



Village of River Hills
7650 N Pheasant Ln
River Hills, WI 53217

Village Hall: 352-8213
Public Works: 352-0080
Police: 247-2302

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
Village Hall, Monday, June 20, 2022 @ 5:00 pm

**This meeting was a virtual meeting through Zoom –
Access code 846-6533-3078**

1. **ROLL CALL** Roll call was answered at 5:00 pm by President Steve Anderson, Trustee Bill Walker, Trustee David Fritz, Trustee Chris Noyes, Trustee Kurt Glaisner and Trustee Peggy Russo. Also present: Village Attorney Bill Dineen, Public Works Director Groth, Public Works Director Schroeder, Mechanic Pat Rigden, Village Manager Tammy LaBorde, and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Nelson.
2. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - a. **The Agenda**
 - b. **Village Board Minutes – May 18, 2022**
 - c. **Voucher List – May 2022**
 - d. **Financial Report for April 2022 and May 2022**

Motion by Fritz, seconded by Noyes to approve the consent agenda; motion carried unanimously.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS**

Trustee Glaisner introduced the new North Shore Library Director Rhonda Gould.

4. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

5. **Discussion and Action to Appoint a Person to Fill Vacant Trustee Office**

The Board received applications from five candidates for the office. Interviews were conducted in the following order: Peter Stanford, Jamie Evans, Jon Isaacson, Peter Herzog, and Samuel Hall, Jr. Following the interviews, the Village Board voted by ballot for the appointment of a trustee from the slate of applicants. The Board was impressed by the quality of the applicants and their experience. Trustee Walker stated that for those who might not get selected, they should consider becoming active. The first vote results were: Jamie Evans – 5 (Anderson, Fritz, Noyes, Russo and Walker), Peter Herzog – 1 (Glaisner). A majority of votes were cast for Jamie Evans. The Oath of Office was administered to Trustee Evans. Trustee Evans then joined the meeting.

6. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve RESOLUTION NO. 2022-08 to Consider the Request of Nicolet Union High School District to extend the time to commence construction in Special Use Permit granted by Resolution No. 2014-16

Dr. Greg Kabara was present for this item.

President Anderson introduced the request to extend the special use permit.

Attorney Dineen provided an update regarding the request to extend the special use permit.

There is a memo in the board packet as well as a resolution. In 2014, the original proposal from Nicolet was to not use any tax dollars for the project. He stated that if the Board terminates the special use permit the pilot would be void. His recommendation is adopt the resolution to allow an extension of time for construction and to recognize that they did get approval from the voters in the form of a referendum. Trustee Walker views this issue from the position of a taxpayer. He stated that he is troubled by Nicolet not following through with their initial commitment and also that Nicolet is not looking at addressing other expense issues. He had met in the past with the Nicolet and they were not interested in looking to reduce their expenses regarding health insurance. Trustee Noyes questions how much money was raised and how much is from the referendum.

Dr. Kabara stated that they reduced the scope of athletic facilities to \$2.5 to \$3 million based on community input. The top 5 or 6 tennis courts in the upper tier that are near Green Tree are not funded yet; they will do fundraising for this. They are working with alumni and other donors to acquire the funds. When the funds are realized then they will continue with the project. Trustee Russo asked how much had been raised to date – Dr. Kabara stated that they have raised \$800,000 of the \$2.5 million needed. They are about ¼ of the way there. Walker asked what mechanism is in place to ensure that taxpayer funds aren't used for the tennis courts. Dr. Kabara stated that they have constructed the process so that they can phase in the courts. Attorney Dineen noted that the Nicolet School Board has the power to decide how they are going to spend the money from the referendum.

President Anderson requested that Nicolet prepare a report that shows their concern for expenses and how they propose to fund those expenses.

Motion by Russo, seconded by Walker to not approve Resolution No. 2022-08. Motion failed 3-aye (Walker, Fritz, Russo) and 4-Nay (Noyes, Glaisner, Anderson and Evans).

Dr. Kabara stated that Nicolet is now looking at insurance expenses since WEA is no longer offering health insurance.

Motion by Glaisner, lack of second to approve Resolution No. 2022-08. Motion failed due to lack of second.

Trustee Noyes would like clarity on the funding of the project and would like to receive something in order to bring this issue back up. Fritz stated that he is concerned that Nicolet has

only raised \$800,000 in funding since 2014. Dr. Kabara stated that Nicolet is planning to begin construction next March.

7. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding ORDINANCE NO. 562 to Amend Subsection 2.17(1) of Chapter Two of the General Ordinances of the Village of River Hills Regarding the Use of Grazing Goats for Invasive Species Management

Robert Kaleta from Lynden Sculpture Garden was present for this item.

Attorney Dineen stated the he was asked to prepare an ordinance for the use of grazing goats for invasive species management for temporary period of time. There was discussion related to other residents in the Village who would want to acquire goats for grazing. The other avenue that the Lynden Sculpture Gardens could explore goats is amending their special use permit to permit this activity, unfortunately that would take several months to process. Mr. Kaleta stated that there is electric fencing to keep the goats in an area. The goats will be there for two to three weeks this year, and come back subsequent years for less time. Trustee Walker asked if this becomes a problem what can be done – Attorney Dineen stated that the Board could revisit this issue in the future.

Noyes suggested that the draft ordinance be further amended to add a time limit and notification to the Village so that we know what is going on. He suggested to add “not to exceed two months for goats to graze for control or management of invasive species upon notice to the Village Manager”.

Motion by Noyes, seconded by Fritz to approve ORDINANCE NO. 562 as further amended to Amend Subsection 2.17(1) of Chapter Two of the General Ordinances of the Village of River Hills Regarding the Use of Grazing Goats for Invasive Species Management; motion carried unanimously.

8. Discussion and Possible Action to Commit to Public Works Purchase of Plow Truck scheduled for 2023 due to Pricing and Availability

Motion by Fritz, seconded by Russo to approve committing to the purchase of the Plow Truck as submitted; motion carried unanimously.

9. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Referendum for Levy Increase

There was discussion regarding the next steps to take for a referendum question to be added to the November ballot for a levy increase. LaBorde stated that she has contacted Ehlers & Associates to verify the figures that she has compiled. Her concern is that she has not heard from any of the trustees and was wondering if there is any additional information they would like to see, or if they are comfortable moving forward with a referendum. She noted that the deadline to submit a question for the ballot is August 30th. Trustee Noyes noted that the options are to cut services or to use unassigned fund balance, the Board doesn't have much of a choice. Trustee Fritz volunteered to assist with this process. Questions that need to be addressed include what level increase are we proposing, will it be a percentage or a specific dollar figure, and what is the

term of the increases. The Board would like to see some modeling including a worst-case scenario.

10. CLOSED SESSION – You are hereby notified that the Village Board and staff of the Village of River Hills will convene into closed session upon motion duly made and seconded as required under §19.85(1), Stats. The purpose of the closed session is for the following:

- **Pursuant to Sec. 19.85(1)(g) – Conferring with legal counsel for the Village who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to be involved.**

You are further notified that at the conclusion of the Closed Session, the Village Board may convene into open session pursuant to 19.85(2), Stats., for possible additional discussion and action concerning any matters discussed in closed session and for adjournment

Motion by Noyes, seconded by Glaisner to move into closed session for the reasons stated on the agenda at 6:48 p.m.; motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Fritz, seconded by Russo to reconvene to open session at 7:10 p.m.; motion carried unanimously.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Walker, seconded by Russo to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.; motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Tammy LaBorde, Clerk on June 22, 2022.