

Northport Village Corporation
Village Agent Report
March 10, 2024 Board of Overseers Meeting

Recent activities

- Wharf/float: Talked with Islesboro Marine and learned that they have a barge and pile driving capability. They do not have a marine engineer on staff, although they have an engineer they consult with. Sent them our most recent engineer's report regarding the wharf.
- Continuing to assess and consider improvement of Bayview Park storm - drain/outfall adjacent to Oberg's property. Because of abundance of heavy rains the last couple of years and severity of winter storms hitting at high tide, the storm drain/outfall needs help. Any of the fixes I have thought about must be consistent with recommendations we expect from the engineer hired by the Town to assess shoreline erosion. Whatever plans the Village decides on, I recommend restricting the area to storm drain/outfall purposes and no longer allow public access for construction on shoreline cottages.
- Researching various costs for 2025 budget planning.
- Attended Infrastructure Committee meeting.

Parks

- Ruggles Park playground. Playground needs more chips – in addition to what we recently put down. The cedar chips used on the playground are made in Canada. Not practical to buy them directly; we must purchase through a 3rd party. Need to fill areas under swings with crusher dust. Will be done in spring.
- Ruggles Park: Looking into removing rotten stumps at some point in the future.
- Bayview Park and Auditorium Park: We lost some shoreline embankment at the bottom of these parks. A soils engineer will assess possible stabilization as part of climate resiliency grant. See Infrastructure Committee report and grant application activities.
- All parks: Park benches need to be repositioned (close to existing locations) because they have settled. May need to fill holes when they are repositioned.

Wharf, floats and Ruggles Park seawall

- Wharf: Still waiting for Prock Marine to schedule routine maintenance.
- Signage: Boat float and fishing signs have been ordered.
- Dock Building: Looking tired. Needs scraping and new paint.
- Dock/causeway-these repairs will be addressed in the spring:
 - Lost more fiberglass coating on the fender pilings.
 - Some dock planking pulled up. Nails showing. May need longer fasteners now.
 - One fender piling on the boat float side of the dock is loose and needs to be tightened.
 - Waves pulled up a 4x4 dock cap by the lifeguard chair; needs to be reset.
 - The Water Department's water pipe running under the dock is broken and need to be replaced.

- o Railing on south side of the causeway was loosened and needs repair.
- o Rocks at end of causeway need to be reset and washed away gravel replaced.
- o On south side of causeway, waves washed away grass and loam; new loam and grass seed needed.
- o More crushed stone needed on walkway to replace what was washed away.
- o Current high tides are reaching the level of the dock planking. The next major dock rebuild should raise the dock.
- Causeway/seawall/riprap behind treatment plant building to yacht club area: Most of the debris has been cleaned up; the rest will be cleaned up in spring.
- North shore: Waves washed out area behind the seawall where small watercraft are stored and washed out the boat ramp area. Anticipating future washouts this winter, will plan to wait until spring to fill in these areas.

Roads

- Sander and plow: We should plan to replace sander in 3 years. Plow should be replaced sooner.
- 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.

Miscellaneous

- **Needed electrical work:** Has been completed. As reported last month, original cost estimate increased by \$500. In addition, during recent power outages, discovered that none of the Community Hall emergency lights work, so replaced them all. The emergency lights replacement was not part of the original estimate. Total cost came in about \$1,000 more than the original estimate.
- 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 for safety reasons. First estimate about \$20,000. I'm looking for another estimate.
- 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.

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

- **Floats replacement:** It is still time to begin setting aside and saving money to replace the floats; they are starting to show their age.

Utilities

- Upgraded water meter has been installed at the vault.
- Usual tasks, including working with DigSafe on construction projects, including State work on Route 1.
- Started reading water meters.

- My cell phone: Plumbers have given my cell number to some owners, who call me at night and on weekends. My cell phone is also my personal phone. **If you have my number, do not give it out to anyone. The Village office phone is the right number to use for Village business.**

Submitted by Bill Paige, Village Agent.