ORDINANCE NO. 2024-6

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SEWER UTILITY RATES, AMENDING ORDINANCES 2020-3 AND 2023-9.

WHEREAS, the Town of New Richmond, Indiana ("Town") has established, constructed and financed a municipal Sewage Works (Sewage Works) in accordance with the provisions of Indiana Code 36-23, as amended (the "Act"), for the purpose of providing for sanitary sewage service in and around the Town; and

WHEREAS, various ordinances have been adopted from time to time regarding policies and procedures for the Sewage Works and the establishment of sewage rates, fees and charges; and

WHEREAS, the current schedule of rates and charges for the Sewage Works is set forth in an ordinance adopted and implemented by the Town Council on August 22, 2023 (the "Prior Ordinance"); and

WHEREAS, as recommended by Therber Brock & Associates, LLP, Carmel, Indiana, has prepared a financial report concerning the rates and charges of the Sewage Works ("Report"); and

WHEREAS, based upon the Report, the Town Council of the Town ("Town Council") finds that the current rates and charges for the use of and services rendered by the Sewage Works are insufficient to enable the Town to properly maintain and operate its Sewage Works in a sound physical and financial condition to render adequate and efficient service; It was stated by them and recommended to increase sewer rates by 30%. On August 22, 2023 Sewer Rates were increased 10% so now the Town Council finds it necessary to increase the recommended remaining 20%; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that the current rates and charges for the use of and service rendered by the Sewage Works must be increased in order to provide sufficient revenue to meet such requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has caused notice of a public hearing on the rates and charges set forth herein to be duly advertised, posted and mailed, and has held a public hearing thereon at which time all users of the Sewage Works, owners of properties served or to be served by the Sewage Works and other interested persons were heard concerning the proposed rates and changes, all pursuant to the Act;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF NEW RICHMOND, AS FOLLOWS:

- <u>Section 1.</u> For use of and service rendered by the Sewage Works, each user shall be charged in an amount based upon a fee schedule, shown in Appendix B. In addition, charging the minimum sewer flat rate to each multiple units that are on one water meter.
- Section 2. The rates and charges enacted by this Ordinance shall become effective upon passage by the Town Council and shall be reflected in the customers' bills as soon as practicable following passage of this ordinance;

Section 3. All other provisions of the Prior Ordinance and earlier ordinances, not amended by this ordinance, shall remain in full force and effect.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage, and all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with the provisions hereof are of no further force of effect and are hereby repealed. If any part of this ordinance shall be held invalid, such part shall be deemed severable and the invalidity thereof shall not affect the remaining parts of this ordinance. The amendment thereof adopted by this Ordinance shall immediately take effect on 1st_day of August, 2024 utility billing.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of New Richmond, this ____th day of June, 2024.

TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF NEW RICHMOND

BY: Linda Forbes, President	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN
Rachelle Cowherd, Council Member			
Jeb Lind, Council Member			
ATTEST: Sarah Farmer-Forbes, Clerk-Treasurer			

Appendix A

Metered Rates

Monthly Sewer FLAT Rate First 3,000 gallons 3,001-6000 gallons 6,001-20,000 gallons 20,001 and over	\$57.58 \$86.71 \$115.85 \$144.97
Minimum Charge per Month Minimum charge per month for all properties	\$57.58
Tap Fee for Sewer Per Residential Connection	\$1,500.00
Returned Check Charge	\$25.00
Late Charge Penalty All bills 30 days or more delinquent	10% of Bill