

**Northport Village Corporation  
Village Agent Report  
October 8, 2023 Board of Overseers 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 3<sup>rd</sup> party. Need to fill areas under swings with crusher rock.
- 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. Will need to have a soils engineer assess possible stabilization. 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**

- Annual wharf inspection by a marine engineer was done and the report given to Prock Marine to provide a cost estimate for needed repairs. Unless storm damage forces an earlier replacement, 2 pilings will need to be replaced eventually. If the building does not need to be moved, today's estimate to replace them is about \$33,000. Waiting to hear when Prock Marine will be available for planned fall repairs.
- Signage: Signage regarding swimming safety finally arrived. Boat float and fishing signs being worked on.
- Light on end of dock: The light has been replaced.
- Dock Building: Looking tired. Needs scraping and new paint.
- Boat float: The boat float will be coming out for the season soon after October 9 holiday. All boats must be off the boat float by the end of the day, Monday, October 9.

**Roads**

- General road maintenance: Planned maintenance has been completed. We'll see what October brings. Rented a roller to compact the regraded streets and they have held up so well in recent rainstorms that we plan to do it again next year.
- 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**: Received the following estimates for needed electrical work:
  - Maintenance building: \$1300.61

- Lab/water shed: \$954.76
- Community Hall (meeting room, office and hallway): \$1350.08
- Community Hall (upstairs stage area-to install proper wiring for fans added by Bayside Arts): \$936.18

If 2023 funds are available later in the year, request that the maintenance building electrical work be approved so that I will have light for maintenance work needed this fall and winter. The remaining work should be in the 2024 budget.

- 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.
- Fire hydrants: Two new hydrants have arrived and will be installed soon.
- Truck and sander: 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. Still waiting for parts.
- 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.
  - If Cradle Row will continue to be used for parking, we need to prune trees. A villager recently notified us that a falling tree limb damaged their car when it was parked in Cradle Row.
  - Parking: Well used for parking throughout the summer.

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

- **Inshore mooring block for the boat float**: New block has arrived and will be installed next season.
- **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**

- See attached for description of our Hurricane Lee preparation activities.
- Post-Hurricane Lee issues: Four trees down on Shore Road, trees down on Bayside Road and on Broadway – all taken care of by Road Commissioner and Fire Department. Large tree down on Oak Street removed.
- Hurricane Lee-related expenses incurred: Shore Road utilities generator repair; Oak Street tree removal and clean up; clean up of branches and debris in all parks; pulling boat float out and putting it back in.
- Talking with the new lawn-mowing contractor about trimming back the sides of Village roads and giving us an estimate for shoveling for Community Hall and the utility buildings this winter. Waiting for an estimate.
- Drexel Bailey is willing to be on standby for road plowing, if needed this winter.
- Beginning to work with plumbers getting water services turned off.

- Utilities

- Wastewater treatment plant: Small chlorine leak occurred. All state and federal agencies notified as required. Preferred clean up company not available. Company that was contacted gave estimate of nearly \$12,000 for required clean up. Ferne and Bill determined that they had the proper equipment and training to deal with the small leak and would be able to handle it without an outside contractor. Utility Superintendent agreed with the plan. State clean up response team inspected our work and confirmed that Ferne and Bill followed all necessary safety procedures and were doing everything right.
- Seasonal water shut off issues: 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.

Additional information regarding Samway donated property between Shore and Bluff Roads

- After the September meeting, Blair Einstein volunteered that he agreed that no survey was needed. Using available lot size information and existing survey pins, we can make a good determination of the width of the NVC property. Blair has done this on Shore Road. I have the information needed to do the same on Bluff Road.
- As I have mentioned to Vicky Matthews, one reason the abutters are upset is because the NVC volunteers appear to believe that the NVC property is an old, existing pathway that is on property owned by Sarah Ratcliff. The old pathway that we used to drive tractors on is not the NVC property; it is part of property owned by Sarah Ratcliff.

Submitted by Bill Paige, Village Agent.