

**NORTH VERNON
UTILITY SERVICE BOARD MEETING
March 18, 2019
6:00 p.m.**

***Board Members Terms: Susan Taylor 12/31/2020 (R) (M), 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 March 18, 2019 at the Carnegie/Government Center.
Members present: Susan Taylor, Patrick Kirchner, Warren Alexander, and Terry Thompson.

Also attending the meeting: Mayor Mike Ochs, Russell Vaught Wastewater Superintendent, Richard Morin City Engineer, Chris Doran Attorney, Tonia Klepper Administrative Assistant.

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

- I. **Approval of minutes previous meeting:** Susan Taylor made motion to approve the previous meeting minutes, Patrick Kirchner second. 4-0.
- II. **Public Comment:** Gary Beck attended the board meeting and stated that he built a pole barn on Norris Avenue and the water main is on the other side of the road. Mr. Beck that Norris Avenue is a no saw no dig street. He states that the city utilities sold him a water meter base and now he can't use it. Terry Thompson asked Mr. Beck if it was for financial reasons that he couldn't get the water from the other side of the street, Mr. Beck replied no. Mr. Beck stated that O'Mara told him they would need to dig a hole big enough to tap onto the main water supply on the other side. Mr. Beck informed the board that Tom Taylor would allow him to tap into his water main if approved. Russell Vaught told Mr. Beck that would not be an option, Warren Alexander confirmed this. Russell Vaught states that O'Mara would need to bore under the street to the water line. Patrick Kirchner confirmed that is an option, Terry Thompson told Mr. Beck it was the homeowner's responsibility to pay for this. Mr. Beck wanted to know if he could switch the pole barn house to a storage unit. Marie Shepherd from area plan also attended the meeting and told Mr. Beck absolutely not, that the pole barn could not be turned into a storage unit. Warren Alexander asked Marie Shepherd what the situation was with the pole barn, Marie stated that area plan is in litigation with Mr. Beck she stated for the record that it is supposed to be a pole barn house not a pole barn and that's what Mr. Beck applied for. She stated that Mr. Beck provided them with the sewer permit, and the reason why they are taking Beck to court is that his permit is expired and he hasn't fulfilled his end with the debris around the pole barn. Warren Alexander states at this point boring is the only option. Russell Vaught is going to talk to Rick Marksberry, street commissioner, about getting a variance on the street. Warren Alexander made motion to let Russell Vaught look into the situation and contact Rick Marksberry and see what they can do and have the results at the next board meeting, Patrick Kirchner second 4-0.

Susie Hall was present for public comment and wanted to state her opinion. Susie states that she sold real estate for over twenty years and that her heart goes out to the neighbors that are around that pole barn. She states she cares a lot about the community and how it looks and doesn't think it looks good.

- III. **Storm Water Report:** Russell Vaught reports to the board that the storm king has not been full this week.

IV. **Wastewater Department Reports & Info**

- **Collection System:** Russell Vaught reports to the board that there were a couple blockages and repairs without issues. He confirms that Pleasant drive is on the schedule to dig up.

Russell also brings to the boards attention that they have an issue at the plant with the fifty-foot digester. He also states that an air pipe broke or a diffuser, and that he will have to have it cleaned out and it hasn't been cleaned out since 1995. He is estimating a cost of \$150,000 to do this. He states that this is something that needs to be done as soon as possible. Warren Alexander states that he will prefer another quote. Chris Doran tells the board that a special meeting would need to be held. Russell wants to set this up for Thursday. Susan Taylor made motion that a special meeting be set for Thursday at 5:30 to discuss and approve the bids for the cleaning of the digester, Patrick Kirchner second. 4-0.

- **Treatment Plant:** Russell Vaught reports nothing at this time.

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

- **Distribution System:** Russell Vaught reports to the board that all meters have been read and the utility bills are almost ready for next month's billing. He also states that the distribution department is working on getting the readings to the utility office sooner in hopes to implement Boyce mail in the future.

Russell also reports that an interview has been held for the distribution department and an interview will be held for the waste water department this Wednesday.

- **Treatment Plant:** Russell Vaught reports there are no updates on the treatment plant at this time.

VI. **Utility Administration Report:**

- **Claims and Transfers:** Susan Taylor made motion to approve and claims and expenses, Warren Alexander second. 4-0.
A Special Motion was presented for Lochmueller Group in the amount of \$20,059.17 for Asset Management Plan portion. Susan Taylor made motion to approve this special motion, Patrick Kirchner second. 4-0.

- **Office Report:** Russell Vaught reports to the board that the office is running well. He informs the board that the utility office took in over \$75,000.00 this past Friday alone. He also informs the board that more and more customers are utilizing the online services to pay their utility bill.

VII. **Chris Doran Report:** Chris Doran reports that he sent a letter to Chrystal Wilson for small claims in regards to 313 South Gum Street and has not heard back from her. She has until the 4th to respond.

VIII. **Unfinished Business:**

- **Quarry Update:** Richard Morin reports to the board that they are working on bleeding the plans and specs for the wall and will have those at the next meeting and will set the dates at the next meeting. Patrick Kirchner states he hasn't gotten his quotes back and hopes to have them within the next two weeks.
- **Annexation/ Easement Updates:** Richard Morin reports that the bore under Highway 7 near county road 300 North is complete. He also reports that they are working on sewers on the east side of that bore. He states that a representative from the army core of engineers was here to do site visit last Tuesday for stream crossings and wetlands. He states that she will be working up the permit later this week.

Russell Vaught reports that an easement is being processed for the Lewis', the easement for Wells Fargo has been processed.

IX. **New Business:** Russell Vaught reports there is no new business at this time.

Susan Taylor made motion to adjourn, Patrick Kirchner second, 4-0.


Utility Service Board Chairman

4-1-19
Date


Utility board secretary

4-1-19
Date