



ROCKINGHAM UNION No. 27 A.F. & A.M.

HARRISONBURG, VA

BY-LAWS

APPROVED DECEMBER 6, 2021

Article I

- **Section 1.** Stated Communications of Rockingham Union Lodge shall be held in the Masonic Temple at 114 South Main St., Harrisonburg, Virginia on the 1st Monday evening in each calendar month, except on those Mondays which fall on a national holiday, then the Stated Communication will be automatically re-scheduled to the 1st Wednesday of the month. In extremely rare instances, the 1st Wednesday, may fall before the 1st Monday.
- **Section 2.** The time of the meeting shall be at 7:30 o'clock P.M., unless the Worshipful Master shall specify a different time in the call

Article II

- **Section 1.** The election of officers of the Lodge shall be held annually at the Stated Communication in December and installed at the January Stated Communication, unless the Master Elect shall specify an earlier date.
- **Section 2.** The Trustees of this Lodge shall be (5) in number, who are appointed by the Court, upon application by the Lodge. The duties of the Trustees shall be to hold the legal title to the Lodge property in accordance with law and to execute in the name and on behalf of the Lodge all leases of Lodge property which are for a term exceeding 30 days. The duty of leasing the property may be turned over to a commercial property management agency, which shall be responsible for the leasing, maintenance, and collection of rents, and shall operate under the jurisdiction of the Trustees. They shall make an annual report in writing to the Lodge at the February Stated meeting in regard to the property held by them, and shall give information of the death or removal of any of their number, that application may be made to the Court for the appointment of a successor or successors. Nomination

for a new member shall be read and lay over for 1 Masonic Month and be balloted on at the next Stated Communication.

Article III

- **Section 1.** The Secretary shall pay over to the Treasurer all money received by him, within 1 month after he has received it.
- **Section 2.** The Secretary shall furnish the members of the Lodge in good and regular standing and who have paid all dues assessed or assessable against them, when requested to do, with a certificate under the seal of the Lodge, to the effect that the member is in good standing and has paid his dues.
- **Section 3.** The Treasurer of the Lodge shall be required to execute bond for the faithful discharge of his duties in such penalty as may hereafter be fixed by the Lodge.
- **Section 4.** The Tiler shall not vacate his place while the Lodge is in session.

Article IV

- **Section 1.** The fees for the degrees in the Lodge shall be \$350, payable as follows:
 - \$75 shall accompany the petition
 - \$150 for the Degree of Entered Apprentice
 - \$100 for the Degree of Fellowcraft
 - \$50 for the Degree of Master Mason

No Degree shall be conferred unless fees are paid in full.

- **Section 2.** The dues of each member of this Lodge shall be \$100 per year plus Grand Lodge's annual assessment. The Lodge dues may be adjusted up or down based on the governments annual COLA (Cost of

Living Adjustment). Such adjustment shall be announced at the October Stated Meeting, printed in the Trestleboard, and balloted at next Stated Meeting. Approval by two-thirds of the members present is necessary to adjust dues. Dues are payable in advance in December of each year.

- **Section 3.** The Treasurer, Secretary, and Tiler shall each be allowed such sum for their services as the Lodge may from time to time designate.

Article V

- **Section 1.** After each annual election of officers, the Master shall appoint a committee to examine the accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer and to make a written report and statement thereon.
- **Section 2.** At the Stated Communication in January of each year, the Master shall appoint the following committees, each of which shall be composed of at least 5 members and serve for 1 year:
 - Temple Committee
 - Investigating Committee

The Master at his discretion, may appoint other Committees in order to carry out any business or project that he was deem necessary to complete

- **Section 3.** It shall be the duty of the Temple Committee to control, manage, and care for the Temple, and the furniture and fixtures therein, to rent or lease the same or portions thereof for a period of not exceeding 30 days under any one such agreement, to negotiate for the rent or lease of the Lodge property for a term exceeding 30 days, and report the result of negotiations to the Lodge for action thereon by the Lodge and direction and authorization by the Lodge to the Trustees for execution by the Trustees for such leases: to collect the rents, issues

and profits arising from any and all rents and leases, and turn the amounts collected over to the Secretary of the Lodge as collected; to keep the property insured; (the rental duties outlined above may be turned over to a commercial property management agency if approved by the Trustees, the agency shall be under the jurisdiction of the Trustees); to employ a janitor for the Temple or portions thereof; from time to time to make such repairs as may be necessary and to make alterations and changes when directed or authorized to do so by the Lodge. The said Committee shall report to the Lodge in writing at the Stated Communication in January of each year, the condition of said property and the income derived therefrom.

- **Section 4.** It shall be the duty of the Investigating Committee to discharge its duties as defined in the Virginia Methodical Digest, as amended from time to time.

Article VI

- **Section 1.** No business shall be engaged in or acted upon at a Called Communication except for which the call was made.

Article VII

- **Section 1.** Each Entered Apprentice, upon his initiation, shall be presented with a lambskin or white leather apron at the expense of the Lodge.
- **Section 2.** Each Master Mason, upon being Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, shall be given a Presentation Volume as printed from time to time by the Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Article VIII

- **Section 1.** Whoever may wish to introduce a new By-law or amend an existing one, shall at a Stated Communication, hand a copy in writing of said proposed By-law, or amendment to an existing one, to the Secretary, who shall read the same to the Lodge, after which it shall lie over 1 month, at which time, if approved by two-thirds of the members present, it shall be incorporated in the By-laws of the Lodge.
- **Section 2.** Whoever may wish to introduce a general revision of these By-laws, shall at a Stated Communication, hand up a written notice thereof, which if agreed to by a majority of the members present, shall lie over 1 month and then be determined by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.
- **Section 3.** These By-laws shall go into effect from their passage and approval, and all By-laws hereto fore passed and in effect are hereby repealed.

(NOTE) The authority of the Master, the duties of the Officers and the privileges of the members, being fully set forth by order of the Grand Lodge of Virginia in the Methodical Digest, the Lodge will of necessity be governed in its action thereby.