

**Minutes of the Board of Overseers Meeting
Sunday, April 14, 2024**

Overseers, Officers and Staff present: Brady Brim-DeForrest; Fred Lincoln; Vicky Matthews; Wendy Huntoon (via Zoom); Judy Metcalf (via Zoom); Michael Tirrell (via Zoom); Jeffrey Wilt; President, Janae Novotny; Clerk, Maureen (Beanie) Einstein (via Zoom), Office Manager, Trish Parker and Village Agent, Bill Paige. Not Present: Celine Bewsher.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sharlene Kelly (12 Bay Street) – Gave an update on the Bay Street seawall construction project. The contractor is anticipating another 3-4 weeks and not foreseeing any delay. The deadline for construction to end is May 15. Sharlene apologized for the construction timbers that were stored on NVC property. The property owners thanked the Overseers for their patience and understanding in dealing with this situation.

Paul Andrews (6 Bay Street) – Reiterated a thank you to the Village and Overseers for their patience regarding the Bay Street construction project.

Meeting was called to order at 9:09 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes of the March 10, Overseers Meeting

Janae N. asked if there were any comments or changes to the March minutes distributed prior to the meeting.

Jeffrey W. – In the Utilities Report – change “*There were no exceedances during the February Operating period*” to “*There were **two** exceedances during the February Operating period.*”

Fred L. moved, seconded by Vicky M., to approve the March 10, 2024 minutes of the Board of Overseers as amended above. Voted – Unanimous.

President’s Report – Janae Novotny

Recommendation to approve the following Community Hall use requests, subject to fulfillment of insurance and any payment requirements:

Bayside Historical Preservation Society: July 18, 2024, 2-4 p.m. in the Meeting Room; July 27, 2024, 6-9 p.m. for a history talk; and August 1, 2024 for Collectors Day.

Gayle Koyanagi: May 26, 2024, 12-2 p.m. for soft soled dancing.

Northport Food Pantry: August 18, 2024, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. for a food drive.

Brady B. moved, seconded by Fred L. to approve the above Community Hall requests, subject to fulfillment of insurance and any payment requirements. Voted – Unanimous.

Jeffrey W. moved, seconded by Fred L., to waive the rental payment for the Community Hall for the Northport Food Pantry. Voted – Unanimous

Proposed Capital Workshop – It seems prudent to schedule a Capital Projects Workshop before the April 27 Budget Workshop. Informal consensus that a workday evening was best. Details for a Zoom meeting will be sent soon.

The Town of Northport's Proposed Budget will include \$30,000 contribution to the Village: \$11,000 for the Wharf and floats; \$15,500 – for the Roads; and \$3,500 – for extra 2-day lifeguard coverage. Janae N. noted that the increase was proposed by the Selectboard before the NVC even presented a request.

Janae N. thanked Gordon Fuller, David Leaming and the Northport Yacht Club for storm clean-up along the seawall from the Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Yacht Club. The Yacht Club paid for the hauling of the debris.

Northport Clean-Up Day is May 4th. – Janae N. encouraged Baysiders to participate in this community service event..

Recommendation to approve access to Village Property in Merrithew Square to the Butters property as may be needed by the Town of Northport following the Town's inspection of additional work required by the Town of the property owners.

Jeffrey W. moved, seconded by Fred L., to grant the Town of Northport access to Village Property in Merithew Square until May 15, 2024. Voted – Unanimous.

Treasurer's Report – Wendy Huntoon

Wendy H. referred the Overseers to her written report with attachments circulated prior to the meeting.

Wendy H. introduced Bill Cressey (Bayview Park), a member of the Finance Committee, who gave a detailed presentation regarding "*Funding Capital Projects*". The plan is to work with the Overseers, jointly, with the Finance & Infrastructure Committees, to have a better understanding of this process.

We now have hard copies of the 2021 Audit! The 2022 Audit is scheduled for June. Our goal is to address all the comments/concerns addressed in the 2021 Audit. Hopefully, plan to start the 2023 Audit and September and we will back on schedule.

The next Budget Workshop is scheduled for April 27, 2024, via zoom, in the meeting room in the Community Hall, open to the public.

Village Agent Report – Bill Paige

Bill P. referred the Overseers to his written report circulated prior to the meeting. Bill P. remains extremely busy with the frequent storms & continual clean-up. Receiving lots of calls from residents requesting that their water be turned on and meters installed.

The Town of Northport will conduct emergency shoreline stabilization work within the Town's right of way in the area between 584 Shore Road and 600 Shore Road. There is a critical need to repair this area as soon as possible. Residents need to expect access to this area to be limited to local residents only.

We have spent a little over \$10,000 for storm damage repair and clean up in Ruggles Park and the dock area. Amon Morse, the Town Road Commissioner has lifted the heavy loads limit so we can get started on repairs. The estimate to repair the waterfront area is approximately \$9,000. An estimate of repairs to the Dock, after the floats are in, is \$6,000.

Waiting to receive another estimate for repairs around the fire pond.

Officers Manager Report – Trish Parker

Trish P. referred the Overseers to her written report circulated prior to the meeting. Ability to pay by credit card, for Utility bills (water & sewer) and Small Watercraft Fees and Community Hall Use rental fees is now up and running and on line. There is a fee for this service which is paid by the fee payer, not NVC. Payment of Watercraft and Facilities Use fees by credit card is available only in person at the NVC Office window with a completed application. NVC does not collect your Town of Northport or Village Property taxes. Any payment for property taxes must be done at the Town of Northport office. Any questions, please call the NVC Office at: (207) 338-0751.

Tree Warden/Tree Committee – Vicky Matthews

Recommendation to approve expenditure of not more than \$500.00 for mulch for Merithew Square Plantings.

Jeffrey W. moved, seconded by Brady B., to approve the expenditure of not more than \$500 for mulch for Merithew Square plantings. Voted – Unanimous.

Steven Rea (Clinton Avenue) has asked the Village to split the estimated cost of \$1200 to prune and cable a tree, half on his property and half on the Village property, which has been done in the past. After discussion, Vicky M. asked to table the request, until next month, when she will be able to obtain a second opinion and a second estimate. Her request was granted.

Requests from property owners at 18 Bay Street and 35 Clinton Street to treat trees for Brown Tail Moth. After discussion, the Board concluded that the Tree Committee's and Tree Warden's focus should remain on trees in public areas where many people gather. The scope of Village-paid work will be limited to trees in village parks. Any property owner with concern regarding their property should contact Hawkes Tree Service or a tree service of their choice.

Brady B. moved, seconded by Jeffrey W. a motion to memorialize the NVC's policy to treat diseased and/or infested trees in NVC parks or other areas where people gather. Voted: Unanimous.

Vicky M. moved, seconded by Brady B., that the residents on 18 Bay Street and 35 Clinton, will be given permission to treat these trees at their own expense. Voted: Unanimous.

Ash Borer – The Ash trees in Ruggles Park will be treated again this Spring. Hawks has assessed the ash tree at the bottom of Auditorium Park. The tree is dying and they will include it in the Resiliency Plan for the Waterfront. Their recommendation, at this time, is to not treat this tree.

Personnel – Michael Tirrell

Recommendation to approve a new Seasonal Police Officer position description, which was circulated to the Overseers prior to the meeting.

Brady B. moved, seconded by Fred L., to approve the new Seasonal Police Officer position description by the Personnel Committee. Voted – Unanimous.

Utilities – Jeffrey Wilt

At their last meeting in March, following a public hearing, the Trustees formally passed a motion to extend the moratorium on new connections to the Village sewer system by six months, from April 7, 2024 through October 6, 2024. This moratorium is in place to allow time to study how increased load, during the summer season, will impact the Village sewer system. The Trustees formally agreed to engage in accepting credit cards for Utility payments.

Town Liaison – Janae Novotny

Janae N. reported that the Town will be undertaking emergency repairs to Shore Road at Kelly Cove and near 559 Shore Road. The remaining members of the Northport Community Church want to donate the church, built in 1869 at Saturday Cove, to the Town of Northport. The donation will need to be approved in a vote of the Townspeople. The Town is planning a community meeting to discuss plans to build a new, much-needed Town Hall.

Technology – Brady Brim-Deforest

We are migrating off of Bluehost as our reseller for Google Suite. We will be migrating to nvcmaine.gov this summer. We’re engaging Shannon Blaisdell for additional Google drive structuring support.

Public Comments

Rachel Rosa (7 Auditorium Park) – Regarding the credit card opportunity, it is currently listed on the Village website is not listed on the site’s home page.

She will get with the Tree Warden, Vicky M., regarding two elm trees in Auditorium Park that don’t appear to be healthy.

Dan Webster (Shore Road) – Thanked Bill Cressey, and Wendy Huntoon for bringing Bill onboard, for his presentation on Funding Capital Projects.

Adjournment

Hearing no further public comments, President Janae N. adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Maureen (Beanie) Einstein, Clerk

And

/s/

Janae Novotny, President

Approved by the Board of Overseers, May 12, 2024.