
Gibson County Council
Departmental Budget Meeting
July 20, 2022

The Gibson County Council met in Special Session on July 20, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the North Annex Meeting Room.

Members Present: President Jeremy Overton, Vice-President Craig Pflug (absent), 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. Commissioners Montgomery and Fleetwood were in attendance for most of the meeting.

Circuit Court – Department 36 began the day. Judge Meade was on vacation, so the Chief Court Reporter Schmits and Magistrate Ricker were present. They are requesting a new staff member for 2023. They are now receiving IV-D reimbursement to help offset this cost; this is a new revenue source for this court. The Magistrate explained in 5 years, he will probably ask for a Bailiff.

Superior Court was also represented by Magistrate Ricker and Chief Court Reporter Schmits, they explained that Judge Krieg wanted the Council to know of an error in his budget request. He did not make a request to increase the Chief Court Reporter’s salary. He requests this position be raised in both Circuit and Superior Courts.

Department 43 – Public Defender Moody did not have much change in her budget. She is anticipating the rent line to vanish at the completion of the probation building project.

Department 30 and EDIT Fund 1112 – Commissioners are requesting an increase in liability insurance and the IT contract. Parrish Consulting attributed their increase in services to a large increase in additional laptops or tablets throughout the organization. Barnes and Thornburg have sent another invoice for the Southern Hills Subdivision lawsuit representation and Council asked if the case had been moved to the insurance company, rather than Barnes and Thornburg. It is thought that Barnes and Thornburg have been made aware of the insurance company assuming this lawsuit.

Councilman Overton asked if there was an itemized list to accompany the equipment request in the EDIT budget. Commissioner Montgomery thinks this is to replace a grader at the highway department.

The Landfill is only filling in dirt that is lost during rain events; the monitoring fees have decreased.

Department 47 EMS – Director Pond told the Council an online scheduling program they are utilizing is going to cost \$10,000. Overtime has risen because they are being paid for every hour they now work. They currently have 4 employees on medical leave. They are now attending

seminars, and in 2023, the seminar will be held in Pennsylvania instead of St. Louis thus the reason for the increase in dues. The medication cost has taken a jump, thus the line increase. Councilman McGraw asked how overtime is calculated for budgetary purposes and how much extra was added.

Department 29/31 – Andy Schafer is requesting a full-time addition to his staff for the new Probation Building.

Department 05, 32, and Fund 1222 was presented by Sheriff Bottoms, shadowed by Deputy Vanoven. They are still short one Deputy and taking applications. They are short 8-9 employees in the jail and 2 dispatchers. He increased meals and medical.

Community Corrections Grant and Project Income was presented by Rachel Johnson.

Hopkins Park – represented by Treasurer Rachel Johnson told Council they raised their line in EDIT 112-03-03-65 because they have more expenses, and they are currently working on trails.

Department 08 and 50 – Prosecutor Cochren presented his budgets. He is requesting raises of 5% and does not feel that is enough but expressed his appreciation for any amount. He told Council his request for the Deputy Prosecutor's raise is due to a position being vacant and he has had no applicants. He feels the current rate is not attractive. The Council agreed that IV-D Attorney and Deputy Prosecutor should receive a minimum of the same amount as the Contract Attorney in the Public Defender's budget.

Fund 1169/1176 Highway Department – Superintendent Johnson and Engineer Holden were present with new First Deputy Debbie Marvel. Engineer Holden told Council they are making some changes to their budgets to accommodate SBoA's guidelines for tracking expenditures in the restricted fund 1173. If they pay for paving from 1173, the paving invoices will detail materials and roads paved. They will use EDIT to purchase equipment and they are requesting mowers and 2 single axle trucks. Next year, Superintendent Johnson foresees 2 persons retiring, but he does not feel they will have a lot of time to pay out when they leave, as they are using their paid time off.

The meeting recessed for lunch.

Department 03 – Treasurer O'Neal told the Council she might have a retiree next year; she would like to train someone in this position for at least 6 months. She is requesting \$1 per hour pay increases. They will be getting new computers in 2023 as well.

Department 06 – Surveyor Martin is requesting \$1 per hour increases which is under the national cost of living adjustment.

Department 46/Fund 1152 – Director Hedges requested \$1 per hour pay increases. Director Hedges told the Council about some of the grants he has/is applying.

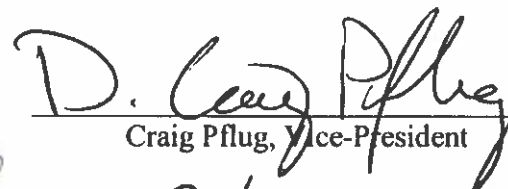
Department 01/Fund 1119 – Clerk Morrow informed the Council of a scanner the department owns and welcomes other departments to use this scanner.

This session on budgeting concluded around 2:00 p.m. The next session will be held on August 1, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.

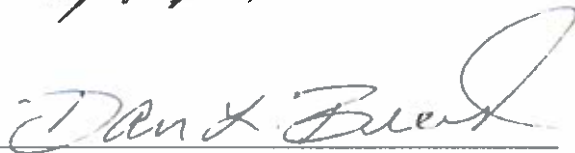
Minutes from the July 20th, 2022 Departmental Budget Meeting.



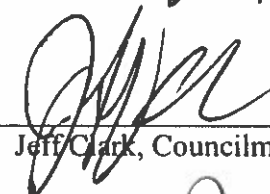
Jeremy Overton, President




Craig Pflug, Vice-President



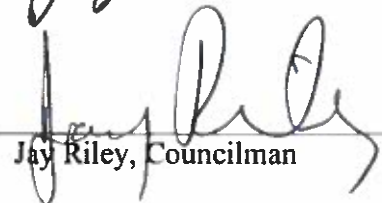
Dan Beard, Councilman



Jeff Clark, Councilman



Derek McGraw, Councilman



Jay Riley, Councilman



Michael Stilwell, Councilman

Attest: 

Mike Watkins, Gibson County Auditor

