

Council Meeting Minutes
February 16th, 2023

In Attendance: Tim Pauley; Via Zoom: Ronda Haley, Joe Kahl, Sara Haase, Dawn Peer, Larry Carlson and special other guest Pete Peterson Excused: Linda Moore, Maggie Isaacson Absent: Nicole Kovar

First up: Special guests from First Lutheran in Taylors Falls: Don Hanson, Pastor Dwight Rudquist

Don – Their pastor’s term is coming to an end and they are at a point of making a decision. Budget is 125k a year and 42k a year is for pastoral benefits. 30 ppl attending worship regularly. How do they maintain their identity without losing the church. Staff at the church: Secretary/ministry coordinator and Pastor. No youth program to speak of. Do not have a mortgage on the building or other debt. Salary, building maintenance and insurance are their major expenses. Looking for mostly Sunday morning pastoral duties. Sunday morning at 9 am is their worship service. We will get back to them after our March meeting. No decisions until Pastor Melissa is back. First Lutheran would like to move forward in some fashion by August 2023.

2. Review the Secretary’s Report

Larry approved and Dawn Second – All approved.

3. Review the Treasurer’s Report

Pete gave the treasurers report. Cash flow is a little low right now. Hoping giving picks up. ACTION ITEM: Feed my starving children coalition is asking all the churches to send in whatever funds they have available for FMSC. (3,117 in our budget currently) We received a match donation from someone for up to 3K. Emergency operating expense checking – 24K in there. Typical giving for feed my starving children is around 6K. Motion to approve the treasurers report – Larry 2nd the motion – Tim opposes the treasurers report all other in favor.

4. Election of New Officers

President: Tim Pauley (nominated by Ronda Haley)

Vice President: Joe (volunteered)

Secretary: OPEN

Motioned made to table elections until more of us can be there in person to vote. Possibly the 26th of February when we have a retreat scheduled or at the beginning of our March meeting.

5. Ministry Reports

Worship – Nothing

Property – Heating company switch. Natural gas recommendation from Countryside. Possibly replacing the rooftop units with a natural gas alternative. More cost effective and less maintenance.

Youth & Family – Dawn spoke on our sledding party. Talked about doing cards for grown ups and activity for kids. New ways to attract families to Lenten services.

Life & Growth – Spoke on the community meal.

Parish relations - \$4,011 for Pastors 403B contributions and \$356 for Pat’s 403B (appx \$5300 total) that were underfunded. Larry made a motion to pay the contributions and Joe made a 2nd. All approved.

6. Old Business – Sara asked about the fellowship treats and putting a sign up out for congregation. Still looking for a finance committee. Suggestions on the table to hire someone to do the work. Work item: Finding a treasurer or a company to hire to handle the financials of the church.

7. New Business

- Benevolences – 8K got sent to the synod after we said we were going to talk about it and didn't. We as a group need to be better at meeting minute follow-up.

a. Festival Theatre space rental (see attached emails: Peace Rental)

- Did not see a problem with having them use the space. Sara said she'd work with Pat.
- Festival Theatre – 12- 9 pm – 7/11-8/1
- Would it be a problem with the daycare being there to have the actors there during daycare hours. Check with daycare?

Motion to Adjourn – Larry made a motion to adjourn and Dawn 2nd.

Closing Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Haase