

GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC PARISH
FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING
May 28, 2025, at 6:00pm
St. John Hall, Arcadia, IA

Present: Fr. Roder, Becky Vonnahme, Ann Schmitz, Janet Muhlbauer, Julie Eich, Cindy Lawler, Erin Sundrup, Kassie Wernimont, Russ Riesenberger and Joel Dentlinger

Absent: Joe Behrens

- 1. Opening prayer was led by Fr. Roder**
- 2. Director Becky Vonnahme called the meeting to order at 6:00pm**
- 3. Minutes of the previous meeting** were sent out via email to all council members
 - a. Cindy had corrected Joe Behrens' name from Joe Hinnens and the location of the April meeting**

Erin made a motion to approve the minutes

Ann seconded the motion

All approved

- 4. Financial reports** were sent to all council members on 5/27/25 via email.
 - a. There were no corrections or additions.
 - b. There was discussion about the unpaid Kuemper debt. GSCP will keep it on the balance sheet for now and continue to make efforts to pay toward this debt.
 - c. In July GSCP will pay \$25,000 per month toward the 2025-26 school year assessment.
 - d. Erin explained that any of the \$500 discounts not applied for by student parents will be credited to the parish assessment as these were not figured into the Kuemper budget.
 - e. Becky wondered if GSCP should pose a challenge to Parishioners: ie. "Let's try to raise X amount of the debt in the next so many weeks." It was decided that this idea could be something Megan Werden, Development Director, could develop a plan to do a challenge.

The proposed budget for 2025-26 was reviewed.

- f. Cindy explained that GSCP's portion of Megan Werden's wage and benefits have been entered into the budget under "secretarial" along with Julie Eich and a new Administrative Assistant at 20 hours per week and \$21 per hour.
 - g. The new bookkeeper was entered under "bookkeeper" at 6 hours per week at \$23 per hour.
 - h. Cindy needs to enter the 2025-26, \$300,000, Kuemper assessment and adjust all building and repair expenses to \$5000 per location.

❖ **Fr. Roder made a motion to accept the financial reports**

Russ seconded the motion

All approved

❖ **Erin made a motion to accept the proposed budget, with the two noted changes, for fiscal year 2025-26.**

Fr. Roder seconded the motion

All approved

5. Old Business

a. St. Bernard school RFP

- i. Becky shared that what she thought might be a grant for the potential buyer is a tax credit. She has given the information to the potential buyer. Becky thought the sale was still looking hopeful.

b. St. Bernard “Endowment”

- i. Neither Becky nor Fr. Roder have talked to anyone about the endowment.

c. New doors and flooring at St. Augustine church

- i. Janet updated the council on this project.
 - 1. The new doors will be installed on June 3, 2025.
- ii. Russ did look at that storm door going into the garage of the rectory, it will need weather strip. He has talked to someone about doing that, it should get done soon. Russ will dispose of the old screen door.

d. St. John 150th Celebration

- i. Julie reported that planning is going well and that another planning meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 29th.
- ii. Fr. Roder said that he invited Bishop Keehner to be in the parade and/or celebrate the noon Mass on Sunday, Aug. 31. Bishop Keehner was going to check his calendar, but thought the Mass would probably work best for him. He will get back to Fr. Roder.

e. Security cameras at Sacred Heart

- i. Per Fr. Roder GSCP has received \$3200 in donations for security cameras at Sacred Heart. Joe had told Father that he would work on getting the cameras ordered.
- ii. Father added that a game camera was put in the church recently and there have been more people seen trespassing in the church. The pictures have been shared with local police and sheriff offices.
- iii. Parishioners are working on ensuring the current doors can be locked. Once this is done, they will try to find volunteers to lock and unlock the church every day so trespassers can be kept out of the church.

f. Holy Angels Tuckpointing

- i. The masonry company has moved their lift to Roselle and work should begin anytime now.

g. Carroll County Emergency Management

- i. CCEM has not reached back out to GSCP regarding use of its buildings during an emergency.

h. Cindy’s retirement

- i. There was further discussion about having Alison Schweers do the bookkeeping piece of the job and hiring someone else for the Administrative Assistant part of the job.

1. As noted under the discussion about the budget, Fr. Roder felt that 6 hours per week for the bookkeeper and 20 hours per week for the Administrative Assistant would work best. This way the Parish Office could be open 2-3 days a week.
2. The bookkeeping tasks noted in the current job description will need to be removed for the new Administrative Assistant position. Cindy will work on this.
3. Fr. Roder is going to reach out to a possible replacement. If she is not interested in the position, then we will add an updated notice to the bulletin.

6. Relocation of Parish office

- a. Becky thought there might be someone in the location discussed at the last meeting. She will talk to the owner to confirm.
- b. Father offered space in the rectory if needed.

7. New Business

- a. No new business to discuss.

8. Upcoming events

- a. June 14, 2025, there will be a Patriotic Mass at Holy Angels church led by the area Legions.
 - i. Fr. Schrad will be celebrating Mass that day.
 - ii. A meal for veterans is being planned.
- b. August 30, 2025, St. Joh's 150th Celebration
- c. August 31, 2025, noon Mass at St. John's with a dinner to follow.

9. Next meeting

- a. The next Council meeting will be held on June 25th, 2025, starting with a meal at 5:30pm at the St. Bernard Rectory.
- b. Fr. Roder will grill, council members may bring a side or dessert.

Fr. Roder closed the meeting with a prayer.

Erin made a motion to adjourn

Ann seconded the motion

All approved

Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm

Respectfully submitted, Cindy Lawler, Admin. Asst.