



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

**December 13, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Trout Valley, Illinois, was held on December 13, 2021 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 7:02 p.m. Trustees present: Robert Antrim, Michelle Gilbert, David Hall, David Peterson (late), Kristin Purtill 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 Purtill and seconded by Trustee Hall:

***“The October 25, 2021 meeting minutes be approved, with revisions to sections 6.2 & 7.7”***

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

### **3.0 Public Participation**

None

### **4.0 Old Business**

#### **4.1 Approval of Ordinance #2021-22-006 An Ordinance abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2021 to pay debt service on General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2021 of the Village of Trout Valley, McHenry County, Illinois. (Haning)**

Consultant Haning presented Bond Ordinance, that was prepared by Ice Miller (at no charge) to for the levy of taxes in 2021. This needs to be done each year, otherwise residents are levied. Tax payment to be funded from the General Fund. Ordinance needs to be filed with the McHenry County Clerk by 3/22/22

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

***“Approval of Ordinance #2021-22-006 An Ordinance abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2021 to pay debt service on General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2021 of the Village of Trout Valley, McHenry County, Illinois.”***

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

#### **4.2 Stormwater Status Update & 4.3 Approval of Stormwater Engineering Study**

Discussions held regarding the engineering proposals from HR Green to make stormwater infrastructure improvements throughout the Village and specifically the Barn/Silo area. Two proposals were received and President Baker will ask HR Green to consolidate the two proposals, in an effort to reduce costs.

Funding issues were also discussed. Counsel Jim Kelly will review Bond documents to determine if Bond funds can be used towards the cost of the engineering study. Issue was tabled until receipt of a revised/consolidated engineering proposal and opinion from Counsel Kelly. Project will be revisited at the

February 2022 Board meeting. Trustee Peterson will work with Comptroller Almeraz to work out funding for the Stormwater project.

#### **4.4 Funding for Repair of Leak in Waterfall/Dam to Pond #2**

Discussions held regarding the cause of damage to the Waterfall/Dam at Pond #2. Although damage was evident prior to the stormwater work, the leak was worse afterwards. Discussions held regarding the precedence of shared cost of similar projects between the Village and the TVA. TVA currently has no budget for the repair.

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

***“Fund the repair of a leak in the waterfall to Pond #2 that was compromised by the vibrations caused by the construction equipment used installing the storm sewer in Trout Valley Road, not to exceed \$10,000.”***

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

#### **4.5 Deer Control**

Discussions held regarding the damage to vegetation caused by the large deer population in the Village. The Conservation district does not have a deer culling program in Fox Bluff.

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

***“Post notice on the Village website and prominently included in the Trout Valley Newsletter: “In accordance with the State of Illinois, Department of Natural Resources, Administrative Regulation, Title 17, Section 635.40 that prohibits the feeding of deer.” The Village of Trout Valley asks for full compliance with the regulation by all residents”***

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

Voting Nay: Trustee Somers. Motion carried.

Discussions held regarding the culling of deer in the boundaries of the Village by the IDNR for the 2022 hunting season. Bait would be set in the common areas of the Village to attract the deer and would not be in the residential areas.

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

***“The Village of Trout Valley work with the IDNR and if feasible, enter into a contract with an animal control company or organization in order to conduct the cull of deer within the corporate boundaries of the Village of Trout Valley in the 2022 deer hunting season”***

Voting Aye: Trustees Hall and Peterson

Voting Nay: Trustees Gilbert, Purtill, and Somers. Abstain: Trustee Antrim Motion denied.

## **5.0 New Business**

### **5.1 Repair Stonework to Bridge on Trout Valley Road**

Additional damage incurred to the stonework on the Trout Valley Road bridge, during the stormwater project. A repair quote is needed. Issue will be revisited in February, 2022. Funding options will be reviewed.

## **5.2 Approval of Park Fund Donation/Playground Update**

Park fund currently has \$42k in total donations and with matching by private donors, bringing the total raised to \$84k. The TVA will be asked to donate \$10k towards the park fund. Funding will come from infrastructure budget.

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

***“The Village contribute to the TV Restoration Society, earmarked for the playground equipment purchase, an amount equal to what the Association contributes to the playground project to a maximum of \$10k. Said contribution to be made as soon as the Association approves their contribution via a passed motion at a duly called board meeting.”***

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

## **5.3 Holiday Gifts**

Past holiday gift giving was reviewed. Currently \$800 in operating budget for holiday gifts. Discussions held regarding 2021 holiday gift recipients and amounts.

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

***“Approve 2021 holiday gift giving recipients (same as 2020) and amounts as discussed, for a total of \$800.”***

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

## **6.0 Reports, as appropriate**

### **6.1 Financial Report**

Comptroller Almeraz reviewed the Financial Report. Bond payment of \$42k was made in December. Revenues are favorable and State Income Tax YTD is 15% higher than FY21. Sales Tax is TYD 87% higher than FY21. In a review of the Balance Statement, Cash is \$447.6k, including \$59.4k in the Project Fund. Excluding the Project Fund balance, cash is \$338.3k, which is 16% higher than FY21. Expenditures were reviewed.

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

***“Approve the October through November, 2021 Disbursements for the Village of Trout Valley”***

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

### **6.2 Security Report**

No security issues during the 2021 Turkey Trot. Discussions held regarding security issues on Village loop.

### **6.3 Intergovernmental Report**

Discussions held on McHenry County partnering bid opportunities. Cary-Algonquin Road at Rte. 31 only allows for a right hand turn due to the installation of a roundabout at the intersection.

**6.32 Trout Valley History Museum:** Old barn plans to be obtained from ALA. Contractor working with TVA on feasibility of a portion of the Barn hay loft for use as the Trout Valley Museum. A Committee has been formed with representative from the different TV parties interested in the TV History Museum.

#### **6.4 Forestry Board Report**

The tree pruning proposal from Winkler Tree & Lawn Care was reviewed. A total of 75 trees will be pruned at a cost of \$85.93 per tree for a total of \$6,444.75. Trout Valley bid collaboratively with Crystal Lake and other communities for tree trimming quotes, to secure volume discounts. The amount of the bid puts the Forestry Board over budget, but within the appropriated amount of \$8k for FY21. Discussions held regarding the TVA owned property that is 30ft on both sides from the middle of the roads. TVA approval in writing is needed to proceed with the tree pruning.

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

Volunteers seeded the sides of recently paved Trout Valley road and placed straw blankets, which saved \$5k. Drivers are ruining the work by driving off the sides of the road. Volunteers have also been removing buckthorn and other vegetation near the lodge and tennis courts. Downed logs in the Fen will be identified and removal will be done by a contractor.

#### **6.6 Road Committee**

Trout Valley Road project is completed and done under budget by \$38.5k overall. Village portion was \$4.5k under budget. \$10k available for Park Project pending on TVA donation. Cost savings of \$30k (vs. 2018 cost) due to partnership with the Village of Cary during the bid process. Costs would be 15-20% higher if Village bid project on their own. Discussions held regarding hosting a working luncheon for all parties on the Road project.

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

***“Approve funding for a working lunch for mutual cooperation with Cary, to be held with The Village of Cary officials, HR Green and TVA officials, not to exceed \$500”***

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

#### **6.7 Other**

Discussions held regarding the 2020 U.S. Census. A total of 515 residents were counted in 2020, 17 less than the 537 counted in 2010. A total of 195 Total Housing Units were counted in 2020, versus 193 in 2010. Occupied Housing Units in 2020 were 191 versus 186 in 2010. In an effort to get an accurate headcount, Trustees volunteered to poll Village residents currently living in home as of January 1, 2022. In addition, President Baker will put an article in the Trout Valley Newsletter requesting residents to send him their headcount. Clerk Gonzalez will report results on a weekly basis.

No update from the Liautaud's on planned use of cleared lots by the garden plots. Barn ramp storage area to be enhanced with cement beams.

#### **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 10:00 p.m. by Trustee Hall 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