



## **Village of Trout Valley Board Meeting Minutes**

**April 11, 2022**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Trout Valley, Illinois, was held on April 11, 2022. Notice of the meeting and the agenda were posted at two prominent places in the Village of Trout Valley.

President Robert Baker called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. Trustees present: Robert Antrim, Michelle Gilbert, David Hall, David Peterson, Kristin Purtill (via Zoom) and Ann Somers. Also present were Clerk Tonia Gonzalez, Comptroller Laurie Almeraz, Consultant Rick Haning and Counsel James Kelly from Matuszewich & Kelly, LLP.

President Baker requested the following motion, which was proposed by Trustee Hall and seconded by Trustee Somers:

***“The February 15, 2022 meeting minutes be approved, with revisions to section 5.3 and 6.5”***

Voting Aye: Trustees Antrim, Gilbert, Hall, Peterson, Purtill and Somers

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

### **3.0 Public Participation**

None

### **4.0 Old Business**

#### **4.1 Playground Update**

The playground equipment was ordered and should arrive in early July. Installation will be shortly thereafter.

#### **4.2 Stormwater Update**

HR Green will be providing a report at the end of April on the Stormwater issues throughout the Valley and around the Barn. Discussions held regarding areas in the Valley with water runoff.

#### **4.3 Speed Bumps Update**

President Baker reported that residents around the Village loop did not want speed bumps around the loop. A memo from Counsel Kelly, dated April 7, 2022 was reviewed. IDOT recommended a radar-controlled sign and/or speed humps be set up as an alternative to speed bumps. In addition, the Sheriff should be approached about additional patrols to reduce speeding around the loop. The TVA will place speed monitors around the loop, once the weather improves.

### **5.0 New Business**

#### **5.1 Approval of \$7k in Supplemental Funding for Fen Work/Repair of Grass Edges**

A handout outlining supplemental funding for fen work was reviewed. Trustee Hall requested a total of \$1.8k, with \$1.5k for wood chips to be placed on fen trails and \$300 for a planting bed at the corner of Rainbow and Trout Valley Roads. No motion is required for the planting bed since budget already approved and available for this item.

President Baker requested the following motion, which was proposed by Trustee Peterson and seconded by Trustee Hall:

***“Increase the Fen Budget by \$1.5k for the mulching of paths in the upper Fen”***

Voting Aye: Trustees Antrim, Gilbert, Hall, Peterson, Purtil and Somers

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

Discussions held regarding the width of Trout Valley Road. The road was felt to be too narrow for two cars to pass safely. Cars have been driving off the roads and ripping out the grass. Consultant Haning to research Bond information to see if bond funds would be available to repair the sides of the road.

President Baker requested the following motion, which was proposed by Trustee Hall and seconded by Trustee Antrim:

***“Approve \$5k to implement alternative construction methods to improve the edges of Trout Valley Road that runs through the Fen”***

Voting Aye: Trustees Antrim, Hall, and Peterson

Voting Nay: Trustees Gilbert, Purtil and Somers

Due to a tie vote, President Baker voted “Nay”. Issue postponed until TVA takes action on this issue. Would like a permanent solution, perhaps additional asphalt. Motion denied

**5.2 Report: Conclusion of Rick Haning, Independent Contractor Agreement**

Rick Haning served as Independent Contractor for the Village, to work on the Stormwater Project and oversee the Bond offering. His contract is now terminated and he offered to contribute his talents and assist on a “as needed” basis. President Baker thanked him for his service and work with the Roads Committee and the Stormwater Project.

**5.3 Rescheduling of the 9/12/22 Village Budget Meeting**

Comptroller Almeraz will make a recommendation for a new date for the Village Budget meeting, at the June Village Board Meeting.

**5.4 Process of Approval for Special Projects Funded by Private Donors**

Questions raised regarding donations made by private donor; who is spearheading? What organizations are participating? Who manages the funds? President Baker stated all donations go through the Trout Valley Restoration Society (TVRS), this provides a tax deduction for the donor. Projects done on TVA property are TVA projects. The TVRS provides reports to the donors. Discussions held regarding Barn ramp and Pool improvements, which are both private donor funded projects. Discussions held regarding the Playground donations and the restrictions placed by the private donor on their donation.

**5.5 Governor’s Executive Order re: Zoom Attendance**

Village Board members are only allowed to participate via Zoom if they are sick or have a emergency. Otherwise, they must participate in-person. A Zoom participant can vote if a quorum is reached with those participating in-person.

**6.0 Reports, as appropriate**

**6.1 Financial Report**

Comptroller Almeraz reviewed the Financial Report and distributed a revised Statement of Financial Position. State Income Tax (largest revenue source) YTD is 18% higher than FY21. Combined Local Use and Sales Tax is 10% ahead of budget. Expenditures are running at budget. Audit cost exceeded budget. In a review of the Balance Sheet, Cash is \$369.4k, including \$59.2k in the Project Fund. Current Liabilities vs. Current Long-Term Liabilities are not being reflected correctly in the Balance Sheet. Trustee Peterson will assist Comptroller Almeraz with this issue. Comptroller Almeraz is researching with consultants, into transferring funds from BCU into IL Funds (or other alternatives) since BCU account balances are not fully insured.

President Baker requested the following motion, which was proposed by Trustee Peterson and seconded by Trustee Purtill:

***“Approve the February, 2022 through March, 2022 Disbursements for the Village of Trout Valley”***

Voting Aye: Trustees Antrim, Gilbert, Hall, Peterson, Purtill and Somers

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

Counsel Kelly confirmed that the Village is required to pass/approve disbursements and publish them. President Baker discussed the anticipated for additional donations/funding for anticipated Stormwater projects.

### **6.2 Security Report**

Trustee Gilbert reported little activity in Trout Valley from the McHenry County Sheriff. The 2022 Security Contract and Patrol schedule was reviewed. Hourly rate for NW Suburban Patrol increased by 50 cents an hour.

President Baker requested the following motion, which was proposed by Trustee Peterson and seconded by Trustee Purtill:

***“Approve the 2022 Security Contract and Patrol Schedule from NW Suburban Patrol!”***

Voting Aye: Trustees Antrim, Gilbert, Hall, Peterson, Purtill and Somers

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

### **6.3 Intergovernmental Report**

Trustee Somers reviewed the Cary Roundtable meeting. A new Thorntons gas station will be located across from Burger King and other new businesses will be coming to Cary. Alfresco Alley will open in downtown Cary. The old Cary train station will be used as a entertainment venue.

**6.32 Trout Valley History Museum:** Discussions held regarding the preliminary plans submitted by architect for the Museum at the Barn. No anticipated start date for the museum project. Discussions held regarding the process and need for approval and a signed contract prior to the start of a project. Village requires an invoice from the architect for \$1.4k for consulting services, prior to payment.

### **6.4 Forestry Board Report**

Arbor Day is April 28<sup>th</sup> and 15 Hazelnut bare root saplings will be given out (donated by Sheelagh Cooke).

### **6.5 Nature Conservancy Board Report**

Still working on cutting logs and clearing out the upper fen. Cleared debris left by the contractor. Continuing to apply polymer material to repair the leak to the dam at Pond #2 with the help of Chris Burkhart, TVA maintenance

### **6.6 Road Committee**

Committee is disbanded.

### **6.7 Other**

None

### **7.0 Presidents Report**

Discussions regarding setting up a common email address for the Village Board. President Baker will ask Alyssa Murphy to assist.

## **8.0 Adjournment**

There being no additional regular business to come before the Board, President Baker requested a motion to adjourn, which was proposed at 9:06 p.m. by Trustee Gilbert and seconded by Trustee Peterson.

Voting Aye: Trustees Antrim, Gilbert, Hall, Peterson, Purtil and Somers

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tonia Gonzalez

Village Clerk