

# **Finance Council Minutes**

**St. John the Baptist Parish, Seymour / March 10, 2026**

**Present:** Father Sengole, Paula Helms, Sue Keyzers, Karen Reed, Lee Rynish, Margie Marcks

**Absent:** Kevin Reese, Debbie Rusch, Dan Van Boxtel and Dennis Dercks

Meeting began in prayer.

Minutes from the December 9 meeting were approved by Sue Keyzers, seconded by Karen Reed.

Guest Paul Leininger attended the meeting with concerns regarding the survey and building proposals. He asked how raising money for the project was going to proceed. Fundraising will have to be started and he proposed the following: a church picnic, a May rummage sale with free will offerings with items donated by parish members in the gym with a bake sale (Paul would dispose of any unsold rummage sale items), and a Chicken Booyah sale.

Once the surveys are returned (by April 1) and a plan of action established, parish meetings will commence regarding fundraising. Lee Rynish suggested that we start small and build up. Sue Keyzers suggested going to local businesses for donations to support the church project.

## **CEMETERY Report**

A Reflection Area Design Sub-Committee has been formed. Volunteers are Jane Buch, Cathy Krull and Paula Helms.

The Cemetery Regulations, Policies and Decoration Addendum have been reviewed, revised and accepted.

Lee is currently being paid for his work on the cemetery, plus maintenance the rest of the year through parish funds. Sue Keyzers made a motion that as of July 1, Lee's salary and hours would be divided between the Cemetery and Maintenance accounts. Karen Reed seconded the motion.

## **BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT**

Church Furnace Update – On January 30, we were experiencing intermittent flame failures. Robinson Heating was able to come immediately at a time of failure and diagnosis the issue. A component was replaced in the flame monitoring system. There have been no failures since.

Skinkis Lawn and Landscape Bid – Reviewed bid from Skinkis for four applications of herbicide and fertilizer for church/school lawns. Bid is the same as 2024 and 2025 – just under \$1200.

Review of Telephone Services – Church is currently charged \$100 per month for four phone lines through AIT Business Technologies. Lee presented a chart showing the four lines and recommended that the school office and church office phones, plus the Rectory phone (to be re-installed) be maintained and return the 4<sup>th</sup> phone to reduce bill by \$25/month.

## **Finance Update**

Penny Schampers routinely creates the yearly budget, with the Finance Council approving it. The Council would like this practice to continue for the upcoming 2026-2027 budget.

## **New Business**

Paula Helms expressed a need for a volunteer to provide IT support for the parish. Jennifer Ullmer is willing to assist the Office and Church with this need.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 26, 2026.

Father Sengole made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m., seconded by Sue Keyzers.

Closing Prayer.