NVC Utilities Committee

July 2002 Meeting

Community Hall and by Zoom link

Friday, July 8, 2022 2:30 p.m.

Meeting convened at 2:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman David Crofoot, Judy Metcalf, Jeffrey Wilt, Bill Paige, Brady Brim-Deforest (by Zoom); also Richard Rothwell, Morgan Knott (by Zoom)

Absent: Casey Brown, Superintendant Richard McElhaney

Minutes of the June meeting were approved unanimously.

Richard Rothwell, owner of a cottage at 731 Shore Road wished to discuss issues concerning a sewer pipe that crosses his property. Crofoot recounted past history of the lot. When the Kelly Cove Subdivision was being planned by owner Jerry Savitz in the mid 1980’s, he obtained permission to connect to the Bayside sewer system. Eventually sewer lines were buried across the property at 731 Shore Road to serve the eight lots in the subdivision. There is no record of this in Mr. Rothwell’s deed. Investigation has shown that Sid Block, who built the cottage at 731 Shore Road, made a “hand-shake” agreement with Jerry Savitz allowing the pipe to be buried across his property; there was no official easement and nothing was recorded in the deed. Sid Block eventually sold this property to Katenia Keller who subsequently sold the property to Mr. Rothwell. No mention of the sewer pipe was made in either deed.

Mr. Rothwell wished to have clarification of the above facts. Metcalf suggested that it would be useful to obtain an affidavit from Sid Block concerning the “hand-shake agreement” and to have this somehow recorded at the Registry of Deeds. She provided numbers to allow contact with Sid Block. While the Sewer Utility does not “own” this sewer lateral connection, which belongs to the Kelly Cove Subdivision, it has an interest in having access in case repairs are ever needed.

A moment of silence was observed for Richard Brockway, former committee member who continued to provide engineering expertise and artistic input for many years., who passed away last month.

Superintendant’s Report:

In Supt. McElhaney’s absence, his report was reviewed. There were no violations of license requirements. The month of May was very dry (1.43 inches of rain), flows were down to a daily average of 8763 gallons/day, and BOD concentrations are seeing their usual seasonal rise as the village moves toward full occupancy. BOD average concentration was 119 mg/L in May; license limit is <203 mg/L.

Ted Berry Inc did pressure washing of the sewer outfall pipe. According to Bill Paige who was in attendance, the pressure hose initially met some resistance but eventually passed the full length of the outfall pipe, which was pressure washed in four passages.

Moore Septic Service did the first of two planned pumpings of sludge from the collection and settling tanks for 2022. The first and second tanks of each of the three trains of tanks were emptied and washed. Then the chlorine contact chamber and the 3rd and 4th tanks of Train 1 were pumped back into Tank 1 and contents left to settle. This “pump around” strategy decreases the gallonage that must be taken off site. A similar pump around will occur with the 3rd and 4th tanks of Train 2 in September when the 1st and 2nd tanks of all three trains will be once again emptied.

The treatment plant will operate with all three trains open simultaneously this summer in accordance with suggestions from the DEP.

Other business:

Sewer bills to Ben Woolsey (22 West Street) will be suspended until excavation allows his service pipe to be identified and connected to his house.

Moratorium: It seems clear that results of measures that have been taken to improve BOD removal will not be complete when the 6-month moratorium on new connections expires in September. The results of the months of maximum sewerage treatment in August and September will not yet be available for review. It may be necessary to extend the moratorium for 3-6 months in order to gather data to decide whether the treatment system is approaching its maximal capacity.

Financial Reviewed

The Committee reviewed spreadsheets and communications from Treasurer, Wendy Huntoon. The completed audit for 2020 indicates that the Utilities owe money to the Village General Government. The Sewer Utility has very little money in reserve. The 2021 Audit is not yet completed but may show similar problems.

Committee members expressed gratitude to the Treasurer for her hard work in unraveling two years of poor record keeping. But they also expressed their frustration at the difficulty of maintaining financial oversight of the utilities when accurate monthly reporting of income and expenses are not available.

Meeting adjourned at 4 pm.

Next meeting on August 19, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

David D. Crofoot, Chairman