

St Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church

Dayton Ohio

**Parish Council Meeting
October 16, 2018**

Present: Fr. Ted, Brian Garber, Kerrie Wiese, Rebecca Barone, Janine Elash, David Short, Bruce Garber, Ann McLarnan

Brian Garber called the meeting to order at 6:12 PM. Fr. Ted led "O Heavenly King."

Kerrie Wiese gave the financial report. The parish is in generally good financial shape. Contributions year-to-date are slightly higher than at this point last year, totaling 69% of the 2018 operating budget. Kerrie also presented the final version of the proposed 2019 budget. The total budget amount is \$265,385, which is a .5% decrease from the 2018 budget. Kerrie and Laura Avdakov have made a small correction in how Fr. Ted's Social Security contribution is calculated, resulting in a slight increase in the Pastoral Salary line. There has been a slight increase in the amount budgeted for the Diocesan assessment since we do not yet know exactly what our obligation under the new proportional system will be. This budget decreases the amount transferred to the parish capital improvement fund by 2/3 for this year. There is a sizable cushion of money built up in that account. This year we need to reassess what the monthly set-aside should be.

Brian Garber moved, Bruce Garber seconded and the proposed 2019 budget was approved for distribution to the parish for a vote at the 2018 annual parish meeting on November 11.

The Annual Meeting Packet should be emailed to the parish by this Sunday, October 21, three weeks before the meeting. The financial, committee, and pastoral reports, absentee ballot, pledge form, and proposed budget will go to Ann who will compile the packet and send it on to Erin to be emailed to the parish.

Council discussed a recent complaint about children's behavior during the Liturgy. Council wants to respect the sacrifices parents make to have their small children present in the Liturgy. Council also understands that there sometimes is noise and commotion during Liturgy that can make it hard to hear and can be distracting. This latest complaint was made via an anonymous letter addressed to parents of small children and placed in the narthex during Liturgy where parents bringing their toddlers out during the sermon would find it. Council wants to be clear that this was an inappropriate way to make a complaint which left many parents feeling hurt and discouraged. David Short suggested spending a minute at the annual meeting clarifying that complaints should be brought to members of parish council or brought to any parish council meeting. Meetings are always open to parish members; just speak with the council president to get on the agenda. We have the cry room, the narthex and the fellowship hall available as places parents can go with their children if necessary. The service can be heard over the sound system. We need to encourage parents in their struggles and also be sure they know it is all right to leave the chapel and come back in once their child is ready.

Council discussed the recent successful fire drill held with the Sugar Creek Fire Department. The Risk Committee will make several changes to the emergency plan based on what was learned in the drill, and will proceed to having an active test drill at the end of Liturgy sometime in the spring.

The meeting ended at 7:12 PM with Fr. Ted leading the prayer of St. Simeon.

Respectfully submitted,

V. Rev. Theodore Bobosh, Rector

Ann McLarnan, Secretary

Ratified _____ / _____ / _____