

Trinity Lutheran Church
Voters Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2018

The Voters Meeting was called to order by Cheri Carsten at 12:37 pm and opened with a short devotion and prayer led by Pastor Hafeman. He said that “the question is not how we are going to do the budget but what is pleasing to God and what is His will and His plan for the ministry.”

A total of 34 voting members signed the registration sheets. A quorum was established.

The minutes of the December 3, 2017 Voters Meeting were made available to members prior to the meeting. The minutes were initially approved but later withdrawn during the meeting because an accounting discrepancy was discovered. The mortgage loan balance was reported as \$1,745,444.76 but should have been \$1,817,311.66 as of November 30, 2017. The minutes will be corrected and brought before the voters for approval at the next meeting in December. The current mortgage loan balance as of April 30, 2018 is \$1,796,523.71.

Budget Presentation: A copy of the proposed 2018-19 budget as compared to the 2017-18 budget and a summarized version of the current financial report as of April 30, 2018 were made available to members prior to the meeting. The 2018-19 budget will be presented for approval at the end of the meeting after review and reports from each Board.

Board Reports:

The Board of Financial and Stewardship Ministries

Vicki Akin reported that the current 10 month actual income in excess of expenses is \$49,432.34 and the projected end-of-year income in excess of expenses is \$40,158.50. Vicki noted that last year's deficit did not reach \$69,794.83 as projected. (\$69,613.80 was the original projected deficit budget reported in the May 2017 Voters Minutes but because a formula error was discovered in the benefits line, the corrected deficit amount of \$69,794.83 was entered into the system. All subsequent reports reflect this adjusted amount).

The proposed 2018-19 budget beginning July 1st has a projected deficit of \$31,228.58.

The current financial report through April 30th as posted in the newsletter shows that additional principal paid through the building fund was \$48,265 and income in excess of expenses was \$49,432.

The Board of Elders and Spiritual Ministries

Board Chair, Gary Klipp announced that the Board must be fiscally responsible and because of the declining congregation and offerings, the Elders voted to eliminate the pastoral assistant position on June 30, 2019, with a 50% cut in salary during the interim year. Objections and discussions followed about other cost saving measures but Gary said that the congregation's size does not require an assistant pastor or pastoral assistant. There were no other updates from the Board.

The Board of Property Ministries

Les Durdy reviewed current and upcoming projects at the church and school. Two new AC units will be installed Aug. 15th-17th as a result of the recent car crash. The light pole in the church parking lot will be repaired. The lift station is in good condition. There will be a flower garden in place of the junipers around the school parking lot. Volunteers are needed for various summer projects to paint and assist with lawn mowing.

The Board of Education Ministries

Board Co-Chair, Linda Klipp thanked the congregation for their continued support of the school because "it's a huge financial responsibility for the church but it is a wonderful mission". Linda reviewed the goals of the five-year plan that have been met. She said that there is now a full-time Director of Childhood Education, Gwen Marshall in addition to the Principal, Kyle Erickson. The number of students has increased; the Board developed a new website and expanded the school's social media presence, and added a new preschool room. She also reported that young school families are now attending services at the church.

After a discussion regarding the cost of the school to the church and a prayer from Pastor Hesse asking God to give us one more soul to save, a motion was made and seconded to close the school. The motion to close the school did not pass; yes votes 4, no votes 28.

After review and discussion of projected income and each Board's projected expenses for next year, Cheri presented the 2018-19 budget for approval with a projected deficit of \$31,228.58. A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2018-2019 budget as presented. The motion passed by a majority vote; no vote 1.

Cheri thanked everyone for attending the meeting and encouraged members to attend the monthly Board and Council meetings and remain involved.

New Business:

Pam Clavir of the Nominating Committee has started the process for elections at the Voters Meeting in December for the President, Vice-President, and Secretary positions.

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 1:57 pm.

The voters meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer after a prayer based on Psalm 121 led by Pastor Hesse, "We must be bold for the Lord and go out and share the love, the grace, and the mercy."