

Northport Village Corporation Utility Committee Meeting

Friday, February 11, 2022, 4 p.m.
Community Hall and via ZOOM

The Utilities Committee meeting convened at 4 pm.

Present: D. Crofoot, R. McElhaney, Bill Paige and Janae Novotny; by ZOOM, committee members Metcalf, Wilt, and somewhat later, B. Brim-deForest, C. Brown

The minutes of the January 2022 meeting were accepted by vote 3:0.

Billing report prepared by Amy Eldridge was reviewed; collections were generally satisfactory.

Superintendent's report:

Mr. McElhaney's report, as copied below, was reviewed

Utility Department Monthly Operating Report

Sewer Department

December 2021 Effluent Monitoring Data

Sewer Department

December 2021 Effluent Monitoring Data

During the month there were no exceedances to report to EPA/DEP. See performance table for further details of the regulatory monitoring data.

For the January 2022 operating period there were also no exceedances to report.

WTP Monthly Performance Table

Parameters	Dec	Nov	Oct	YTD Lo	YTD Hi	YTD Ave	2020 Ave	DEP Limit	YTD Exceed- ances
Flow GPD	32470	27835	16687	5643	32470	20228	12718	<63,000	0
Precip inches	na	6.20	6.79	1.58	10.10	4.45	3.17	n/a	0
TSS lbs/day	2.0	1.7	1.8	0.9	7.6	2.6	1.6	<76	0
TSS lbs max	4.3	3.8	2.4	1.7	11.4	5.1	na	report	0
TSS mg/l ave	11.2	8.0	22.3	11.2	44.3	26.1	23.2	<145	0
TSS mg/l max	16	11	29	16	64	37.5	na	report	0
TSS % removal	96.1	97.2	92.3	80.0	96.1	89.7	92.7	>50	0
BOD lbs/day	21.6	26.6	14.8	2.8	37.6	15.2	6.3	<107	0
BOD lbs max	37.9	44.8	19.2	6.1	73.8	26.9	na	report	0
BOD mg/l ave	130	128.4	193	37.2	244	140.1	81.1	<203	1
BOD mg/l max	170	160	250	51	400	161.6	na	report	0

BOD % removal	55.1	55.7	33.6	-37.9	87.2	51.6	69.7	>30	1
pH low	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.6	>6.0	0
pH high	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.9	<9.0	0
St solids ml/l	0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.35	0.15	0.13	report	0
TRC mg/l max	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	.03	.02	<0.3	0
Fecal cfu ave	<7.11	<8	<8	<7.11	21.37	9.58	11.34	<14	2
Fecal cfu max	<8	<8	<8	<8	1088	19.37	20.24	<31	2
Enterococcus cfu ave	na	na	<8	<8	29.8	10.8	12.23	<8	3
Enterococcus cfu max	na	na	<8	<8	3280	26.9	40.65	<54	1
Hg ng/l ave	na	18.28	na	na	na	18.28	18.70	33.4	0
Hg ng/l max	na	7.0	na	na	na	7.0	14.4	50.1	0

Note: The last exceedance for flow was 187 months ago (2/2006). The last exceedance for BOD was 5 months ago (8/2021). The last exceedance for fecal coliform was 4 months ago (9/2021). The last exceedance for enterococci was 4 months ago (9/2021). The record annual average low for flow was 12,017 gpd in 2017.

Drinking Water Department

December 2021 Production and Water Quality.

Purchased water for the month averaged 13,252 gpd compared to 15,631 gpd for the same month in 2020. The weekly free chlorine residual in the drinking water ranged from 0.19 - 0.27 ppm/Cl² compared to the recommended goal of >.20 to <1.0 ppm/Cl². The EPA maximum concentration level (MCL) not to be exceeded for chlorine residual is 4.0 ppm. The monthly total coliform and e-coli water sample test results were both negative.

Supt. McElhaney continues to investigate possible reasons for relatively high BOD levels. BOD concentration (mg/L average) was 130, down from recent levels of 170, but still high compared with historical data. Fernie Barton has been slowly decreasing the amount of chlorine used and therefore also decreasing the amount of sulfite used to neutralize the chlorine prior to discharge. So far, this has not resulted in fecal coliform testing violations. It is theorized that high residual sulfite levels, by their effect as a reducing agent, may be artificially elevating the measurements of BOD.

In the winter months, the Utility has traditionally used only one of the three trains of settling tanks. In the past, this had always been Train 3 (nearest the ocean) but this year had been Train 1 (nearest the park). Measurement of BOD in wastewater issuing from Train 1 prior to chlorination was very high. McElhaney and Casey Brown have raised the question of whether residual settled solids in the last two tanks of Train 1 might be resolubilizing resulting in increased BOD levels.

Historically, (for at least the last 15 years) the 3rd and 4th tanks of each train have not been pumped, based on the presumption that there were very few solids to settle after the flow through the first two tanks in the train. (When measured, there has never been more than 8-10 inches of sludge at the bottoms of the 3rd and 4th tanks). Mr. McElhaney plans to shift flow from Train 1 to Train 2 in the coming weeks and test BOD levels in the inflowing stream as well as in the outflow of effluent before chlorination. Once that data is in hand, he plans to shift the flow of wastewater over to Train 3 (which was traditionally used in the winter and has had the benefit of having all four tanks completely cleaned when they were emptied and re-waterproofed).

In July, when the tanks are scheduled to be pumped, all four tanks in each train will be pumped. Residual solids in the 3rd and 4th tanks, which might be affecting measured BOD concentrations, will be removed and this may hopefully improve the situation. The 2022 budget was set up with additional money to cover this more extensive tank pumping. Incidentally, the price for pumping by Moore Septic has increased from \$240/1000 gal to \$260/1000 gallons.

Discussion about the proposed moratorium on new connections.

A one-year moratorium on new connections was voted at the January meeting in order to give the Utilities Department time to assess reasons for high levels of BOD and to assess whether the treatment plant was approaching its maximum capacity. But in further discussion between the Overseers and the Town of Northport, it was found that such a moratorium could legally be for only six months and required a public hearing before adoption. In discussion, the committee members felt that there were still strong reasons to pursue a six-month moratorium.

MOTION by Metcalf, 2nd by Wilt: To schedule a public hearing at the Community Hall on Friday, March 26th, at 9 a.m. **Voted 5 in favor, none opposed.**

Judy Metcalf volunteered to work with the office to publish notification on line and in the newspapers.

The Committee was made aware of actions by the NVC Overseers on February 6, 2022 that will impact on the Utilities Department with regard to billing and office personnel.

These include:

- Approval of Finance and Personnel Committees' recommendation to engage Willkie & Associates for interim bookkeeping.

Approval of Finance and Personnel Committees' recommendation to engage Willkie & Associates for interim Bookkeepin.g.

- Ratification of new agreement with NR bookkeeping, Inc. for transition bookkeeping.
- Approval of a position announcement/position description for an Office Manager.
- Approval of appointment of Village Agent Bill Paige to function as the interim Office Manager at not more than \$1000 for two months.

The Utilities Committee voted unanimously to accept these recommendations.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Next meeting, Friday, March 11 at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David D. Crofoot

••°

•