The council in special session last week updated the new mask policy to include two new things. One is a relatively minor change and allows mask wearing and social distancing for those over 12 and fully vaccinated to be optional in church and at church activities. The second part empowers individual boards in cooperation with the pastor to set masking and distancing policies for their individual events.

Here is the motion approved by the council with 13 members in favor and 2 members who did not vote.

"Beginning Saturday, July 10th, masks are optional for those attending services or church functions who are over the age of 12 and fully vaccinated. Social distancing in the sanctuary for those fully vaccinated and over the age of 12 will be encouraged but not required. Those who are not fully vaccinated or under the age of 12 must social distance and wear a mask during services. Masking and social distancing guidelines for Sunday School and other youth events, as well as singing, choir, and special events hosted by the church such as memorial services, weddings, and celebrations will be left to the discretion of the pastor and the relevant board(s) or church members in charge."