

Northport Village Corporation
Village Agent Report
May 14, 2023 Board of Overseers Meeting

Parks

- Ruggles Park playground: Needed playground drainage work has not been done. Seeking cost estimate. Playground needs more chips – fabric showing through and grass growing up through chips. Need to fill areas under swings with crusher rock.
- Ruggles Park turf condition: Tom Farley called recently to tell me that someone is coming again this spring to tend to the problem areas. Grass is looking better this spring.
- 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. Spring maintenance will be done to clean up boat ramp.
- Ruggles Park: Looking into whether the stumps are old enough to be taken out easily. Some larger rocks still need to be removed.
- 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. See Infrastructure Committee report.
- 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

- 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. Art Hall has volunteered his time to complete this and other needed wharf and causeway repairs.
 - 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.
- Annual wharf inspection by a marine engineer will happen in June.
- Scott Munroe will complete minor float repairs before launch.
- Signage: Signage regarding swimming safety and fishing rules almost finalized. 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.

- Dock Building: Looking tired. Needs scraping and new paint. Job for volunteers?

Roads

- Pleasant Street: Recent heavy rains resulted in “normal” washout. Plan to repair in the spring. Budgeted Pleasant Street repair work depends on contractor’s schedule.
- 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.

Miscellaneous

- NVC owned and maintained AED Device: Purchased new battery and replaced package of related safety equipment for the device. Also purchased a sim card that we have not had. First responders can remove the sim card and give it to the hospital emergency department to see what happened. AED is kept at Blair Agency during the summer. The lifeguard picks it up and keeps it at the dock while he is on duty. During the summer season, it is kept at Blair Agency when the lifeguard is not on duty.
- 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. Seeking another estimate. We may need to do a temporary fix or fix half of the fence.
- Fire hydrants: We are installing two new hydrants. Someone ran into the Shore Road hydrant and it needs to be repaired.
- Trees: A dead tree on NVC property near Griffin/George Street and one at the top of Auditorium Park near the power lines should be taken down. The one on Auditorium Park will be expensive because it is near power lines and a crane must be used.
- 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%.

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 is ready to be installed. Need to find a contractor, carpenter or volunteer to install.
- **Inshore mooring block for the boat float:** The block will 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 floats; they are starting to show their age.

Other Activities

- Working with Town contractor who cleans out the catch basins.
- Working with CMP regarding pole replacements.
- Working with new lawn mowing contractor to make sure they understand what we want.
- Busy with plumbers getting water services turned on.
- 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 informally requested a new, additional water connection for planned construction of two "Air BnB" "camps" on the property. No paperwork submitted yet.

Submitted by Bill Paige, Village Agent.