



Village of Trout Valley Board Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Trout Valley, Illinois, was held on April 12, 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, Walter Graf, David Hall, David Peterson, Kristin Purtill and Ann Somers. Also present were Clerk Tonia Gonzalez, Comptroller Rick Haning, Treasurer Laurie Almeraz 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 February 13, 2021 special meeting minutes be approved”

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 Graf and seconded by Trustee Antrim:

“The February 8, 2021 meeting minutes be approved, with changes to Section 6.1 ”

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 Stormwater Project Update

Discussions held regarding use of MFT funds for the repair of entire Trout Valley Road versus repair for only a portion of Trout Valley Road that was damaged due to the Stormwater repair. Counsel Kelly spoke with an IDOT Attorney and was told the Village can only use MFT funds to pay for portion of road that was damaged due to the Stormwater repair. Discussions held regarding utilizing the efficiencies of bidding with the Village of Cary by increasing the Village contribution towards the roads repair. Use of MFT funds versus General funds were discussed. Comptroller Haning expressed concerns of setting a precedent with an increase in the Village contributions and he is strongly opposed to fully funding the project and upgrading the road.

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

“The Village fund the 2021 Trout Valley Road Project at 27.5% of Road Project Budget up to \$110k and make appropriate revisions to the Appropriations ordinance and to fund the repair of 800’ of Trout Valley Road, up to \$20k, out of the General fund ”

Voting Aye: Trustees Antrim, Graf, Hall, Peterson, Purtill, and Somers
Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

4.2 Bond Issuance Results and Update on Accounting & Audit Firm

The Village received an interest rate 1.6% on the Bond, which is a great result for a private placement. Ice Miller filed the Bond Issuance documents to the McHenry County Clerk. Financial statements will need to be audited as a requirement of the bond issuance. President Baker thanked Comptroller Haning on the great work he did in securing the Bond and the low interest rate.

4.3 Control of Stormwater Runoff from River/Willet to Marryat

Trustee Hall reviewed maps which illustrated the flow of storm water from River Dr. near Rainbow Ln. & Willet Way, which in turn was causing discharges into the rear of 20 Marryat's lot and then flows toward Cahill Rd. Discussions held regarding potential solutions and impact.

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

“Utilizing a volunteer workforce, build a rock dam to control the stormwater runoff from River Dr., at a cost not to exceed \$1.2k ”

Voting Aye: Trustees Antrim, Graf, Hall, Peterson, Purtill, and Somers
Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

4.4 Pond #7 Dredging

Trustee Peterson presented the Board with details regarding a multi-year maintenance/dredging program utilizing bio-matter (bacteria) for Pond #7 versus a one-time dredging. Seeking an annual commitment from the Village for the maintenance program, with an anonymous donor willing to contribute with Village commitment. The Board cannot commit to spending for the next fiscal year.

4.5 Deer Hunting

Information regarding controlling deer populations for municipalities was presented. President Baker will contact the McHenry County Conservation District to obtain details on their deer management program and potentially combine efforts to thin the deer population in Trout Valley.

4.6 Village Inspector

Discussions held regarding utilizing McHenry County for building inspections versus obtaining a private Building Inspector. President Baker requested Counsel Kelly to renew the IGA with McHenry County for Building Inspections for another year. The Village will search for a private Building Inspector.

4.7 Zoom Recording Policy

A recommended Zoom Recording Policy for Village meetings was presented. Discussions held regarding method and length of the storage of the Zoom recorded meetings. No motion made and policy not enforced.

4.8 Zoom Room Update

A Wi-Fi security camera with motion detector was installed in the Lodge above the Zoom camera to protect Lodge equipment/investments. TVA has unplugged the camera due to privacy considerations for Lodge rental.

4.9 Trout Valley Flag

A winning design for the new Trout Valley flag was selected. It has the Trout Valley logo along with the three Trout Valley entities reflected as working together. Trustee Peterson will move forward in production of the flag.

4.10 April 6, 2021 Consolidated Elections Update

Clerk Gonzalez reported the errors in the reporting of the final election results for Trout Valley and other voting districts. There was an error in the tabulation machines and in the recount, the votes were both physically counted and ran thru the machine. Official election results will be received the end of April.

5.0 New Business

5.1 People for Bikes Grant

President Baker presented information on the "People for Bikes" \$10k grant he wants to apply for, to improve walking paths around the fen and other areas in Trout Valley.

5.2 Use of Email Addresses

Complaints were received regarding the use of resident personal email addresses for political solicitation. President Baker felt resident email addresses should not be used unless resident approves.

5.3 Lima Contract

Contract with Lima was completed and received by Lima. Start date to be determined shortly. Need to coordinate with the completion of the Trout Valley Road project.

5.4 Ownership of Trout Valley Fen

The Fen is currently owned by the TVA and leased to the Village. There is currently too much work for volunteers to keep up and the TVA does not have the funding to help with maintaining the Fen. Discussions held regarding potential grants for the Trout Valley Fen and the Village potentially purchasing the Fen to qualify, since most grants are reserved for government or charitable organizations only. President Baker felt the TVA should approach the Village with any actions regarding the Fen.

5.5 Village Parks

There is a current effort by some Trout Valley residents to see if it is feasible to secede from the Cary Park District. Trustee Peterson proposed a motion to establish three parks in Trout Valley, which is the next step to qualify for succession. Counsel Kelly felt there cannot be a vote on establishing a new Village park, since this was not clearly stated on the agenda. Discussions held regarding potential parks within Trout Valley to qualify as a "Park District". Counsel Kelly was asked to research criteria to establish land as parks and what the Village obligations would be. Motion was tabled.

5.6 Country Club Gate

NW Suburban Patrol reported motor bikes are coming into Trout Valley through the Cary Country Club gate. Several residents heard the bikes and the Sheriff was called. President Baker recommended the neighbors affected go to the TVA to request the gate be returned. The Village will help fund the new locks.

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

"Contingent on TVA approval, the Village fund \$350 for three new locks and keys"

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

5.7 Comptroller Resignation

Comptroller Haning will resign the end of April and will assist Laurie Almeraz in her transition to Comptroller. He will continue on as a Consultant on the Bond project. President Baker thanked Comptroller Haning for his years of service to the Village Board.

5.8 Appointment of Laurie Almeraz as Comptroller

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

“Appointment of Laurie Almeraz as Comptroller for the Village of Trout Valley”

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

5.9 IDOT MFT Compliance Review Report

Comptroller Haning presented the receipt and disbursement of Motor Fuel Tax Funds by the Village for 2020, as required by IDOT.

6.0 Reports, as appropriate

6.1 Financial Report

Comptroller Haning reviewed State Revenue, which was up 12% YTD over budget, which is the largest revenue producer for the Village. Local Use Tax is up over last year due to online purchasing. MFT is down 11% vs last year after Bond receipt is removed. In a review of Cash Receipts and Disbursements, General Funds are in good shape \$66.1k vs \$59k budget. Cash Receipts are \$5.4k over budget YTD. Higher legal expenses due to review of the Bond for the Stormwater Project. Net Cash Receipts are \$37.9k vs \$36k budget. In a review of the Balance Sheet, the current balance is \$347k vs. \$317k in the prior year. Forestry Board to report on annual budget overage at next meeting.

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

“Approve the February, 2021 – March, 2021 Disbursements for the Village of Trout Valley”

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

An account for Project Fund will be added in the reports for the next meeting

6.2 Security Report

Security reports from McHenry County Sheriff and NW Suburban Patrol were reviewed. Trustee Hall recommended the gate be reinstalled on the Village Road to avoid incidents of non-residents accessing Trout Valley. Discussions held regarding handing over Village security matters to the TVA Security Director. President Baker will discuss with TVA President, Tom Lentz and report recommendations.

6.3 Intergovernmental Report

Trustee Somers reported attendance at the Mayors Roundtable. Harper Pt. (Dist. 26 Bldg) will be developed into duplexes and apartments. Cary Police will be vacating current Village Hall shortly. Update was made on Algonquin/Cary Sub Area Plan. McHenry County Council of Governments expressed interest in shared expenses such as road development & transportation.

6.4 Forestry Board Report

Meeting to be held soon. Jens Jensen presentation on 4/22/21 (Earth day) and Zoom link will be on the invitation.

6.5 Fen Restoration Report

Volunteers continue to clean up the Fen. Ringers will begin work on diverting a stream into Pond #1 & installing a catch basin. The TV Restoration Society is funding the project. The waterfall at Pond #2 is in need of repair and a quote of \$2.5k was submitted to the Board for review. A new flagpole was installed

at corner of Country Commons and Turkey Run. Official hoisting of the TV Tree City flag will take place on Arbor Day, 4/22/21. The Village received the 2021 Tree City Plaque along with the 2020 Tree City Growth Award plaque and both have been hung at the Lodge. President Baker sent a letter of support of the Morton Arboretum Supporting Tree Initiative.

6.6 Road Committee

A meeting with H.R. Green will be held on 4/13/21. President Baker will get the start date of the project corrected with Lima.

6.7 Other

Discussions held regarding the length of recent Village Board Meetings. Suggestions of sub-committees, monthly meetings, or time limits on topics. Discussions on Bond and Stormwater projects have lengthened the recent meetings.

7.0 Presidents Report

President Baker announced the Hometown Governors Award on 4/20/21 @ 8 a.m. online. The Village will receive the award for the COVID Help Team project.

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 10:33 p.m. by Trustee Graf and seconded by Trustee Somers.

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

Voting Nay: None. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Tonia Gonzalez

Village Clerk