



ZION Lutheran Church

1254 S. Union Street, Shawano, WI 54166-3461
715-526-2017 zion@shawanozion.org www.shawanozion.org

REV. SCOTT LUDFORD
Senior Pastor

BOB HASS
Council President

Zion Lutheran Church Council Meeting April 18, 2023 – 6pm at Zion

Call to Order: President Bob Hass at 6:00 pm.

Present: Bob Hass, Mike Eidahl, Keith Milner, Karen Fusek, Curt Preston,, Nancy Schultz, Michael Sleeper, and Julie Effenberger.

Absent: Tom Laude, Judy Laude, Bobbi Krozell, Pastor Scott, Aidan Preston

Devotions: Curt Preston

Sound Off: None

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1. **Pastor's Report:** Pastor Scott was on vacation.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Nancy and seconded by Michael Sleeper to approve the minutes as printed for the March 21st, 2023, Council Meeting. *Motion carried.*
3. **Treasurer's Report**
 - a. **Accounting Fund Balance** – Mike Eidahl reviewed the Accounting Fund Balance Report, noting we ended the month with -\$2,599.96, which was an \$11,000 difference from the month prior. He noted the #12 Sound & Video Project account has been depleted in case anyone wants to donate in the future. Bob wanted to know if #27 Camp Scholarship Fund of \$1,189.80 had enough funds to help with all students wanting to go to Crossways Camp this summer. Mike didn't know the number of students signed up yet but believes Zion will send a letter to all families letting them know funds are available to help cover the camp costs.
 - b. **Accounts Payable** – Mike also reviewed the accounts payable report. Mike noted that Connor Sleeper provided the needed summary of his donations from Zion members, therefore, a check is listed in the bills to pay for \$12,600 in accordance with a motion from last month's council meeting. A motion was made by Julie and seconded by Karen to approve the Accounting Fund Balance Report and to approve the bills for payment. *Motion carried.*
4. **Finance Committee:** Michael Sleeper provided minutes from their Finance Committee Meeting on April 11, 2023 and a meeting they held earlier today. They discussed taking a portion of the money sitting in the checking account and investing in a Money Market account or CD's for more income. Their recommendation will be discussed in New Business. Nancy made the motion which was seconded by Curt to approve the Financial Report. *Motion carried.*
5. **Old Business**
 - a. **Updating Security System:** Keith advised the council he met with the Property Committee along with Chris Dalke and they are currently making a list of all the things they want to get done and will then prioritize them. They will be asking for input from other committees regarding the

levels of security and what is deemed most important. Keith noted that our current security system needs to be modernized.

- b. **Updating Constitution:** Nothing to report as the synod has not yet gotten back to us.
- c. **Hiring Janitor/Administrative Assistant:** Mike stated the janitor position has been advertised for a few weeks and he has had several phone calls and referred them to the office to pick up an application. So far only one application has been returned. They will review applications once Pastor Scott has returned and then set up interviews. He also noted they have advertised for the Administrative Assistant and have had only one inquiry so far. Salary will be based on experience.
- d. **Health and Wellness Coordinator Update:** Mike noted they have had to prioritize the janitor/administrative assistant positions as being most important to fill right now.
- e. **Task Force for Youth & Family Ministry Staff Update:** As stated above, the janitor/administrative positions have taken top priority right now. Al Wichmann has contacted the synod office and someone will come and meet with us when we're ready to explore Family Ministry options. Curt had asked if we couldn't still keep this task force working/researching and possibly combining the positions of Health and Wellness Coordinator and Youth & Family Ministry into one.

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6. New Business

- a. **Installation Date of Council Members:** Will discuss next month when Pastor is back.
- b. **Administrative Assistant Retirement:** Debbie Bernard has presented her letter of retirement, asking for June 2, 2023 to be her last day. She has paid time off days that she hasn't used and 5 vacation days from last year, along with this year's vacation that she would like to get reimbursed for. The motion was made by Michael Sleeper and seconded by Karen to accept Debbie Bernard's letter of retirement. *Motion carried.*
- c. **Purchase Approval of Wireless Internet Console:** Keith advised the council that our network could be more secure. There is a piece of equipment that he shared with the council that will provide better security. This is top priority. The motion to approve the purchase of the system as listed on the handout for \$499 was made by Michael Sleeper and seconded by Keith. These funds will be taken from the Undesignated Fund #21. *Motion Carried.*
- d. **2023 Synod Assembly:** Bob advised the council the Synod Assembly is coming up Saturday, May 20 at First English Lutheran Church in Appleton from 8am to 5pm. Pastor Scott will be attending and they ask for two voting representatives from Zion to also accompany him.
- e. **BMO Bank/Money Market:** Michael Sleeper, who serves as chairman on the Finance Committee, has met with BMO Bank along with researching Thrivent and Edward Jones, discussing options for making money on the extra funds that usually sit idle in our checking account. The Finance Committee recommends we authorize the opening of a Money Market account with Edward Jones, who we already have investments with, for \$100,000 at 4.50%, understanding that rate can fluctuate. The funds can be withdrawn immediately if needed, versus not being able to with a CD. The motion was made by Michael Sleeper and seconded by Nancy to open a Money Market account with Edward Jones for \$100,000 at the current rate of 4.50%. Keith did ask if our funds with Edward Jones are insured like they are with banks through the FDIC. Mike will check into that before he makes that investment. *Motion Carried.*

Committee Reports. Refer to printed reports available.

- **Church and Society**
- **Education** – Judy was unable to attend.
- **Health Ministry** – Minutes attached.
- **Life & Growth** – Bobbi was unable to attend.
- **Property** – Tom was unable to attend but Keith briefly reviewed their discussions from their last meeting.

- **Stewardship** – Keith provided a report stating his committee is looking into conducting a stewardship campaign this coming fall and they are researching ways to reach the congregation.
- **Worship & Music** – Minutes attached
- **Youth**

It was noted Nancy Schultz, who serves on both Health Ministry and Worship and Music Committees has worked tirelessly on getting the Recovery House purchased and now operational here in Shawano. This house located on S. Franklin Street can house up to 7 women and their next mission will be to purchase a home in Shawano for men also. Motion to accept all Committee Reports as presented was made by Nancy and seconded by Karen. ***Motion carried.***

Zion's Calendar for March was also enclosed in our packets along with the ZLCW Executive Board Meeting minutes from March 8, 2023. Bob noted the Property Committee meeting will be Monday, May 8th at 6:00 pm instead of Tuesday. Nancy mentioned that everyone is invited to attend Lay School Graduation on Saturday May 13th from 12:30pm – 3:00 pm in which Carey Grieves will be graduating from our church. Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Julie and seconded by Curt. ***Motion carried.*** Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Closing Prayer: The Lord's Prayer by All

Respectfully submitted by:

Julie Effenberger,
Council Secretary