

**Northport Village Corporation
Village Agent Report
May 11, 2025 Board of Overseers Meeting**

Recent activities

- Contracted services: Current lawn/grounds contract expires this fall. The bid specs have been published. Bids are due by noon on May 9 and will be opened at the May 11th Board meeting. The curbside trash pickup contract does not expire until September 2026. Will work on bid specs/new contract in time for 2027 budget planning.
- Continuing to work on getting project estimates for items on the MMA list. Contractors are scheduling out a year or more. May have identified a contractor for Community Hall building/carpentry work. The electrician's estimate for MMA-identified electrical work is \$1200; awaiting electrician's call to schedule the work.
- All winter, I dealt with contractors who repeatedly block village roads during the day with vehicles and equipment while they work on cottages on Main Street, Lower Clinton, North Avenue and George Street. Contractors' activities have increased as Memorial Day approaches.

Village projects/needs for 2026 budget consideration

- Floats replacement: It is still time to begin setting aside and saving money to replace the floats; they are starting to show their age. I recommend that replacing the swim float should be in the 2026 budget. Also recommend that we have a marine engineer draw plans for the floats to make sure they are sturdy enough to meet our needs.
- Community Hall: We are missing some of our wood/metal tables and a couple of plastic tables have been "donated." Our tables are really showing age and wear and need to be replaced. Propose to include for 2026 budget.
- Portable PA system: We need a new system for NVC outside events.
- Parks/Trees: For grounds maintenance, we need to budget for regular pruning of river birch tree by the library, the junipers around the basketball court and the shrubs around Merithew Square.

Village project/needs with future budget implications

- Sander and plow: We should plan to replace sander in 3 years.
- MMA Risk Management recommendations: I am still getting estimates.
- Roads/storm drainage: Area in front of mailboxes at Merithew Square to North Ave and down North Ave to the new hot top needs to be hot-topped, and another storm added. The project needs to be engineered to decide how to handle storm runoff. Lower Clinton Avenue from Merithew Square down needs curbing or storm drain to handle water that is currently washing out the embankment at the bottom of the street.

Wharf and floats

- Wharf: Dallas Fields Dive Service completed the major brace work on the wharf. Remaining repairs will be made in the spring and summer. Expecting a call-back to schedule the work.
- Floats: Excavator scheduled to raise the swim float up on blocks for needed repairs before put in the water for the season.

Utilities

- Most of my time recently has been spent on utilities issues. Seasonal utility customers want their water turned on May 1. Also dealing with customers such as a seasonal water customer who has not paid their utilities bill since July 2024 and showed up just before the office closed on May 2 to pay their bill and demand that their water be turned on immediately.
- Dealing with requests for new water services, including two new constructions on Bluff Road and one off of Route 1.
- Fixing water service/connections in home remodels, including replacing and removing old pipes where the service requires new pipes.
- Regular water and sewer maintenance work and Dig Safe requests.
- Dealing with engineer and electrician working on treatment plant electronics issues.

Miscellaneous

- Worked with Gartley & Dorsky and Maine DEP regarding our shoreline stabilization permit application.
- 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 and shoreline erosion plan we received from the engineer hired by the Town. 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.
- I continue to talk or meet with Town Administrator James Kossouth on a regular basis about items that impact the village. (This month, our monthly discussion took place during fire truck training.)
- I continue to field calls from private contractors working throughout the Village on current and planned projects in the Village, and deal with various villagers with issues they want addressed.
- 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.**

Roads

- As the ground thaws, the streets, Broadway, in particular, will be a mess. Broadway is on the Town's list of roads to pave. Village dirt roads will need repair/maintenance, too. The amount of snow plowing has leveled out the crest in the dirt roads. Working with contractor to start scheduling planned work.
- 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.

Submitted by
Bill Paige, Village Agent.