

## FINANCE COUNCIL MINUTES

May 7, 2019

**Present:** Rev. Jazdzewski, Dan Marx, Sarah Gordee, John Durtschi and Sharon Sliwka. Chris Woodford attended as a representative of the Parish Council.

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM by Rev. Jazdzewski and began with an opening prayer.

**Financial Statements:** The April statements were reviewed. Sharon provided additional details for a couple items. The annual property, liability and workers compensation of approx. \$25,000 was paid in April. This expense was accrued throughout the fiscal year.

The Diocesan Annual Appeal is currently short \$16,800.

A Pre-Budget 2019-2020 discussion took place. Sarah Gordee commented on some of the notes provided with the draft budget. With Gary Ida offering to snow plow next season, Sarah expressed concern the parish doesn't burn Gary Ida out. Final details will be worked out with Gary in the fall.

Renumeration for funeral and wedding music currently is processed through payroll and paid to Liz Wilson and other musicians. The parish pays payroll taxes and retirement benefits on these amounts. The Council didn't have an issue with this continuing, however, if the musicians and also diocesan policy agree, this can be changed to direct pay.

Currently, the Parish receives no payments from weddings or funerals to cover utilities, janitorial and the like. Sarah expressed concern additional fees may dissuade couples from being married in the Church. Father Jazdzewski suggested the parish ask for a donation towards capital improvements. The members were open to a "suggested donation" approach. Sharon will check around and see what other parishes in the Eau Claire Deanery charge.

Dan Marx inquired what's included in Household Expense and Mileage & Travel. Household expense includes rectory cleaning. Mileage is reimbursed to staff. \$400 is paid monthly to the parish priest to cover his mileage, per diocesan policy.

The Council discussed the Money Market account in detail. With almost \$48,000 in the account earmarked to separate subcommittees and/or small groups, the consensus among the members were to reduce and use a portion of the funds to offset operating expenses. As Chair of the Lenten Lunches, Sarah Gordee agreed \$1,923 under this heading be reallocated to pay parish expenses.

John Durtschi recommended the 2019-20 budget balance to -0-, with income and/or expenses adjusted to get to this amount.

A final draft budget for 2019-2020 will be ready for approval at the June 4 meeting.

Father Jazdzewski informed the Council the parish database is in process of being updated to reflect a more accurate number of parish families. With no updates in several years, many people have moved away or no longer consider themselves parishioners. The final list is being forwarded to the Finance and Parish Councils for review. Letters will then be sent to families who haven't been active in the parish since 2016 and prior. The process will be a three-step mailing, with expectations this will be completed by June 30. The purpose of the project being to more clearly understand who our parishioners are, and be able to have more accurate accounting with the Diocese for things like the Annual Appeal.

At 6:40 the Finance Council convened into closed session to discuss employees. At 7:05 they reconvened to open session.

**Old Business:** Dan Marx inquired about the St. Patrick Rectory rental status. Mayo Clinic has toured the rectory for possible use. L'Arche and St. Paul Catholic Community are two other groups some parishioners are researching as possible tenants.

Dan Marx requested an update on parish marketing. Chris Woodford advised the Parish Council is in discussion regarding this.

**New Business:** Dan Marx has agreed to sign up for another two-year term on the Finance Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM with a closing prayer.