

**Board of Overseers
Minutes of the Meeting
September 16, 2001**

The Board of Overseers convened at 10:01 AM on September 16, 2001, in the Bayside Community Hall. Members present were Overseers Trenholm, Rohweder, Smith, Doucette, Whitten, Lightner, and officers President Vlodek, Treasurer Handler, and Clerk Lagner. Also attending were V.A. Paige, Superintendent John Fancy for the Water/Wastewater Committee, and several village residents including Stan Nitzberg and Todd Park Merolla.

To open the meeting President Vlodek asked for a moment of silence and prayer for our country and those suffering from the recent terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, as well as for Bill Thorndike and Genevieve Sheffield who have died since the last meeting.

The minutes for the August 12 Board of Overseers' meeting were approved.

The minutes for the Annual Meeting of August 14, 2001, were approved as amended.

The minutes of the September 2, 2001, were accepted as amended. During the review of these minutes, Ken asked that the first draft of the minutes be labeled as such, so that they would not be mistaken for the final minutes. He also asked that the minutes be sent out twice, first a draft for initial review, then a copy of the final, amended minutes, which could be handed out at the next meeting. In addition to the Board, final minutes should also be sent to the Northport Town officers Clerk Jim Cummings, and Selectpersons Kevin Hall, Denise Lindahl, and John Burgess. The following non-Board members also will receive copies of the final minutes: Attorney Judy Metcalf, Village Agent Bill Paige, Village Accountant Madeline Tomlin, Parks Committee Chairperson Jane Phillips, Water/Wastewater Committee Chairman Beverly Crofoot, and Superintendent of the water/wastewater committee John Fancy.

The Treasurer's report opened with a distribution of the warrants for Overseers' signatures. There was some concern that the \$30,000 bond payment for the Water Company did not show up on the bill; in fact, there were several payments missing if this represented an entire month's bills. Treasurer Handler explained that mail has not reached him dependably; some bills go directly to Madeline Tomlin, and some are arriving at the mailbox on Bluff Road, while others are still addressed to Bob Stein, the former treasurer. In the confusion, bills are temporarily misplaced, and payment is delayed. Russ requested that all mail be sent to the Village's Belfast post office box; Madeline would see that the mail was picked up and distributed correctly, keeping the original on file in the Tomlin office. Madeline would be given the authority to sign for and open registered letters addressed to the Northport Village Corporation. However, if an individual is developing a project which requests answers, he or she could enclose a pre-addressed envelope with the preferred address.

A letter will be sent to Madeline seeking her approval for this new method of handling Village mail. Russ said he has already spoken with Madeline, and she is agreeable to this plan.

It was **VOTED** that all parties be notified of the change of address to Post Office Box 586 in Belfast, and a forward immediately take place to that box.

Russ also requested that a letter and copy of the minutes be sent to the bank changing the address of all the accounts (Sewer, Water, and General) to the Belfast post office box (P.O. Box 586) in

care of Madeline Tomlin, and to inform the bank that the treasurer is now Russell Handler, so the former treasurer's name should be removed from the account.

Northport Village Corporation (9/12/01 balances)		
Checking Account		\$4,564.16
Community Hall Savings		188.55
Money Market Account		42,047.22
Total Balance		\$46,799.93

***Note: previous balances not available from Bob Stein.

Water Department (9/03/01)	Last statement	This statement
Checking Account	\$63,242.77	\$61,368.87
Wastewater Treatment Dept. (9/03/01)		
Checking Account	\$51,599.47	\$49,408.35
C.D.		19,010.56

Russ Handler has some concerns that the South Shore properties have been re-assessed. He wants to know if this is universal or applies only to some owners.

Village Resident Concerns

1. Todd Park Merolla: Mussel Farm

- Eastern Mussel has many applications with Marine Resources for permits.
- This is a hazardous obstruction where it is placed. It isn't just the barrels, but the cables extend hundreds of feet in several directions.
- Plans are to make this three times as large as it is now.
- It is an eyesore.
- The existing permit is for three years, with 1-1/2 years expired.
- The procedure for notifying the harbormaster and residents was not followed.
- They escaped the penalty for riparian rights giving owners control over 1,000 feet out into the water, by locating this structure just beyond that limit.

When the permit was brought before the selectmen, Mike Brown thought this raft would be much closer to shore, and therefore not such a hazard to marine traffic. According to the coordinates, it is located as described, but it does not agree to the mapped location. Todd stated that if five or more people voice concerns, a hearing will be held when the permit comes up for renewal.

Ken Vlodek went to the meeting last winter when this issue was discussed, and he said that no one could come up with any valid reason to object, except for the lack of night lighting, which has since been added.

Dan Doucette questioned if the Board has any power to change things now, with the new harbor ordinance in place.

It was suggested that their bonding might not be adequate to pay the damages if the raft broke loose and cleaned out the moorings at Bayside.

The Board requested that Todd Merolla join Board members in attending the Northport Selectmen's meeting on Thursday to discuss this issue.

2. Eldridge: Garbage collection on North Shore.

Judy Metcalf has drafted a letter asking the North Shore residents to sign a letter which would indemnify the village from anything happening to the collector while driving on their extremely long driveways. Without this agreement, the Village is taking a risk in case of accidents. In previous discussions, there has been little progress toward a solution. These people have had garbage pick-up at their dooryard for fifty years, and wrestling these barrels out to the end of the driveway would be very difficult for them, many of whom are quite elderly. On the other hand, the issue of liability has not been solved.

If the Village agrees to continue present practice, then anyone else in the community could also ask for this service.

It was suggested that Judy draft a simple ordinance on solid waste collection for the village; this ordinance could be voted on, and would replace the informal policy we now have which has never been a Board decision. In order to ensure the support of the entire village, it would be better to enact this ordinance at the annual meeting next summer.

Steve Trenholm suggested we offer a compromise: we would pick up their garbage as now for three seasons (spring, summer, fall) when danger to the collector is negligible, but would not endanger the safety of the collector during the winter months by sending him down those long driveways. It was the opinion of the Board that we could not take that liability chance.

It was decided to ask Judy to submit the previously drafted letter for adoption at the next Overseers' meeting.

3. Polly Hyde brought to the Board's attention that Park Row is seriously washed out. Bill says damaged roads will be attended to soon, in the next few weeks.

Brief update of Resident concerns:

- a. Wescott-Duggan: Everyone has a copy of the letter sent to Wescott from Attorney Judy Metcalf.
- b. Oberg: will come this winter.
- c. Shaver-Webster: Everyone has copy of the letter from Attorney Judy Metcalf to Nancy Shaver, with a copy to the Websters.
- d. Crowley: Supposed to be changing her sewer line this fall.
- e. Williams: In town hands because it is in the shoreland zone.

Village Agent Concerns

- a. Garbage pick-up: Collection of items to be recycled will take place only on Mondays from October 1 to June 15.

b. Ramps: Steve T. suggested that we place non-stick pads between the treads on the ramp decks so people won't slip. Also, there is a dangerous gap at the end of the ramp where it attaches to the wharf. Ken suggested that we ask the builder for ways to correct this before the ramps are removed. We also need to re-build the frame used to support the ramps during seasonal mounting and removal.

c. Plowing: We now have a second person interested. Ken requested that Bill and John write a bid specification to expedite the preparation of bids. He would also like a bid specification written for the parks.

Plowing was adequate last year, but sanding was a problem.

d. Park maintenance: Parks were mowed the last week of August, but we have not received a bill for that mowing.

e. Fall schedule: Summer water will be turned off October 15. The boats to be stored in the park will be pulled early this year due to the tide (prior to Oct. 1). However, the boat float should not be pulled before the Columbus Day weekend.

e. Duggans-Lagner: John Fancy says that is basically a private property issue, and not an issue of the Board. Lagner will write a letter to that effect.

f. Nitzburg: Drainage water on North Street pools at the bottom of the hill. This is a problem not included in the Phase I plan, but needs to be addressed. It was asked that Dirago give us an estimate of the cost so it can be included in the Phase I sewer plan.

Wharfmaster

The dinghies at the boat float have not caused a serious problem this season, although there was some lack of compliance to the new rules. We still have some dinghies left at the dock, even though the owners are gone for more than two weeks. Steve requested that the old grab rails be replaced on the boat float, and the numbers are irrelevant now.

Water/Wastewater

a. We are still in line for funding, if it should be available.

b. Dirago crews are finishing up the design; construction to begin in the spring.

c. DEP requested a presentation of the plans for reconstruction of the Phase I, II, and III. The DEP is unhappy with the treatment facility.

d. The flowmeter shows that we are treating about 5,000 gallons of water a day, and we are receiving 25,000 gallons a day from Belfast. Where is this water going? John feels it is leaching into the ground.

e. Fire hydrants: We do not have adequate fire protection in the village, nor does the town of Northport. We do not have adequate water supplies as our hydrants are fed from the reservoir. Rental for hydrants is \$1,600 per year per hydrant. If the town of Northport has some interest in sharing the cost of developing better coverage, we could then add more hydrants.

f. Birchcrest: The residents are willing to pay a surcharge over a period of time to cover the cost of connecting to our water.

g. South Shore: Tests have shown arsenic in some South Shore wells, and residents have asked to be added to the year-round water system. This was originally designed into the Phase II plan, and

would involve replacing existing water lines as well as extending lines. Since they are already paying a water bill, we would not receive any more income.

A concerned citizen spoke about the drainage problems on the South Shore. The road should be re-graded. It could be done with next spring's Phase I work. Possibly we could approach the town for help on this.

Finance

Madeline Tomlin requests that she receive the minutes of the meetings.

She also asks for permission to order pre-stamped envelopes from the postal service. The Board agreed.

Reminder: Money approved in the budget passed a month ago will not be available until the fall of next year.

Information

The Committee could use copy for the newsletter. The next letter should be coming out before Thanksgiving.

Bulletin boards will have sections set aside designated just for village business. Possibly Dick Tardif will work on this.

Ellie is asked to E-mail the approved minutes to Dan Webster for the website.

Recreation

There are three new members of the committee: Cindy Bravo, Wendy Huntoon, and Steve Trenholm. Steve has lined up the Lincolnville Band for \$400 on July 7, Sunday, about 2 PM. Possibly the Yacht Club could contribute towards this cost, and we will pass the hat. Other ideas included a water carnival, face painting, a scavenger hunt, a bonfire, soda and popcorn furnished by the Village (July 4th weekend), and possibly something for the kids to do once a week during the summer months. Cindy will be asked to contact other mothers who are here for the summer to ask them to become involved. A wharf dance was also suggested.

Ken would like to see an exciting activity planned to bring the whole community together on the weekend before the annual meeting. Possibly the Yacht Club could schedule some activities on that weekend, as did the Historical Society with the post card show.

The committee would like for the Yacht Club, the Recreation Committee for the Village Corporation, and the Historical Society to put together one calendar. Members will plan to attend the winter meeting of the Yacht Club to work out the calendar of events together.

Safety

Sal is interested in coming back as policeman.

The Village needs to search for a new lifeguard, but it is difficult to find lifeguards with an "open water certificate." We might offer to pick up the cost for the "Open Water" course. The lifeguard might consider teaching swimming lessons to earn more money, although this would involve another certificate.

Zoning Ordinance

The permit form is finalized.

New Business

Election of Chairperson of the Board of Overseers: John Lightner was nominated. So **VOTED.**

Meeting Schedule:

The next meeting of the Board of Overseers will be October 14 at the Drinkwater School, and the November meeting will be the 18th at 10:00 AM. There is no meeting scheduled in December.

The bylaws may need to be reviewed. Overseers are asked to please look at them before the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Lagner, Clerk