

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STILLWATER, MINNESOTA**  
**Congregational Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Held July 20, 2022**

Voting Council members present: Lead Pastor Chris Bellefeuille; William Bjorum (via Zoom); Krista Gossai; Thomas Haugrud; Jill Longnecker; Carol Straka; and Andrew Thelander.

Non-voting Council members present: Parish Administrator Robert Eiselt.

Absent: Pastor of Lifelong Faith Formation Peter Weston Miller.

Guests: Steve Olson for a portion of the meeting as set forth below (via Zoom).

Location: In-person at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Meeting called to order at 6:45 p.m. by President Andrew Thelander.

1. Welcome.
2. Christ Care Prayers.
3. Dwelling in the Word. Pastor Chris presented a devotion based on her and her son's recent visit to the island of Iona off the coast of Scotland.
4. Pre-distributed items:
  - a. Draft Minutes from the June 15, 2022 council meeting were distributed electronically to Council for review.  
M/S/P to accept and approve the Minutes from the June 15, 2022 council meeting.
  - b. The Pastor report from Pastor Peter was distributed electronically to Council for review. Pastor Chris has just returned from sabbatical leave and did not submit a Pastor report.
  - c. The Administrator report from Bob was distributed electronically to Council for review. Budget issues, including pledges not paid, were further discussed.
  - d. The Re-Entry Team did not submit a report.
5. Old Business or Follow Up.
  - a. Steve Olson attended the meeting via remote means. He had concluded the Capital Campaign Feasibility Study and it was distributed electronically to Council for review. Steve reviewed with Council the Feasibility Study, which included 10 recommendations. The stated recommendations did not specifically state whether Steve recommended proceeding with a Capital Campaign, but upon questioning by Council, Steve recommended so proceeding. At the conclusion of his review, Steve was then excused from the balance of the meeting.  
M/S/P to adopt and approve the Capital Campaign Feasibility Study.  
M/S/P to recommend to the congregation at the next scheduled annual meeting to proceed with a Capital Campaign and seek congregational approval of a Capital Campaign.

M/S/P to distribute the full Feasibility Study to those who were interviewed, and to distribute an Executive Summary thereof to the entire congregation.

Council discussed including a “story-telling” component to the Capital Campaign, but no decision was made at the meeting in that regard.

- b. The matter of trespassing on the drive-in property was again addressed. Parish Administrator Bob is to send Aamodts Hot Air Balloon Rides a letter on behalf of Council and TLC advising in substance that Aamodts Hot Air Balloon Rides may not use the drive-in for launching hot air balloons or for any other purposes. Further, Parish Administrator Bob is to take steps to post both the entrance and the gate to the drive-in with a prominent sign that reads in substance: “Private Property – Property of Trinity Lutheran Church of Stillwater, Minnesota”, or some other language that conveys the same message. Further, Parish Administrator Bob is take the steps to install a locking mechanism on the entrance gate.
- c. The Fall Council Retreat was set for Friday evening, October 14, 2022, to Saturday mid-afternoon, October 15, 2022. Pastor Chris will explore available sites where the retreat could be held.
- 6. New Business:
  - a. Condolences cards were signed.
  - b. Shout Outs; Gratitude moments.
- 7. Next Council meetings.
  - a. A Council connections-huddle meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to be held virtually via Microsoft Teams, and President Andrew will subsequently advise whether it is needed.
  - b. The next regular Council meeting is set for Monday, August 22, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., to be held in person at TLC.
  - c. A Council connections-huddle meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to be held virtually via Microsoft Teams, and President Andrew will subsequently advise whether it is needed.
  - d. The September 2022 Council meeting is set for Monday, September 19, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. to be held in person at TLC.
  - e. A Council connections-huddle meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to be held virtually via Microsoft Teams, and President Andrew will subsequently advise whether it is needed.
  - f. The October 2022 Council meeting will be held as part of the fall Council retreat.
- 8. Other Important Dates.
  - a. Trinity Fest is set for Sunday, September 18, 2022, to be held at the Drive-In.
- 9. Reflection/Prayer.

10. Adjournment.

The council meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*s/Thomas Haugrud*

Thomas Haugrud

Congregational/Council Secretary

*Electronically signed*