

**Board of Overseers
Northport Village Corporation
Minutes of Meeting
January 26, 2003**

Board Chairman Doug Mayer, in the absence of President Vlodek, called the meeting of the Northport Village Corporation Board of Overseers to order at 10:00 AM on January 26, 2003, in the Drinkwater School, with Overseers Krulis, Smith, Rohweder, Doucette, Crofoot, Closter, Treasurer Handler, and Clerk Lagner present. Also attending were Superintendent John Fancy, Beverly Crofoot, Tim Samway, Todd Merolla, and Agent Bill Paige.

The minutes of the November 24, 2002 meeting were **approved** by motion made by Crofoot and seconded by Doucette.

The treasurer's report was **approved** as follows by motion of Doucette, seconded by Krulis:

General Government	
Checking	\$46,391.20
Community Hall	462.94
Money Market	<u>42,843.86</u>
Total	\$89,698.00
Water Department	
Checking	<u>\$30,088.84</u>
Total	\$30,088.84
Sewer Department	
Checking	\$18,373.76
CD721053	1,927.79
Money Market	<u>3,852.31</u>
Total	\$24,153.86

Tim Samway presented some information as a result of his research into "executive sessions." His suggestions will be discussed with attorney Metcalf. John Fancy also added that when a person is being discussed in a closed executive session, that person should be present. It was pointed out that this applied to employees, but not necessarily to contractors.

Village Properties: Dave Crofoot

1. Dave presented the final easement deed for the construction on the Nitzburg property as received from Attorney Metcalf. Several minor changes have been made. Crofoot

moved, seconded by Doucette, that the easement deed be approved and Overseers be authorized to sign the papers. **So voted.**

2. Attorney Metcalf has prepared a draft of the lease of land to the Bayside Historical Preservation Society for the cottage. Exact location of the lines is yet to be decided.

3. Hiring of a Code Enforcement Officer is still pending. It was moved by Doucette and seconded by Smith, that the financial offer to the CEO be for a base rate of \$2,500 a year for up to 100 hours, with \$25/hour paid in addition over and above 100 hours. **So voted.**

Village Agent: Bill Paige

Some concern has been expressed about the plowing of the connecting roads. Bill agreed, saying the main roads, and school bus routes were always plowed first.

Wharfmaster: Al Keith

1. Many letters are being written revealing the concerns of the residents about the Mussel Farm. Krulis moved, seconded by Doucette, that a letter be sent to Selectpersons stating that the Northport Village Corporation Board of Overseers is in support of the selectpersons' efforts to maintain control of the navigable waters of Northport. **So voted.**

2. Some concern was expressed about the need for a wharf replacement contingency fund. In previous years, a portion has been set aside from the boat excise tax revenues. Without application to the town's Harbor Committee, that money is no longer available to NVC. So far, this Committee has refused to support this "because NVC already owns the dock, and the Committee doesn't want to have anything to do with it" (a stand that is absolutely counter to everything that was said at Town Meeting last year, according to Dave). Crofoot moved, seconded by Doucette, that we have on next meeting's agenda a report from our wharfmaster and those Northport people representing us on the Harbor Committee clarifying this issue, which would then give us time to put it on the warrant if necessary. If the Harbor Committee refuses to give us funds for this purpose, we should put in a warrant item requesting half of the boat excise taxes back for the Northport Village Corporation. **So voted.**

Water/Wastewater: Doug Mayer

1. Phase I work is proceeding, but at a slower pace than hoped.

2. The CDBG grant has been received. Mayer moved, seconded by Closter, that we thank Mr. Merolla and Mr. Plummer profusely for the work they did to prepare the CDBG grant application which was successful in the amount of \$240,000 in grant, and \$160,000 in loan. **So voted.**

The grant amount applied for was \$400,000. Because of the difference in the figures, it will be necessary to return to the annual meeting for approval. John Fancy is asked to update the Phase II budget based on this change.

It was also pointed out that grant/loan is contingent upon Northport's approval of the modifications made to the Comprehensive Plan.

3. The Draft Consent Agreement with the DEP about the sewer treatment plant repair/replacement has been presented, which calls for a new secondary treatment system by November 2007. The words "mutually agreeable" have been inserted, making it possible for us to stop or hold up activity until we find the money. John expects that the state will present a bond to voters in 2004, joining our project with 4-5 other regional towns which are also facing DEP fines if they do not act. We are committed to reports every 6 months, showing what has been done to find funds.

4. Gail Bryan has been hired as office manager for the Corporation. She will be working in the office set up in the Community Hall basement. Meanwhile, efforts continue to find a suitable Village office space. Plans and price estimates for an office built in the water works building have been prepared by Norman James and Todd Merolla. Mayer moved, seconded by Krulis, that a letter be sent from the Board of Overseers expressing great thanks to Norman James and Todd Merolla for the work they did to ferret out the costs and benefits of the water works office. The address of the present Village office is 813 Shore Road. A mail box will be installed.

After discussion, it was decided to pursue further in-depth research into alternate sites for the office. The back of the fire station is one site to be investigated, and Dan asked that the lease with the fire department be searched out to see if that location is possible. The Community Hall basement expansion was another possible site. A motion presented by Mayer and seconded by Crofoot, to ask Todd Merolla to design and do a cost estimate for a 300 sq. ft. addition onto the water works building, space to be used by the CEO, and for larger capacity meetings, was tabled until all the options could be investigated. Closter suggested that we open up the problem to the community for support and ideas, looking at the larger picture.

5. Mayer explained the Utility District as a possible way to expedite the management of the water and sewer utilities. After discussion, Mayer moved, and Smith seconded, that the Overseers will permit a continued discussion about a Utilities District, presuming that the eligible voters in the Northport Village Corporation will participate in voting for the district. If not, the committee will pursue the district no further at this time. **Vote passed: 4 yes, 2 no, 1 abstain.**

Finances

Dave reported that due to an oversight, the money given to the Corporation by the Town of Northport had not been received. He looked into the situation, and Cummings said it

was simply an oversight, and immediately sent the check. It was suggested that the office manager write to the town treasurer each year to remind them of this obligation.

Dan requested authorization to find a new auditor. Doucette moved, seconded by Rohweder, that the Board authorize Doucette to solicit the services of a new auditor for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2002. **So voted.**

Recreation

Joe Krulis reported that David and Beverly Crofoot have offered their home for the summer's garden party.

Information

The Board supported the publication of a composite calendar again this season. Gail Bryan will work on an up-dated, correct mailing list.

Greg asked for material for the next (May) newsletter.

Safety

Judy Rohweder presented material resulting from research about a police vehicle. Doucette moved, seconded by Rohweder, that the Overseers be authorized to allocate up to \$3,000 for a police vehicle. **So voted.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Lagner, Clerk