

St. John the Baptist Parish Council Building Project Update Meeting March 25, 2026, 5:30 pm

Attendance:

Father Collins Igwilo, Steve Riss, Jody Tennyson, Mike Lewis, Ed Hoffman, Ed Fischer, Ann Dvorak, Eric Adams, Dennis Dahm.

Call to Order:

Father called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Building Project Update

- The building project began approximately one year ago. The diocese provided a five-step flow chart outlining the process for approval.
 - The initial project team consisted of Scott May, Ed Hoffman, and Ed Fischer, who dedicated significant time and effort to moving the project forward.
 - The diocesan documentation proved confusing at times, leading to some frustration. Father stepped in to help clarify the process and guide the team toward approval.
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Progress on Diocesan Steps

- **Step 3 (Design Approval):**
 - The diocese requested the addition of a wall to separate the gathering area.
 - The architect revised the plans accordingly.
 - The bishop has approved the updated drawings, completing Step 3.
- **Step 4 (Corporate Resolution):**
 - The resolution was submitted but returned due to the need for a cost estimate.
 - As of March 24, 2026, the estimated cost for materials and construction is **\$1,435,012.00** (see handout).
 - It is anticipated that there will be minimal unforeseen issues, as the project is largely a new build once ground is broken.
- **Step 5 (Financial Review and Loan Information):**
 - The parish is currently working through this step.
- The diocese has since released a revised, clearer version of the approval document for future use (see PowerPoint handout).

Financial Overview

- Building Fund: \$250,000
 - Expected Sale Proceeds: \$850,000
 - Budget Reduction: \$100,000
 - Estimated Annual Parish Budget: \$200,000
 - Fundraising Goal: Approximately \$300,000 (1.5× annual budget)
 - Additional considerations:
 - The diocese requires a **15% contingency fund**, which is significant.
 - Up to **\$100,000** may be additionally required for design work.
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Additional Notes

- Father has spoken with potential buyer Parul Tarap.
 - The parish is hopeful to receive diocesan approval in April.
 - It was expressed that this project feels like a “now or never” opportunity.
 - Father is now leading the project moving forward.
 - A leader is needed to coordinate the fundraising campaign.
 - The McNeeley’s have rescinded their previous offer to assist with fundraising, though it is hoped they may reconsider.
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Next Steps

- The project is currently tabled until Steps 4 and 5 are completed.
 - Once completed, the council will need to decide whether to proceed with the project.
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Closing:

Father closed the meeting with prayer.
