



NVC Utilities Committee Meeting
Community Hall and by Zoom link
Friday, May 15, 2026, 2:30 P.M.

Trustees Present: Interim Chair Fred Lincoln, Elaine Moss, Judy Metcalf (Zoom), Diana Eastty (Zoom), Casey Brown (Zoom), and David Crofoot member emeritus.

Staff Present: Bill Paige, Village Agent; Chuck Applebee, Utilities Superintendent

The May 2026 meeting of the NVC Utilities Trustees was called to order by the Interim Utilities chair.

Community Comments: None

Approve Minutes: Following a correction to the meeting date referenced in April's draft minutes document, a motion was made by Elaine Moss and seconded by Diana Eastty to approve the April 17, 2026 Utilities Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried - Unanimous.

Water/Wastewater Collections Latency: The committee discussed a recent Utilities Billing Recap summary of overdue payments (i.e., receivables) from water and sewer customers. On April 30, 2026 the NVC office reported a total of \$30,931 customer payments being overdue, with 57 disconnection notices then issued. As of May 11, 2026, with additional payments received, overdue payments dropped by approximately half, to \$15,386. Given the departments' tight budgets and risk to operating cash flows, concerns were expressed over continuing bad behaviors. Further, the village agent reported that some customers with overdue balances still expected their water to be turned on immediately, along with after-hours service calls.

This led to additional conversation about NVC's enforcement rights and what types of charges could potentially be levied in these types of situations, within applicable parameters set by the Maine PUC. The objective of establishing allowable fees or fines would be to influence an improvement to on-time payments. This prompted the committee's agreement, as a next step, to begin a review of NVC's existing Utilities Terms and Conditions document (dated Aug. 2013), along with current Maine PUC regulatory information, to determine any appropriate remedy options that may be available.

Superintendent's Report

1. The April 2026 Wastewater operating report reflects no exceedances experienced in the reporting period.
2. The Utilities Superintendent will check with the Maine PUC Commission on the status of NVC's Fire Protection Waiver Request submitted on April 3, 2026.

3. Infrastructure Planning: The Utilities Superintendent and Village Agent are not currently aware of any definitive utilities infrastructure projects that would overlap NVC general government planned activities. An engineering study report of the Wastewater department is anticipated in fall 2026, with the Water department report not expected until 2027.
4. Moore's is scheduled for the next pumping activity on June 26 which follows the first 2026 pumping that occurred on April 24. These are planned activities accounted for in the 2026 Sewer budget.

Financial Review

The most currently available Budget vs. Actuals reports (thru April) for the Water and Wastewater departments were reviewed by the trustees. Concerns were expressed with the reports not yet showing revenues from the first trimester billing of the year. Fred will work with the NVC Office and Bookkeeping to ensure the revenue figures are reported. In addition, water and sewer department bank balance amounts, thru April 2026, were shared with committee members.

Other

The village agent reported on a sewer pipe problem at Upper Maple St. Also discussed was an issue of encroachments of trees and other encumbrances to village-owned property that may challenge access to future maintenance needs.

Meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.