



Village of Trout Valley Board Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2020

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Trout Valley, Illinois, was held on October 12, 2020 via Zoom. 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 7:01 p.m. Trustees present: Robert Antrim, Walter Graf, David Hall, David Peterson, Kristin Purtill and Ann Somers. Also present were, Treasurer Laurie Almeraz, Clerk Tonia Gonzalez, Comptroller 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 August 10, 2020 meeting minutes be approved with changes to Section 4.2”

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

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

“The September 15, 2020 Budget meeting minutes be approved with changes to Section 3.1”

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

3.0 Public Participation

None

4.0 Old Business

4.1 Payment of Fourth of July Event

President Baker requested the Village match a total payment of \$500 made by himself and Comptroller Haning towards the Fourth of July Ice Cream Social.

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

“Approval of \$500 total payment to President Baker & Comptroller Haning for reimbursement towards the Fourth of July Ice Cream Social”

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

4.2 Update on Drainage & Ditch Maintenance on Village Roads

Water coming off of High Road through Cahill down to the cut thru is getting more water than the system was originally built for. It is a larger issue than just cleaning out the culverts. Comptroller Haning wants

to update the current agreement with the TVA to reflect current TVA/Village agreed upon maintenance items. President Baker requested a comprehensive study on the ditch drainage issues.

4.3 Clarification of Village Representative on the TVA Road Committee

Counsel Kelly confirmed that President Baker determines the process on who the Village Representative should be. Discussions held regarding the benefit of having two Village representatives on the TVA Roads Committee. Trustee Peterson has a wealth of knowledge on the process of how the roads should be done. Trustee Peterson's participation & collaboration would allow for a knowledge transfer to Trustee Graff.

4.4 Trout Valley Flag

Trustee Peterson would like to encourage residents to create a Trout Valley flag to hang at the Lodge. Cost is approx. \$300 for a custom flag. Trustee Peterson will write an article for the Trout Valley Newsletter outlining the details of the contest.

4.5 2020 U.S. Census Update

The deadline for 2020 U.S. Census has been extended to October 31st. As of today, Trout Valley is #1 in Illinois in self reporting at 91.3%. Residents are encouraged to respond.

4.6 April 6, 2021 Consolidated Elections

Only one resident has requested an election packet. All residents are encouraged to consider running for one of three Village Trustee positions on the ballot. The filing period is from December 14th through December 21st, 2020.

5.0 New Business (Note: agenda items not in order of agenda listing)

5.11 Approval of #2020-21-001 Appropriations for General Corporate Purposes for the Village of Trout Valley for the Fiscal Year September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021

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

“To approve the #2020-21-001 Appropriations for General Corporate Purposes for the Village of Trout Valley for the Fiscal Year September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021”

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

5.3 Consultant Agreement for Mark Bartlett

President Baker requested the board approve a consulting agreement with Mark Bartlett due to his vast knowledge & service to Trout Valley. Mr. Bartlett would serve as the Project Manager on the stormwater project and paid \$48 per hour as an Independent Contractor. It is estimated he would work 100 hours or less on this project. Similar proposals range from \$60-\$200 per hour. Mr. Bartlett would be working with Comptroller Haning. The Board requested a copy of the Independent Contractor Agreement for review, prior to the vote. (Vote was held after Agenda item 5.12)

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

“To approve Mark Bartlett as Independent Contractor for the Stormwater Project @ \$48 per hour”

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

5.1 Joint Road (Stormwater) Project & 5.2 Update on Trout Valley Road (Stormwater) Project Funding

Bids were requested from nine companies and he has received four bids. The bids were opened on October 3rd and Mr. Bartlett is sorting thru bids and talking with bidders to clarify items. Bidders were asked to lay 2" of gravel with asphalt on top. Discussions held regarding various materials for the roads.

Comptroller Haning is researching issuing a bond for this project. He is in the process of talking with banks. However due to the small size of the dollar amount, interest rates may not be as low as once thought. The TVA Road plan is \$250k and did not include Trout Valley road & the 20% contribution to the road project. Trustee Peterson would like to see the 800' of Trout Valley road where the pipe repair will be done, added to the project. Comptroller Haning clarified that this is a stormwater project and not a road project. A special meeting will be called to approve this project and its funding.

5.4 Equipment Purchase for Village Treasurer

Laurie Almeraz, newly appointed Village Treasurer is in need of computer hardware & software for her position. Equipment purchase approved by President Baker.

5.5 Policy for Posting Meeting Audio/Video

Discussions held regarding the need for policy on posting of the audio/video of Village Board meetings, along with use of audio vs. video recordings. Counsel Kelly felt no policy is needed, the Village has no obligation to post recordings, it is seen as an effort for public transparency. President Baker would like to start posting the audio recordings and then readdress the use of video recordings at a later date.

5.6 Christmas Lights

TVA Social committee would like to have a larger light display near the barn since the kids Christmas party will be outside, due to Covid19 restrictions. The TVA Social committee will contribute for the lights and the silo will also be decorated. The lights (\$2.17k) & installation (\$1k) will cost approx. \$3.17k. President Baker would like the Village to pay for the materials (lights) due to the tax exemption, along with the installation. The TVA/Social Committee will reimburse the Village \$1k. Discussions held regarding the impact on 4th of July fireworks purchase and the spending on lights vs. security and other budget areas. Comptroller Haning asked the Village cost be \$2k max.

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

"To approve the purchase of holiday lights/installation for up to \$3k, with the TVA/Social Committee reimbursing the Village \$1k"

Voting Aye: Trustees Antrim, Graf, Hall, Purtill, and Somers

Voting Nay: None Abstain: Trustee Peterson. Motion carried.

5.7 Statue

The Trout Valley Historical Society is trying to raise funds to purchase a trout sculpture, to place at the corner of Stonegate & River Roads. The Petersons have donated honey from their bee hives to help raise funds.

5.8 Flying of Tree City Flag

Trustee Hall questioned if the Village wanted to fly the Tree City flag & where to fly. President Baker suggested near the barn & asked the Forestry board to come back with suggestions.

5.9 Option for Village Trustees & Officials to Meet in Person for Future Village Meetings

The next Village board meeting is in December. President Baker recognized that Covid19 cases may be worse in the colder months. He would like to readdress this issue at a later date.

5.10 Approval of 2021 Village Board Meeting Dates

Clerk Gonzalez presented the Board with the proposed 2021 Village meeting dates. The approved dates for 2021 are: 2/8, 4/12, 6/8, 8/9, 9/21 (budget), 10/11, & 12/6. The 2021 meeting dates will be published & posted.

5.11 – Previous Discussed

5.12 Approval of 2021 IDOT Resolution for Road Maintenance

The amount of \$13k listed on the 2020-21 IDOT Resolution for Road Maintenance is on the 2020-21 Appropriations budget, listed under Motor Fuel Tax Fund. The Road Maintenance Agreement with the TVA needs to be modified.

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

“To approve the 2020-21 IDOT Resolution for Maintenance in the amount of \$13k”

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried

6.0 Reports, as appropriate

6.1 Financial Report

Comptroller Haning reviewed the Statement of Financial Position for FY2020. Cash Receipts were \$138k vs \$128k in 2019 and a budgeted amount of \$127.7k. Cash Disbursements were \$136k vs a \$133k budget. Overall, very good budget management in 2020. The Balance Sheet currently has \$309.7k vs \$307.8k in 2019. A part of the Cash Balance will be needed to redo the Village loop road.

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

“Approve the August 2020 Disbursements for the Village of Trout Valley”

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

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

“To accept & approve YE Financial Statement for use in YE statutory reporting requirements.”

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

Comptroller Haning reviewed the September 2020 financial statements. State Income Tax was \$4.1k vs \$3.1k in 2019 vs. a \$3.3k budget. Interest rates are almost to zero, therefore expect a \$4-\$5k annual reduction. Net Receipts were \$8.5k vs. a \$7.5k budget. Cash Balance is \$318k vs. \$297k in 2019.

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

“To approve the September 2020 Disbursements”

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

6.2 Security Report

Security reports from McHenry County Sheriff and NW Suburban Patrol were reviewed. Residents are reminded to call the McHenry County Sheriff directly if assistance is required. Discussions held regarding the enforcement of the TVA golf cart guidelines and ensuring residents are knowledgeable of these guidelines. The McHenry County Sheriff has been pulling over golf carts driven by underage drivers. A drivers' permit is required to drive a golf cart in Trout Valley.

6.3 Intergovernmental Report

Trustee Somers reported that intergovernmental events continue to be cancelled due to Covid19. Discussions held regarding the status of the old Cary Village Hall property that was deeded to the Village of Cary by Trout Valley in 1974. President Baker is continuing to investigate.

6.4 Forestry Board Report

Discussions held regarding the fertilization of trees at the Barn. Counsel Kelly recommended the Village selectively choose specific trees to maintain and not a blanket coverage. Trustee Purtill will approach the TV Riding club to return the fencing back up around the trees in the pasture. Trustee Hall reported ComEd will remove three trees in the Village for utility pole replacement. The Village will be reimbursed \$125 per tree.

6.5 Fen Restoration Report

Fen volunteers continue to weed the pollinator habitat areas. Chris Burkhart, TVA Maintenance has been helping volunteers one day a month in the Fen & other areas of TV. The use of TVA equipment has been very helpful with work in the Fen. Wildflower seeds will be sown at the Country Commons entrance.

6.6 Other

None

7.0 Presidents Report

None

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 9:36 p.m. by Trustee Hall and seconded by Trustee Graf.

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Tonia Gonzalez
Village Clerk