

Gibson County Council Regular Session Agenda August 9, 2022

The Gibson County Council met in Regular Session on August 9, 2022, at 9:00 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 were Auditor Mike Watkins, 1st Deputy to Auditor, Kristy York, and 2nd Deputy to Auditor, Wendy Williams

The Council opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OLD BUSINESS

Danco & Empire Change Orders Update from Attorney Spindler – Attorney Spindler explained the change order for the Probation Building Project and even though the change order reflects \$90,000 he feels it will be less and \$20,000 is being disputed. The Public Defender's office will reimburse some of this cost as they receive reimbursement from the state for their portion of the project. Councilman Clark asked if they are looking at any other additions. Attorney Spindler advised Council that none of the data cabling was included in the original drawings. Councilman Overton explained this is again, going in reverse order. The change order was approved and now they are requesting money, he feels the coffers are going to run dry. Councilman Pflug advised to never commit to the funding until the plan is in place. Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the change order in the amount of \$98,885 for the Probation Building Project (\$90,000) and the generator additional cost (\$8,885) for Courthouse Security, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 7-0. Councilman Overton requested this information be passed to Commissioners.

Approval of Minutes - July 12, 2022, regular session minutes and July 20, 2022, budget session for department requests were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report – was acknowledged by the Council.

Clerk's Report – was acknowledged by the Council.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

EMS - Director Pond gave his monthly report; there were no questions.

Sheriff's Department - Deputy Vanoven gave the Council their monthly reports; there were no questions. The jail has 106 people incarcerated today. The sex offender registry has been successful as they follow-up on those that do not register. They have successfully prosecuted all that did not register.

Health Department – Director Hornby gave Council the monthly reports. They are having large numbers of positive COVID tests; in July they had over 600 reported and know that is not all of them, as not all are being reported. They are finding people are not isolating anymore. This variant is not making people as sick. They are still vaccinating for COVID. The health department is getting some building plans together to submit to ARPA committee.

Highway Department – Engineer Holden told Council paving is complete and CCMG money has been received and will be disbursed soon. There are a lot of supply issues for bridge projects. They have bridge #73 and #74 and 2 bridge inspection projects receiving federal aid. They are receiving millings to

put down on our roads. He is requesting reimbursement from INDOT for the shoulder work on CR 250 S (Francisco detour).

Councilman Overton has been talking to Treasurer O'Neal about investing some of the County's money. The Treasurer is considering using Trust Indiana; the rate was 1.5% last weekend this investment is very fluid. She will also talk to the bank and see what kind of rate they can offer.

Redevelopment Project for an EMS Building – Last night, the Redevelopment Commission met and discussed approving a Two-Million project for EMS building. Attorney McDonald would like to receive authorization from the Council to issue a forgivable note between the RDC and the County for this project. He has an ordinance to introduce this forgivable note. Councilman Riley asked Director Pond how the building cost rose from \$900,000 to \$2,000,000. Director Pond told them he added an office area to the building sized at 30x40; he also does not anticipate spending the full \$2,000,000. There will be 4 bays and sleeping quarters in this building, as has always been planned. Director Pond explained that the building went from a metal building to a brick building and stick built for durability, which also increased the cost. Councilman Overton questioned if the Council had ever seen the drawings and if all information technology had been included. Councilman Beard asked if they have an agreement for the land and if this is included in the \$2,000,000 price. Director Pond explained the EMS has never had a training area and this building will allow an area for this. Princeton will eventually need a second unit and this building incorporates that as well. Councilman Pflug feels the RDC has taken on a lot of extra projects, and he is concerned about this; he also wants to ensure everything is covered in this project. Commissioner Key told Council the hospital is willing to talk about negotiating the rental fees of the building and talking about possibly renovating the building. Councilman Overton feels the conversation should be had, as there are a lot of \$25,000's in \$2,000,000. He asked Attorney McDonald if they could wait to approve this; and he explained that the RDC voted on this project because it was passed to them from the Commissioners. Councilman Pflug feels we should support our local hospital. Councilman Riley motioned to table until they understand all the finances, seconded by Councilman Pflug. The vote was 7-0. Attorney McDonald asked to be placed on the agenda for the September Council meeting.

Jail Project –George Ballard, Owners Representative told Council that Bid Package #2, which finishes the building will be taken to Commissioners on 8/16/2022 and they tell Mr. Ballard it is looking very good; however, he is unsure what this means. MCF is trying to move the steel building. They need to pay this invoice ½ from EDIT and ½ from Cumulative Building; a transfer will be done in the amount of \$4,500 from profession services in Cumulative Building into the line for the jail building move. MCF is putting in steel beams, they will lift the building and put it onto the concrete pad after it cures for a couple of weeks. They have worked with Duke and Centerpoint on incentive programs. The next big step will be selling bonds and finishing bid package #2.

Additional Appropriation Resolution – Additional appropriations have been advertised for the following funds: 1136 Cumulative Building Fund \$98,885 in Capital Outlays and Fund 1233 LIT Correctional/Rehab Facilities \$1,350,000 in Other Services & Charges.

Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 7-0.

S&P Global Rating Invoice – Auditor Watkins told Council that an invoice had been received on the jail bonds in the amount of \$23,750 and he wondered how that was to be paid. Councilman Overton feels this is a Jail LIT expense but decided they will pay out of EDIT with a portion of the \$500,000 remainder left over from the purchase of property. A new line will be created to pay this invoice to S&P Global.

NEW BUSINESS

Personal Property Tax Abatements presented by Assessor Beadle – Assessor Beadle explained to Council, there are 4 of these abatements and they are close to the end (within a couple of years). They are all in compliance and she has no issues.

Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the abatements, seconded by Councilman Clark . The vote was 7-0.

Treasurer's Office Staff Changes – Treasurer O'Neal explained big staff changes going on. Her 1st deputy will retire in May 2023, and a replacement has been hired at 2nd Deputy rate. Her bookkeeper is leaving and would like this position paid at 1st Deputy rate, as she is currently paid as a 2nd Deputy. The remainder of 2022, she will have two 1st Deputies and she feels she needs permission from the Council before going to the union for this change. Some years ago, the bookkeeper was paid as a 1st Deputy. Treasurer O'Neal has not talked to Union Representative Rick Voyles. Commissioner Key made this change in the Treasurer's office because the bookkeeper wanted the 2nd Deputy position. The Council needs to approve pay for two 1st Deputies until the current 1st Deputy retires in May 2023. Councilman Riley feels Treasurer O'Neal should receive the blessing from the union as she is currently creating 2 non-union positions and he does not want to mess things up with the Union. The Health Department is confused as they do not have these Deputies. Wendy explained that the Health Department does not consider Deputies. Councilman Riley wishes to wait until the call is made to the Union before Council moves forward. Wendy explained that they are not reducing union positions, they are adding a county employee and they will not be reducing the number of union jobs currently on the payroll. Councilman Riley motioned to table this until they receive union approval, seconded by Councilman McGraw. The vote was 7-0. After speaking with Rick Voyles, Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the addition of a 2nd non-union employee with a 1st Deputy rate temporarily while in training and until a current 1st Deputy retires in May. Councilman Riley seconded the motion; the vote was 7-0. No union positions will be eliminated in the Treasurer's Department.

Treasurer O'Neal also told Council that Trust Indiana is a local government investment pool; it is more like a savings account than a certificate of deposit. Today the rate is 1.76%, and they already have an account for Gibson County. This investment is fluid, you can invest one day and remove the next day. We usually have a cushion of \$25 million. She would like to invest \$1,000,000, which would generate enough interest to cover payroll. Councilman Overton asked what would keep her from investing more. The Treasurer is leery and would like to air on the side of caution and she also is hesitant to take the money from the bank, as she feels they have a very good relationship with them. Councilman Overton feels CD's are paying approximately 3% and thinks it might be good to invest in those. Treasurer O'Neal is hoping for another rate increase

Internal Notification System – Stephanie McKinney and Commissioner Key explained this system to Council. They had hoped they would have more information on this. It will give notifications to county employees about fires, tornadoes, weather related issues, job openings, etc. It would not be for personal use, job related items only. You can get 500,000 text messages at a cost of \$3,300. Councilman Riley feels this system is already in place and this \$3,300 does not need to be spent. Councilman McGraw asked Deputy Vanoven if what we have would work, and if so, put the \$3300 in Commissioner 2023 budget and pay the Sheriff's Department for use of the system. Deputy Vanoven felt the Sheriff's Department could create a group to send these types of messages.

Additional Appropriation Requests – The Highway Department requests \$80,000 additional appropriation from 1135 Cumulative Bridge Fund to cover 2022 expenses for Federal Aid 80/20 Bridge #74. The fund will have \$1,982,675 if the full budget is expended in 2022.

Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the advertisement for the additional appropriation, seconded by Councilman Riley . The vote was 7-0.

1000 General Fund, Department 03 Treasurer requests \$20,660 plus another \$6,000 in Dept 30 Commissioners (total of \$26,660 in General Fund) in Personal Services to pay out an employee leaving. Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the advertisement of this additional appropriations, seconded by Councilman Riley. The vote was 7-0.

1000 General Fund, Department 47 EMS is requesting \$42,000 in supplies for Diesel/Fuel/Gas 47 02 21. Director Pond says this is an estimate only. Councilman Pflug used his monthly report to do an average of monthly fuel use. It appears they might need another \$20,000 but would prefer EMS wait until September or October to make the request as fuel prices are falling. The Council wonders if he can transfer from another line.

Salary Schedule Amendment #4 -- Wendy told Council the changes are in blue. The amendment created a line for the Clerk Registrar Supplement in the Health Department fund 1159. It also added the Health Department's School Grant into the salary schedule. Councilman Riley motioned to approve the salary amendment #4, seconded by Councilman Stillwell. The vote was 7-0.

Clerk Jim Morrow - sent an email to Auditor Watkins requesting permission to replace the 2nd Deputy that moved into the Treasurer's Office. The Council has no problem with this replacement.

Personal Service Transfer Requests:

Fund 1000, EMS Department 47 requests a transfer from 47 04 17 Equip/Gear/Flashlights into 47 03 60 Station Repairs in the amount of \$1,000.

Fund 1000, EMS Department 47 requests a transfer from 47 04 22 Durable Equipment into 47 03 51 Heart Monitor Maintenance in the amount of \$1,500.

Fund 1000, EMS Department 47 requests a transfer from 47 01 22 EMR 1st Responder/P/T into 47 01 17 Overtime Paramedics in the amount of \$15,000.

Fund 1000, EMS Department 47 requests a transfer from 47 01 22 EMR 1st Responder/P/T into 47 01 18 Overtime AEMT's in the amount of \$3,000.

Sheriff Bottoms requests a transfer in the Jail 32 01 15 Correction Officers into 32 01 19 Overtime in the amount of \$20,000.

Councilman Overton told Director Pond that overtime is going in the opposite direction of where they intended it to go, and he requested Director Pond try to employ more part time people, as promised.

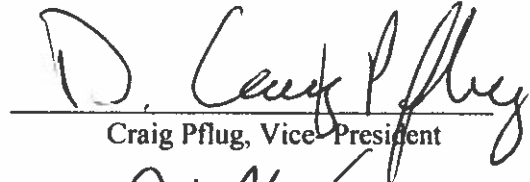
Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the transfers, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 7-0.

Councilman McGraw motioned to adjourn.

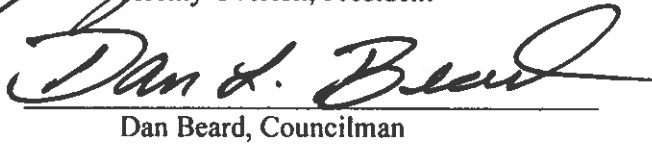
Minutes from the August 9, 2022, meeting



Jeremy Overton, President



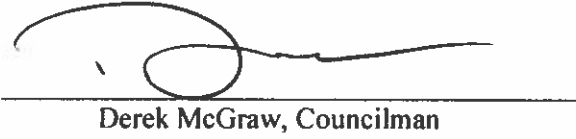
Craig Pflug, Vice President



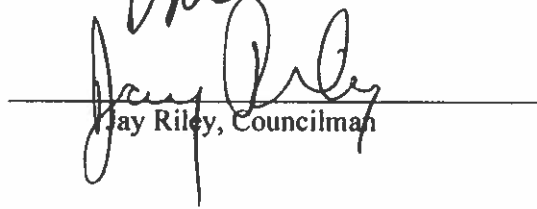
Dan Beard, Councilman



Jeff Clark, Councilman

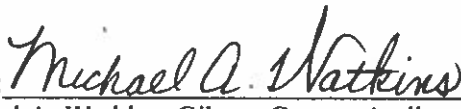


Derek McGraw, Councilman



Jay Riley, Councilman

Michael Stilwell, Councilman

Attest: 

Michael A. Watkins, Gibson County Auditor