

Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday November 11th, 2022 - 7:30 in person and zoom

Attendees: M. Shaw, S. Moore, Pastor T. Mackie, S. Rogers, E. Weinstein, J. Florio, A. Kirk, C. Kirk, B. Tyson, M. Randolph

Absent: A. Mastrangelo, B. Miller-Seeley, T. Mandik, A. Moore

Call to Order: S. Moore called the meeting to order at 7:30. A. Kirk gave devotions.

Action/Discussion Items:

- The money contribution from the preschool to the church will be \$29,597.76. The initial amount was \$800 higher however the preschool requested \$800 for shelves they would like to purchase. There are two repairs that the preschool is requesting to be completed. The spring return mechanism on the door at the far end of the hallway is not working. Also the door knob in classroom #5 does not work. Jiffy will take care of both repairs which will be paid out of the \$29,576.76 we are receiving from the preschool.
- The preschool financial calendar is September- August. The church financial calendar is January-December. Going forward, the council will have to work into their agenda review of pay raises and salary positions for school and church employees.
- Pastor T. Mackie will be retiring. January 31, 2023 is her last day. Her last Sunday preaching will be Sunday January 8th. Her last day working is the 10th of January and then starting the 11th she will take 3 weeks of vacation which take her up to her last day of January 31st. Absolute earliest Zion could be assigned a full time pastor would be March. Pastor has been working with L. Horshaw regarding music when she retires. L. Horshaw and E. Galamba will handle the music for the services. Pastor will also give T. Mandik a list of videos to show for the sermon if we do not have a supply pastor that Sunday. Other churches do have lay members give a sermon if Zion would like to go that route some Sunday's. Zion is going to stay with two services when Pastor retires.
- Changes to the Constitution were made and submitted to the Synod. The Synod was supposed to get back to M. Shaw but has not done so yet. Pastor T. Mackie said it may take a long time. She will follow up with the Synod to see where it

stands. Zion does have a functional Constitution. After the Synod approves it, the Constitution will need to be voted on for approval by the Congregation.

- Per the Constitution, Council needs to give two weeks notice to the Congregation of the meeting date to approve the 2023 Budget. E. Weinsteiniger made a motion to set the date for November 27th. B. Tyson/A. Kirk seconded the motion. Motion passed. E. Galamba will post the date in this week's Parish Post.

Reports:

-Finance Committee/Reports:

-If you have any questions on the October reports please reach out to J. Florio. Zion did make the one time prepayment for the 2022/2023 snow removal contract of \$5,400 in October. There were some one off large donations which did help to lower the deficit in October.

-J. Florio discussed the 2023 budget. It is not showing a deficit as we are zeroing out the deficit using funds from other accounts. Last year the deficit was \$75,000. In 2023 the budgeted deficit is really \$70,000 however it is offset by shifting funds around from other accounts. The offering contribution is budgeted to be less than 2022. This seems to be a pattern over the past several years. Some new people have been attending services over the last few months but we are still not at the membership level we were pre pandemic. Oil is up 40% from last year. Insurance has gone up. There is a 6% proposed salary increase for church employees (5-6 employees). There has been no salary increase for at least 3 years. Snow removal has increased. S. Rogers as Sexton will now be paid by the church only. In 2022 the church and preschool paid S. Rogers. However, the preschool will be giving Zion more money to reimburse Zion for their portion of S. Rogers pays. The compensation for the Pastor is projected for a full year. A. Kirk made a motion to accept the 2023 budget. E. Weinsteiniger 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

- Pastor's report:

-Pastor T. Mackie will be retiring. This was discussed in Open Discussions.

-Pastor T. Mackie can feel and see more positive energy in the church. There have been several new faces attending services. It seems as though Zion may be turning a corner however we should not become complacent.

-Christian Ed/Youth:

-S. Rogers thanked everyone who helped out at the Fall Festival.

-There are five kids in 1st Communion Class. December 4th is when they will take their 1st Communion. They will all be baking bread and whatever is left over will be frozen to use for future Sunday's.

-November 18th is the youth group sleepover.

-S. Rogers goal is for the youth to interact with people in the congregation. She has some ideas to help her reach this goal.

-St. John's Lutheran church's Youth Director finally got back to S. Rogers. S. Rogers gave the director some dates for youth and confirmation events that perhaps they may want to attend.

-Worship and Music:

- Please read the report.

-Zion School Board:

-The school is spending just shy of \$30,000 to update the playground equipment. This was in the budget for the school last year.

-The school will be replacing the fence around the playground. It will be a black fence with an easier gate but harder for the kids to open.

-D. Platchek is looking to purchase a gazebo-like structure for the playground. She wanted to know if the Council could recommend any Amish builders. S. Moore suggested she reach out to the Hoinowski's.

-Next week is Grandparent's Day Monday -Thursday. The school will be using the fellowship hall for his event.

-Social Ministry:

-Nothing to report.

-Property:

-Some of the wood on the pews has been bleached out due to the sun. The blinds have not been closed on a regular basis. S. Rogers said the youth group will English Oil the pews as their service project at the youth group sleepover.

-Please review the Property report for further information.

-Technology:

-A. Kirk said nothing to report.

-Zion Cemetery:

-S. Moore said they did not meet.

-Ministry Campaign:

-Nothing to report.

-Community Connections:

-M. Shaw noted that there is no Epilepsy Awareness walk close to Zion. She would like to see if we could organize something like that.

-Call Committee:

-Nothing to report.

-Stewardship:

-Nothing to report.

-C. Kirk made a motion to accept the Financial Reports. E. Weinstein 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

-C. Kirk made a motion to accept all reports. B. Tyson 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

-S. Rogers made a motion to approve the October minutes. A. Kirk 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

Open Discussion: nothing to discuss.

-Next meeting is 12/13 at 7:30. T. Mandik has devotions.

-Pastor T. Mackie gave a closing prayer.

-B. Tyson made a motion to adjourn. M. Randolph/C. Kirk 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

