

Church Council Meeting Minutes

May 2026

The monthly meeting of the Zion Church Council was held on Monday, May 11, 2026, at 6:30 pm in the conference room with President Jack Newkirk presiding. The following Council members were present: Jack Newkirk, Lois Ahalt, Bruce McIntosh, Bob Rockwell, Sandy Bell, Lori Odell, Sharon Boyer, Addison Shupe (via Zoom), Kaylyn Luther (via Zoom); Staff members Pastor Matt Day, Pastor Diane Day and Deb Reichelt, treasurer. Absent were Sharon Finley and Darin Gordon.

The agenda was distributed to council members electronically prior to the meeting, and copies available in hard copy.

Devotions were presented by Pastor Diane Day

On review of the proposed agenda, a question was raised about the treasurer's report and will be removed from the consent agenda. The adoption of the agenda was moved and seconded. A voice vote was taken and was unanimous.

Voted

2026-5-1 To adopt the agenda as amended

Minutes of the April 2026 Council Meeting was presented. The minutes were accepted by unanimous voice vote.

Voted

2026-5-2 To accept the April 2026 minutes as written

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Pastor Matt and Deb Reichelt have been working with Jim McMannis, an insurance broker to find insurance that may better serve Zion. They have completed an 11 page survey form to the broker. They hope to find a better value for church property/liability and Workers Comp insurance. This remains a work in progress
- Pastor Matt gave an update on the Mutual Ministry Manual that is being updated. It is almost ready for Bruce McIntosh to format. This manual will come to council for final review and approval before it is posted
- Sub Committee concerning Relatives on Council met and a summary provided by Bob Rockwell. A draft continuing resolution is in the process of being developed. It is hoped that a recommendation will be ready by next council meeting for approval.

- An update was provided by Pastor Diane concerning the Youth and Family Ministry Director Position. The candidate has been approved by Good Shepherd. Details need to be worked out with personnel committee and a written agreement signed, A fall start day is still the goal.

NEW BUSINESS

- Food Bank Building Updates. Construction has begun. This has required that the permanent Church sign on that site be removed. Options were solicited to address lack of signage. It was recommended that the council members ponder the best location for a sign. Also, questions have been raised concerning liability insurance for Zion/MVFB and the type of business relationship that exists. Bob Rockwell will review.
- A successful All Committee Chair Meeting was held in April. A comprehensive list of Zion members that volunteered talent on their pledge cards were distributed. The plan is to hold this all-committee Chair meeting 3 X's a year. At this time, it was identified that a Heritage Committee Chair needs to be appointed.
- Deb Reichelt gave background information on the Historical Preservation Fund. In the past money donated for the steeple fund went into a comprehensive Historical Preservation Fund and often got used for other urgent historical repairs. The proposed motion was not accepted by a verbal vote.

Voted

2026-5-3 All funds that have been raised for the Steeple Repair Project will be place in the Historical Preservation Fund but will be tracked separately. This will include money raised from the golf tournament.

A second motion was proposed and was approved unanimously by voice vote

Voted

2026-5-4 All funds that have been raised for the steeple project will be tracked separately from the Historical Preservation Fund.

- Updates were provided concerning several property projects.
 - There is a leak in refrigerant which has been very costly for Zion. Multiple tests have been conducted and the leak has not been found. It is suspected that the leak is underground or in a wall. This work is ongoing.

- The brick bulletin board that is at the front of the property is in bad shape, deteriorating over its 67-year existence. Estimates have been received. A discussion followed concerning repairing the current sign (which probably will cost over \$5,000 or find a more acceptable less costly replacement. The council did not give approval of the plans for replacement of this current sign for this amount without looking at other options.

OPEN FORUM

- Treasurer Deb Reichelt clarified inquiries by Bruce McIntosh on the designated reserve fund
- Take 5 will be shared by
 - 5 pm Jack Newkirk
 - 9 am Lori Odell
 - 11 am Bruce McIntosh
- Synod Assembly Dates June 5-6, 2026

JOYS AND CONCERNS

- New conference room furniture has been ordered and should be in use in 2-3 weeks.
- The possibility of a summer council family picnic was discussed
- There will be no church picnic this year. Instead, there will be an all-congregation Pizza/Bingo night August 28
- Should there be a break in council schedule for either July or August? - TBD

Adjournment of the Council Meeting was at 8:20 pm

Lois Ahalt

Council Secretary