

**NVC UTILITIES MEETING
MINUTES
August 7, 2009**

Present: Chairman: David Crofoot; Committee Members: Peter Allen, Judy Metcalf via telephone; Superintendent: Dick McElhaney; Office Manager Paul Bartels; Resident Tim Samway.

Absent: Jane Strauss, Ned Lightner

Chairman Crofoot called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

Minutes

Judy Metcalf moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting, seconded by David Crofoot seconded. **Voted – All in Favor.**

Resident's Concerns

David Crofoot voiced a concern about dog droppings in the Village. Residents and visitors have a habit of scooping up after their dog and disposing it down the storm drains. Perhaps they are unaware that the storm drains outflow directly onto the beach. Dick McElhaney said that the DEP monitors the water off the dock for Coliform organisms periodically. This dog droppings practice could result in a positive Coliform test. This may be blamed on the Sewer Treatment Plant if it happens. Judy Metcalf said she will bring it up at the next Overseers Meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Sewer Department

June 2009 Effluent Monitoring Data

The NVC was in full compliance of its wastewater discharge license in June. There were no license exceptions.

Flow averaged 34,200 gpd compared to 10,100 gpd in June of 2008. Flow ranged from a low of 8,800 to a high of 197,000 on the 19th when 3.8 inches of rain fell.

Precipitation during the month totaled 7.84 inches compared to 3.26 inches in June of 2008.

TSS and BOD averaged 2.4 lbs/day (16 mg/l) and 7.5 lbs/day (46 mg/l), respectively.

See performance table below for this month's comparisons, averages, year-to-date highs and lows, permit limits, and year-to-date violations.

Performance Table

Parameters	June	May	YTD Lo	YTD Hi	YTD Ave	2008 Ave	DEP Limit	Violations
Flow GPD	34200	17600	7719	41300	24568	22642	63000	0
Precip Inches	7.84	5.08	2.45	7.84	4.85	5.10	n/a	0
TSS lbs/d	2.4	1.9	.8	2.4	1.55	2.9	76	0
TSS mg/l	16	17	6.0	19	13.5	18.5	145	0
BOD lbs/d	7.5	4.7	1.8	8.9	4.45	8.2	107	0
BOD mg/l	46	45	15	46	33.8	56.5	203	0
TSS % Rem	94	94	93	98	95.2	94.2	50	0
BOD % Rem	84	85	84	95	88.5	80.3	30	0
pH lo	6.7	6.7	6.5	6.8	6.68	6.7	6.0	0
pH Hi	6.9	6.90	6.9	7.0	6.95	6.9	9.0	0
S.S. ml/l	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	Report	0
F Col/100 ml	0	0	0	0	0	<2	15-ave	0
F Col/100 ml	0	0	0	0	0	2.0	50-max	0

Note: The last NVC Sewer Dept. violation was in February of 2006 which was for flow. No violation for TSS and/or BOD has occurred since August of 2005.

July 2009 Snapshot

The NVC Sewer Department will be again in full compliance with its discharge license in July. Flow will average around 41,000 gpd. Precipitation as totaled by the Belfast Water District at Little River was 8.04 inches – again a near record for rainfall and cold for a July month.

DEP Annual Inspection

The DEP was in the Village on Friday morning, July 17th to conduct their annual inspection of the Department's records and sewage treatment system. No concerns were evident during the inspection. An unsolicited bystander noted to the DEP inspector that the treatment plant was not as odiferous this year as in other years in the past (probably due to the higher than normal flows being experienced this summer because of the unusually wet weather).

Bids for Proposed Sewer Work

Bids have been received to replace leaking sewer lines on Oak Street and Bay Street this fall. The work was broken into five pieces to determine affordability.

Dean Brown Construction, Ted Berry Company and Marriners Inc were contacted to request cost proposals. Ted Berry Company did not tender a proposal. Marriners Inc is a paving company attempting to expand into earthworks and sewer and water line projects. Copies of the bids from Dean Brown and Marriners are provided to members of the Utility Committee for their review and approval under separate cover. Dean's proposal includes a 15% contingency. Marriners does not.

The Department recommends approval for two of the five projects and to replace 300 ft of 4-inch AC sewer line on Oak Street and 90 ft of 8-inch VC sewer line on Bay Street from MH 2020- MH 2018. Dean's cost estimate for these two projects is \$17,858. Marriners estimate is \$30,170.

Judy Metcalf moved that projects number 1 and 4 (as described by attached description prepared by Dick McElhaney) be awarded to Dean Brown as quoted, seconded by Peter Allen, Voted - all in favor.

Water Department

June 2009 Usage and Water Quality

Water consumption during June averaged 25,909 gpd compared to 19,050 gpd in May and 24,950 gpd in June of 2008. The average weekly chlorine residual in the drinking water was .13 ppm compared to the recommended level of less than .2 ppm. The monthly coliform test result was negative.

Purchased Water Rate Increase

The Belfast Water District has announced a 17% rate increase for the NVC's purchased water. The new rate will be effective with the October 2009 billing and follows a 14% rate increase in October of 2006. The new rate will increase the annual cost of purchased water by about \$2,500. For comparison, the last time the NVC raised its water rates was in September of 2005.

McElhaney led a discussion on how to pay for the increase without raising rates. He will look into variable rates adjusted to the size of the water connection; this would require approval from PUC.

July 31 Fire

The department received several complaints of low water pressure on Friday, July 31. The drop in pressure was of short duration and due to water being drawn from the hydrant in front of the Drinkwater school to fight a house fire at 702 Shore Road (Kelley Cove). The building was a total loss. Several fire departments pulled water from this hydrant as well as water from the Village's fire pond hydrant at the corner of George and Sea streets.

McElhaney suggested adding a Fire Hydrant at the end of the line near Kelly Cove. This would definitely enhance fire protection in that area. Hydrant rental charges, whether paid by the Town or by the Village, would be the equivalent of four new customers and would help to cover increased cost of water from Belfast. Judy Metcalf will talk to the Overseers about the installation of such a hydrant.

New/Lost Water Customers

To date this year, two water customers have been lost due to house fires on Cobe Road and Shore Road. One lost customer was negated by a new customer who came on line last month on Bayview (Walker) and the Department received an application on July 31 for a new water service at the location of the former Northport Inn on Route 1. The inn was converted to a 6-unit apartment building some time ago. There was discussion about whether the water company billing structure has rates for commercial usage or one-inch water connections. There is currently no such differentiation in the rate structure.

Adjourn

Next meeting scheduled for September 11, 2009.

Judy Metcalf moved to adjourn David Crofoot seconded at 3:20 PM, **Voted - all in favor.**

Submitted by Paul Bartels