

The Gibson County Council met in Special Session on August 9, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. at the North Annex Meeting Room.

Members Present: President Jeremy Overton, Vice-President Craig Pflug, Councilmen Dan Beard, Jeff Clark, Derek McGraw, Jay Riley, and Michael Stilwell.

Also present: Gibson County Auditor, Mike Watkins and staff members Wendy Williams, Lynda Cumberland, and Kristy York; Assessor Beadle

\$19,535,705 has been advertised in the general fund; after changes were made at the 8/1/2022, this cut the budget down to 19,419,005. In 2026, the net assessed value will grow due to TIF falling off, which will make tax rates go down and fewer people will reach the circuit breaker, generating more revenue for the county. The Council feels they could allow the current requests go through advertising and before adoption, they can make more cuts.

Based on the changes for EMS shift change, \$350,000 will have to be added to the 2023 budget as every EMS employee will need at least 40 hours of overtime budgeted for every pay. Insurance is also looking at an increase of \$250,000.

Sheriff 05 01 31 County Police Pension is going to lower from \$300K to \$225K as Council does not feel lowering this for one year will have much of an impact.

Council feels they will need to flatline every Paramedic and EMT because they received a raise in the 2022 budget, plus they are receiving bonuses from ARPA. The Secretary will get the same raises as 1st and 2nd Deputies. The Medical Director will receive the requested raise.

The Council is thinking about offering another benefit option for new employees, but an ordinance must be passed. There is a struggle with acquiring new employees and Council feels this might help acquire new employees.

Council requested Correction Officers be increased to \$20 per hour; then, raise Commander and Assistant Commanders to the same flat dollar amount. Dispatch will be computed with the \$.50 per hour raise.

1159 – Since the Health Department received overtime and supplemental pay, plus they will be receiving ARPA bonuses, the Council will not make significant changes other than what everyone else will receive. Council will leave Dr. Brink at the current rate.

Chief Court Reporters - Judges are requesting this position receive the same rate as the Bailiff. Council feels due to their raises last year, they will receive the same raise as what is rewarded to most county employees.

The Council nor Commissioners will receive raises for 2023.

The Elected Officials will not receive ARPA bonuses; Council feels they should raise to \$45,000. The Surveyor will receive the same difference as the other elected officials.

The Highway Superintendent will be kept at the current rate, as he will receive the ARPA bonus. The County Engineer will be computed as other employees and \$.50/per hour will be applied.

Community Correction will receive the \$.50 per hour raise like most county employees.

The next meeting will be held on August 31, 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Minutes from the August 9th, 2022, Budget Meeting.

Jeremy Overton, President

Craig Pflug, Vice-President

Dan Beard, Councilman

Derek McGraw, Councilman

Jeff Clark, Councilman

Jay Riley, Councilman

Michael Stilwell, Councilman

Mike Watkins, Gibson County Auditor