Gibson County Council Regular Session Minutes February 13, 2024

The Gibson County Council met in Regular Session on February 13, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the North Annex Meeting Room.

<u>Council Members Present:</u> Jeff Clark, Derek McGraw, Jeremy Overton, Jay Riley, Robert Schleter, Michael Stilwell (absent), and Hannah Whitehead

Others present were Auditor Mike Watkins, and 2nd Deputy to Auditor, Wendy Williams

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

<u>Judge Meade</u> was present to discuss using Jury Fee Fund 2501 and Circuit Court Social Service User Fee Fund 2506 to supplement the payroll on an employee. No benefits will be paid from these funds; county general will pay benefits. The worst-case scenario will require \$16,100 from Fund 2506 and 2501. Both funds require council approval only of the additional appropriations. Fund 2501 has a cash balance of \$241,566; fund 2506 has cash of \$5,208. Fund 2506 will be expended first and then the supplement will expend from fund 2501.

Judge Meade's Chief Court Reporter is moving to Probation after a large trial. The move allows the employee a sizable raise, which is set by the state. Judge Meade feels it is only fair to supplement the employee's salary in the current position to the salary they would be receiving if they were in the new probation position. This position will stay in Circuit Court through the large trial and until the two new court reporters are trained. Council Member Riley motioned to allow expenditures in funds 2506/2501 to supplement Circuit Court Chief Court Reporter up to \$16,100, seconded by Council Member Schleter. The vote was 6-0.

Approval of Minutes - January 09, 2024, minutes were approved as written.

Acknowledgement of Clerk/Treasurer Reports - The council acknowledged these reports.

OLD BUSINESS

Jail Project —George Ballard, Owners Representative gave Council a brief on the project and told them the project has a lot going on. All office building windows are installed; heat will soon be added so they can drywall the office. The cell area and dormitory walls are all poured. The floor pouring will begin next week; fifty percent of the jail pod roof is installed. The overhead sally port door is installed and operational. Around March 5th cell installation will begin. George feels the weather might have put them behind schedule by two weeks. George thinks approximately 14 federal reports have been filed, but they have not heard feedback on any of the 14 reports, which he feels is good news. Council Member McGraw asked if they were still on track to tear the old jail down; George feels they are on track with this item.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Sheriff's Department – Sheriff Vanoven told Council he also makes monthly, federal reports on the jail lawsuit, which is the same report he files with the Council. The jail's incarcerated January daily average was 86. Sheriff Vanoven gave the department's employment statistics. They have seven openings out of Council Meeting Minutes

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twenty-one. They are in the process of bringing in three full-time and one part-time employees by the end of February.

<u>Health Department</u> – Administrator Shade told Council that January was suicide awareness month; out of 92 counties, Gibson County ranks #72. The way the ranking works, it puts us as one of highest Indiana counties. The state is working with the county to try and help bring this number down. A new nurse has been hired, but one of the nurses has decided to take on the Educator/Counselor position, which leaves the department in need of a nurse again. She requests permission to make this hire. The Council is okay to hire another nurse.

NEW BUSINESS

Payroll Entry of \$16,359.51 to Clear Payroll Clearing Bank Account — Janesse Cloin, 1st Deputy to Treasurer O'Neal and Wendy Williams were present to discuss this transfer. Auditor Watkins explained that there is a bank account that contains an amount that has stayed consistent; it could be old payroll checks that did not clear or bank errors that date back twenty or more years. It is unknown how long this balance has been carried, but it has been consistent since the new financial system was installed on 8/2022. This transfer will be made, but no receipts will be generated; it is simply a move to bring the account to zero. Council Member McGraw motioned to allow this clearing entry, seconded by Council Member Schleter. The vote was 6-0.

<u>Salary Amendment #2</u> –Wendy Williams presented this amendment and told the Council this changes the new Probation Officer wage due to years of service.

Council Member McGraw made the motion to accept amendment #2 of the salary schedule, seconded by Council Member Whitehead. The vote was 6-0.

Additional Appropriation Requests

Fund 4901-37103 Auditor Property Endorsement

30000 Other Services/Charges \$4,000

Council Approval Only Required

Cash Balance: \$30,247;

Budget: \$5,000

Council Member McGraw motioned to approve the additional appropriation, seconded by Council

Member Riley. The vote was 6-0.

Fund 2501 Jury Fee

10000 Personal Services

\$10,892

Cash balance: \$241,566;

41,566; Budget: \$10,000

Fund 2506 Circuit Social Service User Fee

10000 Personal Services

\$ 5,208

Cash balance: \$5,208;

Budget: \$0

Council Approval Only Required on 2501 and 2506; This item was approved when Judge Meade spoke at the beginning of the meeting, this is additional information only.

OMTFPD General Fund request additional

40000 Capital Outlays

\$220,000

Auditor Watkins feels this additional request has been removed. At the end of the meeting, A member of the OMTFPD spoke up and Council came back to this item. They are requesting this additional appropriation for SCBA Equipment as their current equipment is expiring. They are replacing 21 of these units. They currently have \$495,363 cash. Council Member Riley motioned to advertise the OMTFPD additional appropriation, seconded by Council Member Schleter. The vote was 6-0.

Additional Appropriations Resolutions – The following additional appropriations have been advertised:

Fund 1000-9600 General/Pre-trial Services requests	10000 Personal Services	\$ 2,432
Fund 1000-0201 General/Superior Court	10000 Personal Services	\$ 14,676
Fund 1000-0235 General/Probation	10000 Personal Services	\$ 13,113
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De-appropriate

30000 Other Services/Charges \$(-20,000) Fund 1000-0271 General/Public Defender NET Additional Appropriation \$ 10,221

Oakland City Library request from LIRF 40000 Capital Outlays \$105,000 The vote was 6-0 to approve both additional appropriation resolutions.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member McGraw, but quickly rescinded when Owensville Montgomery Township Fire Protection District asked if their additional appropriation was approved. The Council moved back to that section to revisit this item.

Council Member McGraw motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Minutes from the February 13, 2024, meeting

Derek McGraw, Vice- President Jeremy Overton, President

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Robert Schleter, Council Member Michael Stilwell, Council Member

Hannah Whitehead, Council Member

Michael A. Watkins, Gibson County Auditor

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