

**MINUTES**  
**JUNE 21, 2022 – 6:00 PM.**  
**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**OF THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF NORTHPORT**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**Meeting was held live at Village Hall, 224 Main Street Northport, NY 11768 and also via Zoom:**

**Present:** Mayor Koch, Deputy Mayor Sabia, Trustee Weber, Trustee Pucillo, Chief Hughes, Treasurer Siobhan Costello, Attorney Ed Gathman, Assistant to the Mayor Don Tesoriero, Village Administrator Roland Buzard, Village Clerk Georgina Cavagnaro

**Absent:** Trustee Dolan

**Registered ZOOM participants:** Len Marchese, Joseph Cavagnaro, Thomas Radman, David Weber, Chrissy Ruggeri, Phyllis Weber, J W, Don Blixt

**OPEN MEETING:** Meeting was called to order at 6:01pm.

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Koch announced that the judgment on the DEC Consent Judgment from 2008 has been lifted. Senator Gaughran has also awarded the Village of Northport \$175,000 to help with the dock repairs.

**PRESENTATION:** Water Quality MS4 & Sanitary by J. R. Holzmacher P.E., LLC. Consulting Engineers Bob Holzmacher and Tony Zalak gave a presentation on the MS4 Program (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System). The Village of Northport holds a SPDES Permit (State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) for its wastewater treatment which details system requirements, such as how much and where water can be pumped-out, and obligatory testing. The MS4 Program is considered a General SPDES Permit which covers an entire area rather than a singular pipe/wastewater system. The Village of Northport is considered the permit holder of the MS4 Program, making the municipality responsible for all of the discharges in the permit area, not just village owned properties. This is all in efforts to make water quality improvements in accordance with NYSDEC guidelines. Bob Holzmacher went over a map depicting all of the stormwater sewers, inland recharge points and outfalls into the harbor while discussing some of the different stormwater systems and programs. Northport Harbor has a long history of poor water quality due to nutrient loading as well as the presence of biologicals and particulates. Such contamination is what causes harmful algae blooms including those containing Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) and diminish the oxygen content of the water. Both the State of New York (administered by the

NYSDEC) and the Federal Government (administered by the EPA) have oversight into water quality systems in place such as those run by the Village of Northport. Both bodies focus on the process set in place (e.g., water treatment measures/infrastructure) as much as the results of those processes (e.g., water quality). Back in 2008, the Village was issued an Order on Consent which required water samples from various outfall pipes to be taken and reviewed by microbiologists to determine the genus of the contaminants in the harbor. The numerous samplings proved the stormwater runoff was not interconnected with sanitary systems. As Mayor Koch announced, the required activities have been completed and the Order of Consent has been lifted. Being now a holder of a MS4 Permit, the Village is responsible for providing annual reports of activities, disclosing past and future activities, implementing six MCM's (Minimum Control Measures), and continuing to focus on the process as much as the results. Although not strictly MS4, but still adhering to these principles, the Village may be required in the future to undertake drainage improvement projects down Main Street designed to slow water flow and catch sediment before entering the harbor. Such projects may include sediment traps, rain gardens, and bioswales.

Mayor Koch asked about the renewal of the SPDES Permit to which an answer of every five years was given.

Sherry Pavone raised a point regarding the quality of the bay water which is affected by other areas such as Centerport, not just Northport. Sherry Pavone asked whether the Village of Northport was being 'unfairly' held responsible for the quality of the bay water (not just the stormwater runoff residuals) to which the representatives from J. R. Holzmacher P.E., LLC acknowledged that the Village was 'somewhat' being held responsible for it.

Trustee Weber asked whether the SPDES permit required twice-yearly monitoring of the outfall sites, citing requirements from his own industry of business which is required to test twice each year for marine metals. Trustee Weber advised the J. R. Holzmacher P.E., LLC representatives to look into that.

Kevin O'Neill asked about the feasibility and efficacy of possibly adding catch basins on the main roads leading to the harbor such as Main Street, Ocean Avenue, and Church Street to prevent a large volume of water from getting down Main Street. Bob Holzmacher expressed that such a method could be done while going into some specifics such as taking the design storm and creating leaching basins of which the DEC design manual wishes to see. Bob Holzmacher believes that bringing the stormwater pipe up Main Street will be a worthwhile investment and also recommends having roof drains being hooked up to the storm drain sewer.

Effie Huber informed the board that the rain gardens at the yacht club have mulch that is being washed into the drains. Mayor Koch will have it looked at.

Sherry Pavone asked about the scale and the cost of a project like that described by Kevin O'Neill. Kevin O'Neill stated that the price of creating the basin would cost

around \$10,000; 300 basins would be upwards of \$3 million. If the village could find the funding, Bob Holzmacher stated such a project could realistically be done. Sherry Pavone asked whether there was any federal funding available for this. Mayor Koch revealed that funding is coming up for drainage, just not at that scale. Assistant to the Mayor Don Tesoriero described a 2017 watershed study that the Village has been leveraging to put in rain gardens and support catch basin infrastructure. Last week the Village was awarded \$200,000 to go towards the \$583,000 catch basin engineering and construction on Main Street. Two grant initiatives will be submitted on July 29th for rain gardens up Ocean and Valley.

On the Motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber public hearing was opened.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** Authorizing the Mayor to execute a license agreement with Daniel Mahoney at 140 Scudder Avenue to maintain a stone retaining wall on Village owned land at property located adjacent to; (SCTM No.: 0404-013.00-01.00-004.000) - without prejudice for a term of fifteen (15) years, and on such other terms as deemed necessary by the Village Attorney.

On the Motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber public hearing was closed with all in favor.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Blair Beaudet asked for a follow-up on last meeting's discussion concerning traffic on Woodbine and Scudder with the possibility of closing the entrance/exit on Woodbine Avenue. Mayor Koch informed that the Village is actively looking into solutions (such as that one) to remedy the problem. Trustee Weber agrees with the idea and proposed possibly closing the entrance/exit with temporary barricades to try out the idea. Mayor Koch is open to the idea, further discussions and consideration is needed; the mayor is not sure how this would affect village events such as the farmer's market. Blair Beaudet asked again about the Northport Hotel suit and Mayor Koch replied that the suit is still unresolved with nothing new to report. The mayor expressed a shared interest in closing the matter. Trustee Sabia suggested asking Attorney Ed Gathman to talk with Stuart Besen. Blair Beaudet ended by sharing his opinions on a letter written in the Observer titled, "Shameful" in regards to last meeting's labor contract resolution. Blair Beaudet said that it was 'shameful' for the writer to write such a letter containing 'false information'.

Josephine Rizzoni asked about the state of the sewer plant after seeing more than double the amount Clearbrook trucks traveling back and forth for sludge disposal. Josephine Rizzoni fears that if there is something wrong with the sewer plant, adding more houses to the system will only make matters worse. Mayor Koch assured that the sewer plant is not at capacity. Bob Holzmacher explained that the moon tides last week along with an infiltration issue being investigated, the normal seasonal growth of the biologicals in the plant, the increased presence of grease – all have contributed to the influx of Clearbrook trucks to help maintain proper holdings. Referring to Josephine Rizzoni's cost concerns, Trustee Weber discussed the alternative of acquiring the trucks and performing the services with village personnel which too would come with costs and

complications. Josephine Rizzoni claims to see six to seven trucks a week on average. Trustee Sabia asked Bob Holzmacher whether it would be beneficial for the Village to have the 32,000-gallon tank completely pumped out instead of doing a piecemeal job. Bob Holzmacher said it would be better to address the infiltration issue and upgrade the infiltration system with an equalization tank. Josephine Rizzoni then asked about handicapped accessibility that was to be added to the Scudder Park playground back in March. Village Administrator Roland Buzard informed that plans went to the designer however there are issues with regard to placing matting under the handicap apparatus and extending the concrete walkways.

Effie Huber asked whether minutes will be taken for the Bluff Point Sewer meeting scheduled for the homeowners June 22nd. Minutes will be taken. Effie Huber asked about the house on 65 Scudder Avenue to which Mayor Koch and Village Administrator Roland Buzard replied that the homeowner has been to the zoning board with design changes pending approval. ARB would like the homeowner to replace the damages to be as close to how the home was as possible. Effie Huber would like to see things move along being that there is an odor coming from the burnt wood as well as animals living in the house. Trustee Sabia asked about possibly expediting the demolition process to which Village Administrator Roland Buzard said it would have to be looked into. Effie Huber asked Trustee Weber whether the Kellogg truck is still delivering to Seymours through the park. Trustee Weber stated that the truck has been told not to. Effie Huber wanted to know whether the Board had come to a consensus regarding closing the gate to the park in an effort to prevent this from happening again; the board has not yet come to a consensus. Effie Huber ended by giving praise to the officer(s) giving out parking tickets on Scudder.

Ralph Notaristefano wanted to know if discussions on the basketball court would be had at this meeting; Mayor Koch informed that conversations on this matter will be held off until the July 12th meeting at the American Legion Hall at 6:00 PM.

Michael Bento had a question on Resolution 157 concerning the Village Park Lighting Project. Mayor Koch informed that the NYPA project that was over \$1 million is on hold and the Village is instead going forward with addressing four main problem areas that include the village park and dock. Michael Bento asked about the Village of Northport's intention on using bonds to fund the project, referencing concerns of rising interest rates. Mayor Koch has no intention of bonding large projects at this time; the funds needed for this project (\$375,000) are already at the Village's disposal.

Sherry Pavone asked when the handicapped accessibility work at Scudder Park would be done. Village Administrator Roland Buzard expects work to be completed within the next two weeks.

#### **BOARD APPROVAL OF WARRANT:**

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber the following warrant was unanimously approved.

Fiscal Year 2022/2023 General Fund bills in the amount of \$ 270,548.47

On the motion of Trustee Weber and seconded by Trustee Sabia the following warrant was unanimously approved.

Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$10,510.48

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Pucillo the following warrant was unanimously approved.

General Utility Bills 6/13/22 in the amount of \$14,159.01

On the motion of Trustee Weber and seconded by Trustee Sabia the following warrant was unanimously approved.

Sewer Utility Bills 6/13/22 in the amount of \$10,440.68

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Pucillo the following warrant was unanimously approved.

Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Fire bills in the amount of 184,129.27

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Pucillo the following warrant was approved, Trustee Weber abstained.

Special Request – Town of Huntington Fire Contract \$235,000.00

Dave Ambro asked for clarification on the Special Request. Mayor Koch informed that the Village receives \$1.5 million from the Town of Huntington. Of that money, the Village of Northport is contractually obligated to pay the Fire Department \$235,000.

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber the following warrant was unanimously approved.

Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Payroll week 6/17/22 General Fund \$298,193.72

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber the following warrant was unanimously approved.

Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Payroll week 6/17/22 Sewer Fund \$16,382.94

#### **BUSINESS/COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:**

Assistant to the Mayor Don Tesoriero informed that Bob Holzmacher is currently in the process of an audit for the sewer plant. There is a resolution for a filtration system to expand the filtering process in anticipation of additional hookups to the plant. Work is in the process of completing paperwork necessary for acquiring a \$175,000 grant. Design discussions have been done for the \$585,000 Main Street Stormwater Initiative for the catch basin infrastructure.

Village Administrator Roland Buzard informed that NYS added another category to the CHIPS funding which includes pothole repair; the Village will receive another \$39,000. Pothole repairs are underway and filings for that funding will be done within the next few

weeks. Sidewalk repairs continue especially in the Whispering Fields area. Three new Housemen are scheduled to be hired. Pump out floats are complete at Cow Harbor Park with the Town of Huntington. Work with the Town of Huntington has been done on the shoulder of Eatons Neck Road to clean up blocked drainage. Village Administrator Roland Buzard will be looking at the new dump truck tomorrow to approve it. PSEG reopened Ocean and Valley; corroded conduits have pushed back completion time to June 24, after which road repairs will begin in the following weeks.

Trustee Pucillo informed that Village Code does permit refuse to be placed in bags without closed containers so long as it is within 12 hours before pickup and with no complaints from the sanitation contractor. If there are issues, such matters will be addressed in the future. Trustee Pucillo continues to meet with Chief Hughes on security issues and enhancements within the village as well as within Village Hall. Security changes will be implemented in phases; people will start having to be wanded to come into meetings. Further in the future with building improvements, the Village hopes to add a magnetometer to search all visitors. Trustee Pucillo emphasized the need to be proactive.

Trustee Weber read a statement emailed to the Board of Trustees from Trustee Dolan. Trustee Dolan's statement is attached at the end of this document. Trustee Weber also read an email from a resident to emphasize he has not come across any opposition to the construction of the basketball court as designed by the '95 Tigers. Trustee Weber expressed his disappointment in the fact that more progress has not been made; according to Trustee Weber, the project should already be out to bid by now. On July 12th, the Board of Trustees will hold an open forum to discuss the basketball court. With regard to the docks, Trustee Weber informed that the dockmasters will be keeping check of dinghies and whether or not they have permits. Trustee Weber thanked Village Administrator Roland Buzard and the Highway Department for constructing the docks at Woodbine Avenue. Trustee Weber welcomed Michael Sadis, a real estate broker with SERHANT, in opening an office at 155 Main Street. Trustee Weber then went on to talk about the LED Project that is on hold indefinitely, giving a timeline of how the projected cost grew with the changing scope of the project. Addressing current plans, Trustee Weber asked the board for an approval of a new resolution in the amount of \$315,000 to pay for replacing the existing bulbs in the problem residential areas in a contract with NYPA. The quoted price includes a 10% contingency. Mayor Koch emphasized that the quote is only for changing the light bulbs and not for any issues that may be found along the way. Trustee Weber wanted to write and vote on the resolution immediately; Mayor Koch and the rest of the present trustees were not ready to complete such action. Further discussions are needed and will be held off until the next meeting.

Trustee Sabia spoke for the need to erect flag poles at the Highway Department, Sewer Department, and the Plank house since they are Village owned properties and former Trustee Kehoe requested it. Trustee Sabia also proposed adding a sign to the Plank house to help identify it as a Village owned property. Trustee Sabia then voiced concerns of the Highway Department personnel who wish to temporarily reserve 14 parking spaces Monday through Friday 7:00 AM - 3:30 PM since spaces are being taken by non-village

employees. Village Administrator Roland Buzard will have spots marked accordingly. Kevin O'Neill will have his construction workers park in the lower lot to help alleviate the issue. Trustee Sabia also made Chief Hughes aware of a van left in the parking lot that moves only once every six months, making it difficult for Highway employees to work around. The Highway Department has been busy removing trees at Whispering Fields and will start putting sidewalks in. After work is done on Whispering Fields, Trustee Sabia wishes to have the public hearing with the residents on Lisa Drive concerning the sidewalks there. Road painting is complete; the Highway Department is out cutting grass and doing more tree work.

Mayor Koch has been putting together a committee to look at the Main Street treescape which will meet next week. National Grid will be replacing gas lines on both sides of Main Street starting January 2nd 2023. Mayor Koch also met with the chairmen of the Planning and the Zoning Boards to draft out a comprehensive plan for the Village's future for smart growth. There are grants available to achieve a plan so long as a comprehensive plan is made. Mayor Koch attended the Vision Long Island Awards Ceremony. The Blessing of the Fleet and Maritime Day were a success. Mayor Koch has attended meetings on the park lights and met the three new hires at the Firehouse.

**TREASURER REPORT:**

Treasurer Siobhan Costello informed Trustee Weber that the \$300,000 was not budgeted but ear marked, referring back to the point Trustee Weber raised concerning the NYPA LED Lighting Project. The Treasurer stated that \$80,000 has already been invested with NYPA and would be lost if the Village was not going to go forward with them. Treasurer Siobhan Costello presented a letter to Mayor Koch (and asked the Observer to take a copy as well) regarding how Len Marchese was presented at the last Board of Trustees meeting. The Treasurer expressed her respect and gratitude for Len Marchese - she looks forward to working with him as a consultant. Mayor Koch acknowledged the work Len Marchese has done for the Village of Northport. Len Marchese will continue as a consultant working under the Board of Trustees approved actions. Mayor Koch stated that the upcoming budget cycle will be a more open/public workshop type meetings for viewers to spectate. Deputy Treasurer Janine D'Orio continued off of the sentiments expressed by the Treasurer and is learning more through the combined guidance of the Treasury Department and Len Marchese. Mayor Koch believes both the Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer are doing a great job.

**CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT:**

Chief Hughes and the Police Department are preparing for pre-prom in the park Thursday, weather permitting. Traffic is expected to be heavier than usual down Main Street.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**REQUESTS:** None

**RESOLUTIONS:**

On the motion of Trustee Weber and seconded by Trustee Sabia the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 151 ~ APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 7, 2022 MINUTES**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** The minutes of the June 7, 2022 meeting are hereby accepted.

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022 - 152 ~ AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR A PARCEL IN THE VILLAGE OF NORTHPORT ADJACENT TO PROPERTY OWNED BY DANIEL MAHONEY**

**WHEREAS:** the Village of Northport is the owner of a certain parcel of real property which is vacant land/right-of-way located adjacent to, NY District 0404, Section 13, Block 1, Lot 4, (resident property) and

**WHEREAS:** the owner of adjacent property located at, NY (SCTM 0404-013.00-01.00-004.000), has approached the Village of Northport and requested that the Village allow his driveway retaining wall to remain and be maintained or reconstituted if needed, and

**WHEREAS:** the Village Asst. to the Mayor and Village Administrator have inspected the premises and have no objection to the wall remaining, and

**WHEREAS:** Licensee has requested a 15-year term for this agreement, and

**WHEREAS:** a license agreement is a Type II action in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 617.5(c)(26) requiring no further environmental review,

**BE IT RESOLVED:** the Mayor is authorized to execute a license agreement to maintain a stone retaining wall on Village owned land at property located adjacent to, NY (SCTM No.: 0404-013.00-01.00-004.000) - without prejudice for a term of fifteen (15) years, and on such other terms as deemed necessary by the Village Attorney.

**NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that the Village Board authorizes the Mayor or her representative to execute a license agreement, on such terms and conditions as may be acceptable to the Village Attorney, allowing David Mahoney to utilize the subject premises for a retaining wall.

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Pucillo the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 153 ~ SEASONAL HIRING**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Vincent O'Brien-Curcie is hereby hired for the seasonal position of Lifeguard for the Incorporated Village of Northport.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** Vincent O'Brien-Curcio will work no more than 40 hours a week at a rate of pay of \$16.00 per hour and

**WHEREAS:** Hiring of employees is a Type II action pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Section 617.5(c)(26), and, therefore no further SEQRA review is required.

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 154 ~ FIREHOUSE ATTENDANT**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Ryan Kennedy is hereby hired effective immediately to the position of Firehouse Attendant at the annual salary and other conditions of

employment, pursuant to the collective Bargaining Agreement between the Village of Northport and Local 342, Long Island Public Service Employees. Ryan Kennedy will be subject to a background check and confirmation of all certifications necessary to hold the position of Firehouse attendant. Ryan Kennedy will complete a six-month probationary period.

**WHEREAS:** Hiring of employees is a Type II action pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Section 617.5(c)(26), and, therefore no further SEQRA review is required.

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 155 ~ FIREHOUSE ATTENDANT**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Ryan Doyal is hereby hired effective July 18, 2022 to the position of Firehouse Attendant at the annual salary and other conditions of employment, pursuant to the collective Bargaining Agreement between the Village of Northport and Local 342, Long Island Public Service Employees. Ryan Doyal will be subject to a background check and confirmation of all certifications necessary to hold the position of Firehouse attendant. Ryan Doyal will complete a six-month probationary period.

**WHEREAS:** Hiring of employees is a Type II action pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Section 617.5(c)(26), and, therefore no further SEQRA review is required.

On the motion of Trustee Pucillo and seconded by Trustee Sabia the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 156 ~ FIREHOUSE ATTENDANT**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Aidan Murtagh is hereby hired effective September 1, 2022 to the position of Firehouse Attendant at the annual salary and other conditions of employment, pursuant to the collective Bargaining Agreement between the Village of Northport and Local 342, Long Island Public Service Employees. Aidan Murtagh will be subject to a background check and confirmation of all certifications necessary to hold the position of Firehouse attendant. Aidan Murtagh will complete a six-month probationary period.

**WHEREAS:** Hiring of employees is a Type II action pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Section 617.5(c)(26), and, therefore no further SEQRA review is required.

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 157 ~ VILLAGE PARK LIGHTING**

**WHEREAS:** The Northport Village Park lighting system is in need of substantial upgrading and

**WHEREAS:** the allocation of funds is a type ii action pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. 617.5 (c) 2, and, therefore no further SEQRA review is required.

**BE IT RESOLVED:** The Mayor hereby authorizes the treasurer to appropriate a fund balance in the amount of \$375,000 to provide funding for the Village Park lighting and fixture upgrade project.

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Pucillo the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 158 ~ BIDS**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** The Mayor hereby authorizes the Village administrator to issue bids for the public work necessary to complete the Village Park lighting upgrade project.

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 159 ~ PARAMEDIC**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Adam Tomko is hereby hired for the position of Paramedic for the Incorporated Village of Northport, and as with all applicants, Adam Tomko will be subject to a background check and confirmation of all certifications necessary to hold the position of Paramedic.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** Paramedic Adam Tomko will work no more than 17.5 hours a week at the rate of \$33.50 per hour.

**WHEREAS:** Hiring of employees is a Type II action pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Section 617.5(c)(26), and, therefore no further SEQRA review is required.

Trustee Sabia asked how many paramedics the Village has; there are currently 18 with new hires to the firehouse also agreeing to become or already are EMT certified.

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 160 ~ PROPERTY DAMAGE CLAIM**

**WHEREAS:** On January 29, 2022 while plowing snow a Village vehicle collided with two cars parked in the Schiavetta's driveway causing property damage to both vehicles owned by the Schiavetta's and,

**WHEREAS:** The Schiavetta's are asking to be reimbursed for the damage to their vehicles in the amount of \$2,245.62

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** the Mayor directs the treasury department to pay the Schiavetta's claim.

Trustee Weber asked whether if this resolution will waive any further liability to which Mayor Koch assured and Attorney Ed Gathman stated a release will be asked for when the check is given.

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber the following resolution was unanimously approved.

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 161 ~ SEWER FACILITY FILTRATION SYSTEM EXPANSION**

**WHEREAS:** The Village of Northport seeks to improve local water quality and expand sanitary residential connections to the existing sewer system; and

**WHEREAS:** the expansion of connections will require a sewer plant filtration system upgrade for the additional sanitary volume;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** The Village Mayor is hereby authorized to execute a services agreement with De Nora Water Technologies, LLC in the amount of \$216,000 as detailed in such agreement; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** the treasurer has an executed GDA for the Bluff Point and Steers Sewer Expansion (Project ID: 15556) and will submit for reimbursement the capital cost associated with this project agreement.

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** This is a type II action pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. section 617.5, and, therefore, no further SEQRA review is required.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Tuesday July 12, 2022 at 6:00 PM.

**Please note the meeting will be held at:**

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 694  
7 WOODSIDE AVENUE  
NORTHPORT, NY 11768**

Discussions on the basketball court with public input (Q&A) will be held then.

On the motion of Trustee Sabia and seconded by Trustee Weber and approved by all, the meeting closed at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Georgina Cavagnaro  
Village Clerk

## Dolan - Parks Commissioner Report for 6/21/22

Since our last meeting, I am pleased to report that Village Beaches are operating at full tilt and passed their first inspection – a testament to our great staff both at the Beaches and in Village Hall who work hard to keep everything moving and in compliance - thank you. To that same end, our Parks Department is in high season and the parks look really amazing thanks to our dedicated professionals who I have been fortunate to get to know over the past couple months. They work extremely hard and take much pride in their work and I'm grateful to work with and learn from them and for their work on behalf of the Village. We are also moving forward with replacing and upgrading the playground equipment in Steers Park.

I reported to you all at our last meeting re: our downtown basketball revitalization project, and wanted to provide an update. I am sorry I am not there to be able to share and discuss this in person with you all.

At our last meeting I confirmed that the paperwork for the \$75k grant from Sen. Gaughran's office- obtained specifically for this project - was completed. At that meeting I also asked Mayor Koch whether the Woodbine marina bathrooms, which she had advised me had been condemned by the Town of Huntington, were going to become a part of this project and she said "not at this time."

One day after that meeting, the Mayor and Assistant to Mayor had a meeting with Town of Huntington officials to discuss this exact project - a significant one in the Parks, but unfortunately as Parks Commissioner I was not advised that meeting was taking place. No other Board members were present.

Following that meeting, it was reported to me by our Mayor that the Town of Huntington was condemning the bathrooms in Woodbine Marina and they would have to be moved inside Cow Harbor Park because the parking lot in Woodbine Marina will be torn up as a part of the Bulkhead project. The Mayor also advised me that the Town of Huntington had suggested downsizing the Laurel Group's project design from a full court to a half-court. I asked and was advised that this was the Town of Huntington's suggestion and that our Mayor agreed with it.

We, the Mayor, myself and the Assistant to the Mayor, then had a meeting with the 1995 team of organizers where the Mayor advised them again that the bathrooms were being condemned and would have to be moved into our Park, and also told them the court should go to half-court size. The team was disappointed with the suggestions from our Mayor, as they understood Huntington had approved the project, but optimistic that there could be a compromise if these significant changes to the project had to happen.

A discussion was had regarding the specifications of the court as proposed and why it does not make sense and would very much hurt the functionality of the court and the project to go from two baskets (as we have there now) to one, and that this slight expansion of the court would deliver much more to our kids than is there now - that it is an upgrade in any ways. The organizers work for both the NBA and St. John's Basketball and spent much time devising a functional court size in the proposal – it is not a regulation full court, and it is slightly larger than what's there now, but it is functional for its purpose: to provide kids an opportunity to have a real game, on a nice court, with two baskets.

Since the meeting with the 1995 Team, Town of Huntington Supervisor Ed Smyth, who was present in the meeting with our Mayor and Assistant to Mayor, has confirmed in writing that 1) the Woodbine bathrooms are not being condemned, nor are we required to move them and 2) the Town has put no restrictions on the size of the basketball court improvement nor the timeline to start this project. I have also confirmed that the Woodbine marina parking lot is not intended to be fully demolished, but the back - where the bathrooms are - will be used by the Town to stage heavy equipment. I confirmed that the bathrooms can be renovated where they are, instead of making this project more complicated, more expensive, and taking up more green space by unnecessarily moving the building which is already connected to our sewer.

I was also advised by the Mayor last week that there are "anonymous residents" who have decided the court is "too big." I was then advised that business owners think this may be "too noisy" - when a Park with a bball court and playground already exists. Upon learning this, I then asked the Chamber of Commerce to discuss this project at their executive meeting and was advised: they have no position on this project. I then began to speak with business owners and learned from those I spoke with that they are not opposed to this but want to see the size in the park. I spoke to our state representatives who are in favor of this project and dozens of families and individuals in the community who wholeheartedly support this initiative - an improvement to our parks and a safe, outdoor space for kids to build their own community while moving their bodies.

As you know, this project has received broad support from hundreds of donors, the community at large, and emphatic verbal endorsements from Trustees Sabia, Pucillo, Weber and myself at the Village Board meeting on May 3. Dozens of residents have come here and spoken in support of this project. Over 230 community members have funded this project with the understanding and desire for an upgraded court. No one has

contacted the Board in opposition, written letters to our local papers, or spoken here at the meetings in opposition to this generous and meaningful project.

This Court is not intended for "league play" - that is not the spirit of this project. But rather, a safe outdoor space for kids and adults to shoot-around, with the ability to have a real game. The spirit of this project is actually uniquely Northport: people who grew up here with love for this Village giving back to the place they love - donating their own time, money and expertise to give us something better and to preserve a legacy for the love of the game for our kids and our kids' kids. I know this is a legacy that this Board wants to be a part of and it would be a tragedy to lose this project.

So, I have proposed, and the Mayor agreed, that at our next meeting on July 12, we will have an open forum and allow community members yet another opportunity to be heard and ask questions about this project. Prior to that meeting, we will stake out or mark the size of the Court as proposed so people can appreciate the size of it. It is going from 3% to 6% of green space in that park. If you've been downtown recently you have certainly seen all the young families here who we know would benefit from this project, and residents, young and old are in favor of this - we know because there has been complete support for the past year. I am hopeful and optimistic that on 7/12 after hearing again from residents, that we will be able to move forward with transparency to get this project done for the betterment of the entire community.