.3	0
Fecal cfu ave	<4	<4	<4	<4	4	<4	9.58	<14	0
Fecal cfu max	<4	<4	<4	<4	<4	<4	19.37	<31	0
Enterococcus cfu ave	<4	>19	14	<4	14	5.42	10.8	<8	0
Enterococcus cfu max	4	>9680	>2420	<4	9680	1348	26.9	<54	2
Hg ng/l ave	n/a	n/a	n/a	na	n/a	n/a	18.28	33.4	0
Hg ng/l max	n/a	n/a	n/a	na	n/a	n/a	7.0	50.1	0

1. Moore's Septage is pumping sludge today.
2. There maybe an organic source of additional BOD with the village brewery, bakery, other?
3. There was a sodium hypo leak at the wastewater plant. Fernie stepped to the plate and saved the village at least \$10,000 for the clean up by preforming the clean up in house.

Drinking Water Department

September 2023 Production and Water Quality.

Purchased water for the month averaged 42,760 gpd compared to 47,648 gpd for the same month in 2022. The weekly free chlorine residual in the drinking water ranged from 0.05 - 0.30 ppm/Cl₂ compared to the recommended goal of >.20 to <1.0 ppm/Cl₂ at the entry point to distribution system. 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.

The water recorder at the vault hasn't been working properly. Harland Pease will be looking at it this coming Monday.