

**NVC Utilities Committee  
Trustee Meeting  
Community Hall and by Zoom link  
Wednesday, July 2, 2025, 9:30 A.M.**

**Trustees Present:** Chairman Jeffrey Wilt, Judy Metcalf, Casey Brown, David Crofoot (emeritus)

**Trustees Via Zoom:** Overseer Elaine Moss, Overseer Fred Lincoln, Casey Brown

**Staff:** Bill Paige, Trish Parker, Superintendent Chuck Applebee (Chuck via Zoom), Jim Crowley via zoom

**Other:** Rachel Rosa, Dan Webster, Vivien Leary, George Scholhamer, Jon Ward, Gary Schwol, Angela Field and other residents

The July 2025 meeting of the NVC Utilities Trustees convened at 9:30 a.m., Utilities chair, Jeffrey Wilt called the meeting to order.

**Community Comments:**

Dan Webster commented he was curious about multiple sewer connections on his property..

Dan also commented about the new questions about building hookups, with no meter, not paying a second base rate for water and/or sewer at this time.

Another resident asked about sending utility bills by e-mail and the possibilities of electronic payments

George Scholhamer was wondering about water and shower connections to garage on his property.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the May 16, 2025 meeting minutes by Judy and seconded by Elaine. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the May 31, 2025 Special meeting minutes by Judy and seconded by Fred..

Motion passed unanimously.

**Superintendent Report:**

No Exceedances for May

1. Moore's Septage pumped first 2 tanks on each train April 4, 2025, Feb 14, 2024.
2. Moore's will pump all tanks next on June 27, 2025. (done)
3. Subject to change we have scheduled the 3 pump outs for 2025 as recommended in the recently completed Crowley Loading Study for the village. April 4, June 27 and Oct. 3.
4. The flow meter was calibrated on April 4, 2025.
5. A new flow recorder was installed, calibrated and recording on April 4, 2025.
6. Final Permit received from EPA on 2-19-25 Jim Crowley has submitted comments to EPA and MDEP regarding the draft permit. These are all minor in nature spelling etc and factual corrections.
7. There is also public education required for systems with primary waivers
8. The required certification complying with the Maine Coastal Program has been processed.

9. The Operations & Maintenance Plans update continues.
10. First MDEP Funding has been drawn down by NVC
11. We are working to schedule tv work as part of the project including the outfall inspection
12. Research is being conducted on the maximum number of connections for the Village

### **PROCESS UPDATE ON MODIFICATION OF SEWER ORDINANCE TO CHARGE FEES FOR INACTIVE SEWER HOOKUPS.**

Jeffrey reminded the Trustees that the Overseers have now approved the same basic rate change two times, the second upon understanding system capacity is not directly related to number of connections in terms of our license from the DEP. The Trustees scheduled a public hearing to discuss the proposed “Ready to Serve” fee on July 18th at 2pm at the Community Hall. The “Ready to Serve” category is for owners of real estate who have a permitted connection onto their property but have not yet built their residence or whose residence has been deemed uninhabitable. Those owners would pay a “Ready to Serve” fee equal to 25% of the base trimester rate charged as a User Fee for current active connections.

### **DISCUSS SYSTEM CAPACITY AND FUTURE HOOK-UP REQUESTS**

Jeffrey acknowledged that we have completed a comprehensive review of all communications with and from Maine DEP and the EPA to better understand the licensed requirements of our system as those requirements relate to system capacity. We have learned that those guidelines are not as restrictive as we have believed and do not directly relate to flow, Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS). Capacity of our system is informed by our ability to stay within those required metrics. All agreed that the license does not allow for extension outside of our written geographical area. There was discussion.

### **DISCUSS RESIDENCES WITH OTHER/OUT BUILDING HOOKUPS, WITH NO METER, NOT PAYING A SECOND BASE RATE FOR WATER AND/OR SEWER AT THIS TIME.**

A Discussion as to what is going on in the Village as far as 2nd units on a property. This will require revisiting the Utilities Ordinance and the Zoning Ordinances, to be sure that they are in agreement.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The information was reviewed

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Donuts and Dialogue meeting on July 12 will entail:**

Public Education

New “Ready to Serve” fees

Discussion of Capacity and Applications for Future Connections

Rate Review

## **Draft of Utilities Report for the Annual Report**

Jeffrey Wilt's draft report was reviewed and approved for publication in the Annual Report

### **Community Comments:**

Rachel Rosa asked about reexamining the sewer and water fee connection fee rate.

She also asked about the rate review. Chuck is scheduling RCAP to come back

Rachel requested a comparison of water billed amounts (amounts bought from Belfast vs. amounts paid for by customers) sent to RCAP

Gary Schwall at 14 Kelly Cove asked about timeline for getting new sewer hookups

George Scholhamer 18 Bay street asked about connection fee and permits, regarding a shower for Utilities.

Dan Webster sent a searchable version of the Utilities Ordinance.

Angela Cassidy 26 Main st asked about her barn unit which is connected to sewer and water and how that affects the fees that will be billed to her.

**The meeting was adjourned at 10:50am**

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Trish Parker**

**NVC Office Manager**