

NVC UTILITIES MEETING MINUTES September 5, 2014

Present: Chairman David Crofoot; Committee members: Marge Brockway, Jo Huntoon, Judy Metcalf by phone; Office Manager Paul Bartels; Superintendent Richard McElhaney; Distribution Operator Bill E. Paige; Resident Dick Brockway.

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

Minutes

Judy Metcalf moved to accept the revised minutes of the July meeting, seconded by Marge Brockway – **Voted and approved.**

Financials

Financials were reviewed by Chairman Crofoot. Jo Huntoon asked when the rent will be paid for the Lab. No time frame or schedule was given.

Superintendents Report

September 5, 2014

Sewer Department

July 2014 Effluent Monitoring Data

The NVC Wastewater Treatment Plant (WTP) was in full compliance with its discharge license in July. There were no license exceedances.

July flow averaged 23,419 gpd compared to 14,500 gpd in 2013. Daily flow ranged from a low of 7,400 gpd to a high of 110,200 gpd during the month. Precipitation for the month measured 8.07” versus 3.5” in 2013.

TSS and BOD⁵ averaged 6 lbs/day (38 mg/l) and 23 lbs/day (141 mg/l), respectively compared to 6 lbs/day (38 mg/l) and 27 lbs/day (166 mg/l) in June of 2013.

See performance table below for this month’s comparisons, averages, year-to-date highs and lows, permit limits, and year-to-date (YTD) exceedances. Testing frequency is continuous for flow, weekly for TSS, BOD⁵ and fecal coliform (May thru Sept), daily for pH and settleable solids, and twice per day for total residual chlorine (May thru Sept).

Performance Table

Parameters	July	June	YTD Lo	YTD Hi	YTD Ave	2013 Ave	DEP Monthly Limit	Exceedances
Flow GPD	23,419	11,800	5,054	26,667	16,692	9602	<63000	0
Precip Inches	8.07	4.89	3.16	8.07	4.69	3.26	n/a	0

TSS lbs/day	6.0	4.6	1.0	6.0	2.6	1.9	<76	0
TSS mg/l	38	57.2	9.4	57.2	25.6	25.7	<145	0
BOD ⁵ lbs/day	23.0	5.8	1.5	23.0	6.54	7.0	<107	0
BOD ⁵ mg/l	141	75.2	29.8	141	64.5	80.2	<203	0
TSS% Removal	87	80.3	80.3	96.8	91.2	91.1	>50	0
BOD% Removal	51.4	74.1	51.4	89.7	77.8	70.8	>30	0
pH lo	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.0	6.94	6.8	>6.0	0
pH Hi	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.27	7.0	<9.0	0
S.S. ml/l	0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	<0.1	Report	0
TRC mg/l	0.01	0.02	<.01	0.02	.012	.02	<.052	0
F Col/100 ml	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1.4	<15-ave	0
F Col/100 ml	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1.6	<50-max	0

Note: The last exceedance for flow was *100 months ago (2/2006)*. No exceedance for pH, TRC, TSS and BOD⁵ has occurred for *106 months (8/2005)*. The last exceedance for fecal coliform was *23 months ago (8/2012)*.

August 2014 Snapshot

The NVC WTP may exceed the license limits for BOD mg/l and percent removal in August pending the lab's August 27th BOD test results - yet to be received - and DEP's review of all of the NVC's monthly discharge monitoring and laboratory reports. Flow during the month will average about 16,000 gpd. The report for precipitation as measured by the BWD at the Little River Station was 3.22 inches.

Citizen Request for Surface Water Testing

The NVC Utility Chairman and Superintendent received a written request from a Griffin Street resident requesting that the Village test the surface waters along the swim area and docks for Microcystin. Microcystin is the toxin that was the subject of a "Do Not Drink Order" earlier this summer for the City of Toledo, Ohio. It is produced from large outbreaks of a type of cyano-bacteria that masks itself as blue green algal blooms.

The pale green algal blooms reported to the Utility Department by Utility Chairman Dr. David Crofoot growing on the rocks below the storm water drains to the left of the wharf and at the foot of Bayview Park were identified by Dr. Denis Wang, not as Microcystin, but as a "form of green algae in the genus Enteromorpha, now being classified in the larger genus of Ulva". Dr. Wang, a marine biologist and who is also now the NVC President and a former Utility Committee member, does not consider the current small growth of Ulva along the shore to be of any concern and, moreover, states that most species in the Ulva family are edible as "Nori". Dr. Wang also noted that this form of Ulva "has been encroaching northwards for more than two decades now" and is often the result of excess nitrate nitrogen discharge in storm water run-off.

The NVC Utility Department also called the West Boothbay office of the Maine Department of Marine Resources to inquire if they had any specific test data on the surface water for Microcystin. Allison Sirois stated that the DMR does not test for cyanotoxin/microcystin since the DMR is confident that it does not exist in the mid-coast area of Maine, but, to protect public health, does test for fecal coliform and bio toxins in

shellfish.

Dick McElhaney will compose a letter to Nancy Corbett to explain his findings.

Drinking Water

July 2014 Usage and Water Quality

Water consumption during June averaged 39,944 gpd compared to 39,834 in 2013.

The average weekly chlorine residual in the drinking water was .18 ppm/Cl² compared to the recommended goal of >.20 to <1.0 ppm/Cl². The monthly coliform test result was negative. The NVC serves its customers with pre-chlorinated drinking water purchased from the Belfast Water District.

Proposed Purchased Water Rate Increase

The Belfast Water District (BWD) has informed the NVC by letter that it will be filing a revised rate schedule with the Maine Public Utilities Commission to be effective January 1, 2015. The new rate will increase the NVC cost of purchased water by 15% or about \$2,600 annually. The last rate increase for purchased water from the BWD was 14% in October of 2009.

Dick said that we should absorb the rate increase without any problem.

Submitted by Paul Bartels

Next meeting was scheduled for October 10, 2014 at 2:30 PM.

David moved, Marge seconded to adjourn – **Voted and approved.**