

**NORTH VERNON  
UTILITY SERVICE BOARD MEETING  
June 17, 2019  
6:00 p.m.**

***Board Members Terms: Warren Alexander (R) (M) 12/31/2020 Patrick Kirchner 12/31/2020 (D) (C),  
Terry Thompson (R) (M) 12/31/2020, Harold Campbell (D) (C) 12/31/2018***

The North Vernon Utilities Service Board met on June 17th, 2019 at the Carnegie/Government Center. Members present: Terry Thompson, Patrick Kirchner, Warren Alexander, and Harold Campbell.

Also attending the meeting: Russell Vaught Wastewater Superintendent, Will Spencer Water Superintendent, Richard Morin City Engineer, Chris Doran Attorney, Cara Giles Office Manager, and Tonia Barberis Administrative Assistant.

The agenda given to each Utility Service Board Member is as follows:

**Swearing in of New Board Member:** Barbara Patterson was sworn in by Mayor Mike Ochs as the new Utility Service Board Member.

**Approval of minutes for the previous meeting:** Patrick Kirchner made motion to approve the previous meeting minutes, Warren Alexander second, 5-0, with a change in the last line under Chris Doran's report.

- I. **Public Comment:** Kevin Stark, a waste water treatment plant inspector with IDEM expressed IDEM's concerns on County Road 240 North. He states that nine residents on County Road 240 North have septic systems that have been deemed failing according to the health department. Kevin states that he has received a complaint of sewage coming out of the middle of the street. Kevin has inspected the area and has written a letter to the city of North Vernon stating that this issue needs repaired immediately. Kevin also states that the City of North Vernon waste water department hired Dave O'Mara Contractor to put a sanitary sewer line in on County Road 240 North. Kevin states that upon construction O'Mara cut through 3 of the existing septic tank lines. Kevin states Russell Vaught constructed a letter stating the customers needed to be connected to city sewer within 30 days. The board and Russell discussed offering these customers a payment plan. Pat Kirchner made motion to proceed with sending certified letters to the customers, leaving the negotiations of the payment plans up to Russell Vaught, Terry Thompson second. Warren Alexander made a provision to the motion that Chris Doran continue to research the statue. 5-0.

Susie Hall and Katrina Coryell spoke on behalf of Jennings County Domestic Violence. Susie Hall spoke about the arrearage that domestic violence has been paying since 2014. A total arrearage of \$4,176.94. The customers are asking for a dismissal of the remaining charges.

Warren Alexander made motion that the total of the arrearage be dismissed, Pat Kirchner second. 5-0.

**II. Storm Water Report:** Russell Vaught reports to the board that the storm king is running well, test results were good.

**III. Wastewater Department Reports & Info**

- **Collection System:** Russell Vaught reports to the board his department is using the Vactor a couple days a week. He requests the board allow him to purchase a Microsoft surface pro for the collection department. He also reports Walnut Street from Norris Avenue to Hwy 3, Hwy 7 and 50 split will be shut down June 25<sup>th</sup> for lateral repairs.
- **Treatment Plant:** Russell Vaught reports to the board that he has hired someone to replace Bob Anthony and they will start on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Russell reports he currently has an employee on workman's compensation.

**V: Water Department & Treatment Plant:**

- **Distribution System:** Will Spencer reports to the board that he thinks that the Sensus training helped on the reading of the handheld. He also reports that a hydrant was replaced on South Gum St. which caused a boil water advisory until Wednesday.
- **Treatment Plant:** Will Spencer reports to the board that the treatment plant is running good without problems.

**VI: Utility Administration Report:** Cara Giles reports to the board her follow up with surrounding cities for water tap fees. The board and Will Spencer discussed the fees for water taps. Patrick Kirchner made motion to change the water tap to include accessories fee to \$1,000.00 for a 1 inch or less meter. Warren Alexander second. 5-0. The board decides to have Russell bring to the next meeting the costs associated with meters over 1 inch. They will decide on them when more information is provided. The board and Russell discuss changing the ordinance.

Cara Giles reports to the board that herself and two board members they met and went through office adjustments. Chris Doran reports that he sent a letter to Tracy Dilk about her past due balance. Cara passed out an example of a past due customer and the issue that her meter deposit will not cover her remaining balance. Warren Alexander suggested that the issue be tabled until Chris Doran attends a municipal law conference.

- **Claims and Transfers:** Warren Alexander made motion to approve all claims and expenses, Patrick Kirchner second. 5-0.

**VII: Chris Doran Report:** Chris Doran reports to the board that the increase of legal fees is not to do with anything directly related to the utility service board. He states all the legal fees are split between waste water, water, and the rest of the city government.

**VII: Unfinished Business:**

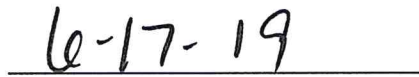
- **Quarry Update:** Richard Morin reports to the board that had a preconstruction conference today. He also reports that demobilizing will start the week after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. He also reports over 3 months from now it will be completely operable.
- **Annexation/ Easement Updates:** Richard Morin reports to the board construction still proceeding. He also reports that they are continuing to work through issues as they arise.

**VIII: New Business:** No new business at this time.

Patrick Kirchner made motion to adjourn, Warren Alexander second. 5-0.



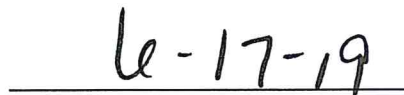
Utility Service Board Chairman



Date



Utility board secretary



Date