

STATUTES FOR THE DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL

DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

Article I: Purpose

The Finance Council of the Diocese of Greensburg is established in accordance with the norms of Canons 492 and 493. Its purpose is to assist and advise the Diocesan Bishop in the administration of the financial affairs of the Diocese.

Article II: Membership

- A. Persons appointed to the Council must have good skills in financial matters and be familiar with appropriate civil law affecting matters of finance (canon 492 §1)
- B. The Finance Council shall consist of no more than ten (10) members of the Christian faithful, clergy, religious and lay. The Vicar General of the Diocese of Greensburg shall be a ex officio member of the Finance Council.
- C. All members of the Finance Council shall be appointed by the Diocesan Bishop. (canon 492 §1)

Article III: Terms

- A. Members of the Council shall serve for five (5) years and may be re-appointed for further five (5) year terms. (canon 492 §2)
- B. In case of death, resignation, or inability to act by any of the members, his other successor shall be named by the Diocesan Bishop.

Article IV: Staff

The Fiscal Officer of the Diocese shall be staff to the Finance Council. He/she shall record the deliberations of the Council, and see to it that they are given to the Vicar General of the Diocese for safe keeping.

Article V: Meetings

- A. The Diocesan Bishop shall convoke and preside over the Council or he may delegate one of the members as presider (canon 492 §1)
- B. A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the members.
- C. The Council shall meet four times a year and when the Diocesan Bishop convokes a special meeting. Meetings shall be held at a time and place determined in advance and for which ample notice shall be given in writing or by telephone.
- D. Agenda for the meetings shall be set ahead of time, prepared by the Fiscal Officer, and approved by the Diocesan Bishop.

Article VI: Competence

- A. In addition to the duties committed to the Council in Book V of the Code of Canon Law, the Finance Council shall prepare each year a budget of the income and expenditures of the diocese according to the direction of the Diocesan Bishop. At the end of the year, the Finance Council shall examine a report of the receipts and expenditures of the diocese. (canon 493).
- B. The Diocesan Bishop shall consult the Finance Council in the following matters as prescribed by canon law:
1. Advise the Diocesan Bishop in the appointment of the Fiscal Officer. Should the Fiscal Officer be relieved of his position before completing his term of office, the Diocesan Bishop shall first seek the advice of the Finance Council (and the advice of the Consultors). (canon 494 §1&2)
 2. Advise the Diocesan Bishop on the imposition of assessments on physical and juridic persons. (canon 1263)
 3. Advise the Diocesan Bishop in order to perform more important acts of administration in light of the economic condition of the diocese. (advice of Consultors needed). (canon 1277)
 4. Advise the Diocesan Bishop what shall constitute extraordinary acts of administration for juridic persons subject to him in the absence of any statute of the institute specifying same. (canon 1281 §2)
 5. Advise the Diocesan Bishop on the safe keeping and investing of Church goods. (canon 1305)
 6. Advise the Diocesan Bishop on any proposed reduction of burdens in executing last wills for pious causes if such burdens cannot be fulfilled.
- C. Ordinarily, consultation with the Council must take place at a Finance Council meeting. However, in cases of necessity as determined by the Diocesan Bishop, he may consult with each member of the Finance Council by telephone and/or mail.
- D. The Diocesan Bishop shall obtain the consent of the Finance Council as required by Canon Law in the following matters:
1. Acts of extraordinary administration (consent of Consultors also required. (canon 1277)
 2. Authorizing alienation of Church goods within minimum and maximum sums determined by the Conference of Bishops in case of juridic persons subject to the diocesan bishop (consent of Consultors also required. (canon 1293 §1).
 3. Alienation of diocesan property when the value of the goods alienated is within the range of the minimum and maximum amount determined by the Conference of Bishops. (consent of Consultors also required. (canon 1292 §1).

Article VII: Amendments

The Diocesan Bishop may amend these statutes in accord with Canon Law and diocesan law.

The statutes are promulgated by the Diocesan Bishop and take effect immediately.

Given at the Chancery in Greensburg, Pennsylvania this 22nd day of October 1997.