

Northport Village Corporation
Village Agent Report
April 16, 2023 Board of Overseers Meeting

Requests for Access to Village Property

- 18 Bay Street access for seawall work: I recommend access through the Bayview Park drainage area. This access has been used in the past for work on Bay Street cottages' seawalls. I do not recommend access through the narrow Oak Street Extension between 18 and 20 Bay Street. I worry about damage to our large tree and the tree's root structure and we would lose the tree. I also worry about damage to our recently repaired log crib seawall. (Photos attached.)

Parks

- Ruggles Park
 - Needed playground drainage work has not been done. No cost estimate available. Apparently person who volunteered to do the work is no longer available.
- Ruggles Park turf condition: Based on recent conversations with Tom Farley, I do not believe he will do anything more. I haven't found anyone to give a quote for reseeding the problem areas.
- 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. New catch basin that ties into the one further down will be installed this season.
- Bayview Park and Auditorium Park: We lost some shoreline embankment at the bottom of these parks. Will need to have a soils engineer assess possible stabilization.
- Oak Street Extension (22 feet between 18 and 20 Bay Street): Paul Bernacki (The Home Place Team, Living Shoreline Stabilization Specialists), who is repairing the storm damage to the 20 Bay Street log crib seawall contacted the Village to propose repairing the damage to the Oak Street Extension (a paper street) portion of the structure at the same time. Janae and I discussed his plan and viewed the site. We agreed the plan was sound and the price was reasonable. The timing is good because the work will be done before people start arriving. Janae authorized the work for not to exceed \$3500.

Wharf, floats and Ruggles Park seawall

- Winter storms damage
 - Dock: Visible damage – waves delaminated the composite fender pilings. The “minimum mean low tide” sign on the front of the dock may need to be replaced. Railing loosened and must be repaired. Planking to the side of the grate ripped up and must be replaced.
 - Seawall and causeway area: Gravel and dirt on the causeway, along the face of the seawall and on the boat ramp washed away. Waves washing out

gravel moved large rocks at end of causeway. Brown's Excavation put in new gravel and reset the rocks on the causeway; gravel along the face of the seawall/parking area; and temporarily filled the boat ramp. More washed out in subsequent storms. Will be a regular maintenance issue. Will need to add loam this spring so grass can grow.

- Signage: Safety Committee and Wharfmaster have requested new signage regarding swimming safety and fishing rules. Will get estimates when I receive final language from Safety, Waterfront and Wharfmaster. I have been waiting for at least two years for the sign language. Unsafe dock activity last year when a lifeguard was not on duty shows that new signage is needed. Will repaint the white line marking where jumping off the dock is ok before the season starts.
- Light on end of dock: The light is flickering on and off and probably needs to be replaced. Finally found an electrician willing to work on this when the weather warms up.

Roads

- Pleasant Street: Recent heavy rains resulted in "normal" washout. Plan to repair in the spring.
- Roads, generally: Other than the "normal" Pleasant Street problem, we had no road wash out problems from the Christmas storm. Cobe Road ditches were filled with leaves.
- 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 advice 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

- Fence around the fire pond: The frost had picked up the concrete posts and the fence was falling over before the tree fell on it. Replacing the fence was on a "10-year plan" that was never funded. A temporary fix is no longer possible. The fence needs to be replaced as soon as possible to prevent kids from attempting to skate and play on the partially frozen pond. Waiting for estimate from fencing company.
- Fire hydrant on Shore Road: Someone ran into it and it will need to be repaired.
- Truck and sander: Sander has been repaired. I have ordered new blades for the snowplow (estimate \$800), and the plow will be serviced when the new blades arrive and are installed. Blades are backordered.
- 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.
- Cradle Row: Still waiting for Overseers' decision for a plan, money and new signage for planned future Cradle Row/Grove Street use.

- Grove Street/Cradle Row Preparation for Parking: (1) First option, although better, is too expensive: 4' wide trench by 140' long filled with rock tailings; 12" of -2" gravel over everything, except first 40' from Clinton in because that area is in better shape and needs less gravel. \$9,000. (2) 4' x 140' 2' deep trench, filled with rock tailings and 6" of -2" gravel, except 4" of gravel over first 40' in from Clinton. \$6,800. (3) Same as option 2, except only 4" of -2" gravel throughout. Cars may sink down and this option may not last as long as other options. \$6,200. All options will direct water to the Pleasant Lane ditch. Estimates are out-of-date. Add 10%.
- Dead Beech Trees: I'm looking for a cheaper option than an arborist to remove all of the dead beech trees in the Cradle Row area. Tree Warden and I will examine and identify dead trees.

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

- **Basketball court**: Resurfacing needs to be done. Should add to 2024 budget. The cracks are widening and are a hazard.
- **Community Hall**:
 - The new door will be installed this spring.
- **Inshore mooring block for the boat float**: The block needs to be replaced this season. Rough estimate of replacement cost is \$3500.
- **Floats replacement**: It is still 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.

Other Activities

- Seasonal water shut off issues: Peter Simpson's decision to no longer do water shut offs required communication with many customers who did not understand the process. I talked to Janae about a notice posted on websites and added to utility bills to cover at least these basics:
 - Seasonal water shut off starts Oct 15 and all seasonal water needs to be off by Nov 1.
 - Shutting off the water at the street (Village property/equipment) is prohibited unless authorized by Village Agent. Only the Village turns water on/off at the street.
 - Everything from the Village shut off at the street to the house and under/in the house is the homeowner's responsibility. The homeowner arranges with a plumber to drain the house, remove the water meter in or under the house and return the water meter to the Village for winter storage.
 - The water meters belong to the Water Department. The Village collects and stores them for the winter.
 - Seasonal water turn on for seasonal cottages begins May 1.
- Outfall pipe buoy: The sewer department's outfall pipe buoy is missing and must be replaced. Anticipated cost of \$3500 is in the department's 2023 budget for spring replacement.

- New water connections: 49 Bayside Road has requested a new, additional water connection for planned construction of two “Air BnB” “camps” on the property.

Submitted by Bill Paige, Village Agent.