

FIRST UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL Meeting  
January 28, 2021 7:00 pm

**We, at First United Church, are called by the spirit to be a caring community of faith actively pursuing spiritual growth and compassionate outreach**

**Members Present:**

Kevin Hanna, Chair	Sharyn Erne, Vice Chair
Annette Taylor, Minister	Patti McCleary, Outreach
Marie Andrews, Worship & Music	Charles Lotochinski, Stewardship/Treasurer
Ila Wilms, Building & Property	Colleen MacBean, Regional Council Rep
Maxine Olmsted, Ministry & Personnel	Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary
Donna Barber, UCW	Linda Stumpf, Faith Formation
Fran Jackson, Membership & Pastoral Care	Ron Toles, Trustee

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. A quorum was present.
2. Check in
3. Reminder of Holy Manner #11-Hold one another in prayer
4. Opening Devotion – Kevin Hanna – Chair
5. Agenda  
**Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Ila Wilms**  
**“To approve the agenda as presented.” Carried**
6. Acknowledgement of the Nov 24, 2020 Executive meeting minutes.
7. Approval of the Nov 26, 2020 Church Council minutes.  
**Motion: Fran Jackson/Sharyn Erne**  
**“To approve the November 26, 2020 minutes.” Carried**
8. Business arising from the minutes
  - a) Covid-19 response – By consensus, we will continue as is and review this again at the next Council meeting.
9. Correspondence  
Important Notice: Congregational Annual Meetings in 2021 from First United Church of Canada General Council (see attached)
10. Minister’s Report (including Swift Current and Area Ministerial Association) – Annette Taylor
11. Important Items from Reports
  - a) Financial status report and Budget from Stewardship – Charles Lotochinski reported that the Church had a surplus last year. He attributed this to support from the congregation, fundraising, the UCW, and government wage subsidies. It was noted that the UCW was put into a deficit financial position due to their inability to fundraise effectively during Covid-19 restrictions.  
  
**Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Colleen MacBean**  
**“That a special meeting will be held by Council on Thursday, February 4 at 7:00 pm specifically to approve the budget.” Carried.**

## b) Ministry and Personnel recommendations

**Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Charles Lotochinski**

**“That Annette be granted February 23 – 28, 2021 as study leave, and April 5-11, 2021 as vacation days.” Carried.**

**Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Sharyn Erne**

**“That Annette be granted sabbatical leave from Monday, May 17 to Sunday August 15, 2021, inclusive. Carried.**

**Motion: Colleen MacBean/Maxine Olmsted**

**“That Rhonda Lotochinski’s office time be increased by 3 hours per week, to increase overall time available for media and communications duties, effective February 1. This increase will be reviewed with Rhonda at the annual staff interview in October.” Carried.**

**Motion: Maxine Olmsted/Ila Wilms**

**“That staff members currently in the payroll system be given a 2.2% cost of living increase for 2021.” Defeated.**

By defeating this motion, Council ensured that the 2.2% cost of living increase already included in the budget would remain for all staff (not just those in the payroll system.)

Motion to accept written reports

**Motion: Ila Wilms/Marie Andrews**

**“That we accept all reports as written.” Carried.**

## 12. New Business

## a) Annual General Meeting

Due to the pandemic, General Council is allowing congregations to postpone their Annual Meetings and have their governing bodies vote on the 2021 budget. Council discussed the pros and cons of having an Annual Meeting using Zoom and then made the following decisions.

**Motion: Ila Wilms/Charles Lotochinski**

**“That we postpone the annual meeting until such time as we can meet in person.” Carried.**

**Motion: Charles Lotochinski/Ron Toles**

**“That we accept the nominations list as presented by the nominations committee, effective March 1, 2021” Carried.**

13. Opening Devotion and closing prayer for the next Council Meeting: Vice Chair -Sharyn Erne
14. Group norms – Sharyn Erne - Vice Chair
15. Reminder of action items – Sharyn Erne – Vice Chair
16. Meeting adjourned at 8:45
17. Closing prayer – Kevin Hanna – Chair of Council

**Special Council Meeting on Thurs. Feb 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm to approve the Budget.**

**Next Executive Meeting – Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 5:15 p.m., if required.**

**Upcoming Church Council Meeting – Thursday, March 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., if required.**

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Kevin Hanna, Chair

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Pat Dyck Bunkosky, Secretary