

**NOTICE OF A HEARING ON PROPOSED RATES AND CHARGES**

Property owners, ratepayers, and other interested parties in or served or to be served by the Water Utility of the Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District are hereby notified that Ordinance No. 24-2 establishing rates and charges for services to be rendered by the Water Utility, was introduced at a meeting of the Board of Directors held on August 21, 2024. At a meeting of the Board of Directors to be held at 5:30 p.m. on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024, at 1805 Burlington Beach Rd Valparaiso, IN 46383, there will be a public hearing on the matter of rates and charges, and consideration of adoption of said Ordinance No. 24-2, which provides in part as follows:

Section 1. Water Rates and Charges. The District hereby establishes the following rates and charges:

**(a) MONTHLY RATE SCHEDULE:**

	Current	Proposed Metered Rates (Per 100 cubic feet)				
		<u>Phase I</u> <u>(1)</u>	<u>Phase II</u> <u>(2)</u>	<u>Phase III</u> <u>(3)</u>	<u>Phase IV</u> <u>(4)</u>	<u>Phase V</u> <u>(5)</u>
First 100 cubic feet	\$23.41	\$29.26	\$30.43	\$31.04	\$31.66	\$33.25
Next 150 cubic feet	\$4.47	5.59	5.81	5.93	6.05	6.35
Next 250 cubic feet	\$4.30	5.38	5.59	5.70	5.82	6.11
Next 500 cubic feet	\$4.21	5.26	5.47	5.58	5.69	5.98
Next 1,000 cubic feet	\$4.12	5.15	5.36	5.46	5.57	5.85
Next 2,000 cubic feet	\$4.03	5.04	5.24	5.34	5.45	5.72

**(b) MINIMUM PAYMENT:** The minimum consumption charge for all meters shall be as follows:

Each user of the water system shall pay a minimum rate in accordance with the following applicable size of meter installed, for which the user will be entitled to the quantity of water set out in the schedule for residential and commercial metered rates.

**Minimum Monthly Charge**

<u>Meter Size</u>	Minimum Cubic Feet Allowed	Current	Proposed				
			<u>Phase I</u> <u>(1)</u>	<u>Phase II</u> <u>(2)</u>	<u>Phase III</u> <u>(3)</u>	<u>Phase IV</u> <u>(4)</u>	<u>Phase V</u> <u>(5)</u>
5/8"	100	\$23.41	\$29.26	\$30.43	\$31.04	\$31.66	\$33.25
3/4"	151	\$25.69	32.11	33.40	34.06	34.75	36.48
1"	259	\$30.23	37.79	39.30	40.08	40.89	42.93
1 1/2"	500	\$40.86	51.08	53.12	54.18	55.26	58.03
2"	799	\$53.44	66.80	69.47	70.86	72.28	75.89
3"	1,483	\$82.22	102.78	106.89	109.02	111.20	116.76
4"	2,500	\$123.22	154.03	160.19	163.39	166.66	174.99
6"	4,416	\$200.40	250.50	260.52	265.73	271.05	284.60

- (1) Effective January 1, 2025
- (2) Effective July 1, 2025
- (3) Effective July 1, 2026
- (4) Effective July 1, 2027
- (5) Effective July 1, 2028

**(c) FIRE PROTECTION CHARGE:**

A monthly fire protection charge shall be paid by each user of the water system based upon meter size and flows:

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed Monthly Charge</u>				
		<u>Phase I</u>	<u>Phase II</u>	<u>Phase III</u>	<u>Phase IV</u>	<u>Phase V</u>
		<u>(1)</u>	<u>(2)</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>(4)</u>	<u>(5)</u>
5/8"	\$ .97	\$1.21	\$1.26	\$1.29	\$1.31	\$1.38
3/4"	\$1.07	1.82	1.89	1.93	1.97	2.07
1"	\$1.36	3.03	3.15	3.22	3.28	3.44
1 1/2"	\$1.75	6.06	6.31	6.43	6.56	6.89
2"	\$2.82	9.70	10.09	10.29	10.50	11.02
3"	NONE	19.40	20.18	20.58	20.99	22.04
4"	NONE	30.31	31.53	32.16	32.80	34.44
6"	NONE	60.63	63.05	64.31	65.60	68.88

- (1) Effective January 1, 2025
- (2) Effective July 1, 2025
- (3) Effective July 1, 2026
- (4) Effective July 1, 2027
- (5) Effective July 1, 2028

**(d) CONNECTION/INSPECTION FEE:**

At the time of initial connection to the VLACD (LAC Utility) water system, new customers shall pay a charge equivalent to the cost of the meter, yoke and fittings and the cost of an inspection. The connection fee for a 5/8", 3/4", and 1" service shall be \$2,000.00 with an inspection fee of \$75.00. Customers with larger water meters shall pay a connection and inspection fee utilizing the same calculation determined at the time of connection by the General Manager.

**(e) TURN OFF/TURN ON FEE:**

When a customer's water service is turned off for non-payment of a bill or for any other violation of VLACD (LAC Utility) policies and procedures, a water service turn-on fee of \$75.00 shall be charged.

**(f) DISHONORED CHECK CHARGE:**

In the that a check, draft, or other instrument tender by a VLACD (LAC Utility) customer in payment of charges made for water service is dishonored by the bank or other institution upon which it is drawn, by reason of "insufficient funds", "account closed" or other similar cause, a charge of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) or 5% of the face value of the check whichever is greater not to exceed Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) for each dishonored check shall be charged. Payment in full plus \$30.00 "non-sufficient funds" fees must be paid in order to not have a disruption in water services.

**(g) DEPOSIT TO INSURE PAYMENT:**

If an applicant failed to establish that he is credit worthy, the applicant will be required to make a reasonable cash deposit. Such deposit shall not exceed 1/6 of the estimated annual cost of service to be rendered to the applicant.

**(h) METER DEPOSIT:**

All applicants will be required to make a meter deposit depending upon the size of the meter installed for the applicant. The deposit will be returned upon termination of service for that applicant less any outstanding arrears or damage charges assessed to the applicant. This deposit must be paid to the Utility prior to service establishment for the applicant.

Meter Size	Amount of Deposit
5/8"	\$80.00
3/4"	80.00
1"	80.00
1 1/2"	80.00
2"	80.00
3"	80.00
4"	80.00
6"	80.00

**(i) COLLECTION AND DEFERRED PAYMENT CHARGE:**

All bills for water service not paid on the due date thereof, as stated in such bills, shall be subject to a collection or deferred payment charge of ten percent (10%) on the first three dollars (\$3.00) and three percent (3%) on the excess over three dollars (\$3.00).

**(j) TEMPORARY USERS:**

Water furnished to temporary users, such as contractors, circuses, etc., shall be charged on the basis of the above quantity rates as estimated by the General Manager.

**(k) MOBILE HOME PARKS:**

Mobile Home parks will be billed for the quantity of water used as per the meter reading on a monthly basis. Charges will be determined from Schedules (A) and (B).

At such public hearing and prior to final adoption of said Ordinance, all interested parties may appear and be heard. A copy of Ordinance NO. 24-2 may be examined at the District office.

Dated this 21st day of August 2024.

Christian Anderson, Chairman  
Board of Directors  
Valparaiso Lakes Area Conservancy District

Publish August 28<sup>th</sup> and September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024