

## November 14, 2019 St Patrick's Parish Council Meeting

Present: Wanda Loewen, Jean Their, Tom Donovan, Chuck Shanahan, Eric Vaske, Deb Redmond and Cathy Rubel

Absent: Adam Rollinger and Loras Federspiel

Opening prayer was completed by Fr. Loecke and then Deacon Ray Noonan reviewed the Aquin Educational System and informed us of the new budget for the upcoming year. They are asking that all parishes help contribute to the Aquin subsidy and pastorate expenses. They have asked that St. Patrick contribute 12.93% which would come to \$75,777 for the upcoming year. St. Patrick is currently contributing 12.96% for a total of \$75,953. Our president Wanda Loewen asked that this be put to a vote. Jean Their made a motion to approve this contribution and Chuck Shanahan seconded the motion. All were in favor of this contribution and the motion was carried.

Tom Donovan mentioned that this is the first snow removal that our new contractor Bob Steffen has done for us and he has received several compliments on the job that is being done. Thank you Bob for your good work. Hopefully old man winter will be light on the snow this winter!

We reviewed the parish auction- Congratulations to our winners of the cash prizes. Paul Kane \$500, Mike Mahoney \$400, Ellen White \$300, Robert McKenna \$200, and Erin Shanahan \$100. We realize that the weather has not been a farmer's friend this year. But October 27<sup>th</sup> was an absolute beautiful day and many farmers and family were in the fields trying to get their crop out. We had a smaller crowd this year but were very pleasantly surprised at the amount of money that was made at the auction. A huge thank you to anyone who contributed to the auction, helped work, set up or tore things down, or were just there to support your parish in any way. We did discuss that it is an idea to solicit for contributions earlier in the year versus the fall. Many parishes have fund raisers during the fall and business are getting asked for contributions. We are hoping this way businesses are not as overwhelmed and feel that they can contribute when asked by our parishoners.

We still have 2 stoves, a sink and a microwave that did not get sold at the auction. Eric Vaske will put them for sale on Craig's list and hopefully find a buyer. If there is anyone in the parish that was not able to be at the auction and is interested in any of these please contact a parish council member. We also have several windows remaining from the rectory so if you missed out at the auction it isn't too late!

We will start to lock the parish hall. We are checking into a key box to be outside by the door with a spare key in it. More to come on this.

We have the programable thermostats in the hall and the church. Mark Redmond is willing to have this app on his phone and be one of the people in charge of the thermostat. Chuck Shanahan and Wanda Loewen are also willing to be responsible for this.

Rectory- The contractors have been very busy with the taking down the rectory. We unfortunately had snow come and then a funeral and a wedding within the past week and they did not wish to be in the middle of this with these events going on. The rectory should be down this week. The contractors are very aware of what can be buried and what can not and unfortunately have noted that the bid will now be over the original amount quoted. This will go toward the trucking and landfill expenses. They have

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also had to remove a tree, they will be taking down the remainder of the barn, they will bury lines going to the church, and they have also found an old cistern and will be removing this and disposing of it. As with any project there are always unforeseen things that can and will pop up. We have been fortunate to have a parishioner who has contacted us and is willing to donate toward this excavation fund. This is greatly appreciated and if there are others who are willing to donate toward this project please just reach out to a parish council member. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated.

With so many items to discuss at this meeting, we unfortunately ran out of time and tabled the new blinds for the parish hall and also the church organ. These items will be discussed at the next parish council meeting which will be held on January 14, 2020.

Tom Donovan made a motion to adjourn and Wanda Loewen second the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted

Cathy Rubel