

Gibson County Council Regular Session Agenda September 13, 2022

The Gibson County Council met in Regular Session on September 13, 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 absent.

Also present were Auditor Mike Watkins, and staff members, Kristy York, and Wendy Williams

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

Approval of Minutes - August 9, 2022, minutes were approved as written. Council also approved Budget Session Minutes from August 1, 2022, August 9, 2022, and August 31, 2022.

Clerk's Report – June 2022 report was acknowledged by the Council.

OLD BUSINESS

EMS Building Project presented by Attorney McDonald – Attorney McDonald is back in front of the Council this month to try and move the EMS Building on for the Redevelopment Commission. The EMS requested \$2,000,000 to build a new building, but at the last meeting, Council heard from Commissioner Key that Gibson General Deaconess Hospital was willing to discuss options for housing the EMS on their property and Council chose to have conversation about this idea prior to moving the project on. Councilman Overton feels there should be no reason to rush; Deaconess has a fair offer on the table regarding the EMS. He has asked Mary Key and Director Pond to talk with Deaconess before this money is spent. He feels if there is a partner in the community and they should consider taking advantage of it. Councilman McGraw feels they should not kick the can down the road and feels something should be done; if Deaconess is serious, a true commitment is needed. Councilman McGraw has no problem tabling the item, he motioned to table. Councilman Clark feels 30-60 days could reveal answers. An audience member told Council that Deaconess is new to the community and council should not let shadows of the past cast down upon them. Councilman Pflug feels the same as Councilman Clark, and he feels this should be explored quickly. Councilman McGraw feels Deaconess is committed to the community. Councilman Clark feels we need at least 60 days or until the November 9, 2022, meeting. Commissioner Key says Deaconess is within 60 days of upgrading the EMS facility. Councilman McGraw again motioned to table this item until November 9th, seconded by Councilman Riley. The vote was 6-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Jail Project –George Ballard, Owners Representative told Council that Garmong has finished with bids. Bonds will close on 9/15/2022 and Old National Bank will be the Trustee of those bonds. There are upcoming meetings with City of Princeton for building permits. The steel building has been moved and the small building will be demolished. Councilman Overton says he will meet with Baker Tilly on investing the bond proceeds in the interim until needed. He will also meet with Treasurer O'Neal regarding investments Thursday as well.

Additional Appropriation Resolution – The following additional appropriations have been advertised and await Council approval via resolution.

General Fund 1000 requests \$26,660 in personal services.

Cumulative Bridge Fund 1135 requests \$80,000 in other services and charges. Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the additional appropriation resolution, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 6-0.

Employee Resignation Discussion and Additional Appropriation Advertisement - Councilman Pflug explained to Council that Gibson County Solid Waste District (GCSWD) hired a county employee. GCSWD Board did not understand there were two separate taxing entities as GCSWD is not a part of the County and this employee's paid time off cannot move from the County to GCSWD. Since the long-time county employee has paid time off days remaining on the County's books, Councilman Pflug feels the County should pay out the days on the County's books and let Solid Waste negotiate their own job offer with this new employee. Councilman Pflug motioned to advertise an additional appropriation to fund \$9,524 to pay out this employee's paid time off from the County. The motion was seconded by Councilman Riley. The vote was 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Hearing on Resolution 2022-6 Establishing a Fund for Proceeds to be Received from the Sale of Real Estate (Jail) - The County must use bonds to fund the jail project and Gibson County Facilities Building Corporation (GCFBC) must finance the bonds as the County cannot. Thus, the GCFBC must also purchase the jail property (2 lots) to make this happen. The fair market value is being paid to the County by GCFBC in the amount of \$250,000 from bond proceeds. A new fund will be established to receipt the proceeds. The proceeds will be used to pay costs of the project and will need to be appropriated. The new fund number is 4201. Attorney Spindler requested to open the public hearing to hear from anyone on this resolution. There were no questions and Attorney Spindler requested that the Council pass the resolution.

Councilman McGraw motioned to approve Resolution 2022-06, seconded by Councilman Riley. The vote was 6-0.

Highway Machine Company Tax Abatements by Attorney Jerry Stilwell - Attorney Stilwell told Council his longtime client, Highway Machine Company (HMC) was present to request an abatement. HMC was incorporated in 1938, but originally opened in 1924; HMC is a rare US company capable of making gears. HMC has no plans to sell. Company Owner Henry Smith, son of Bob Smith and Steve Auberry, CFO of HMC are both present to help answer any questions. Attorney Stilwell told Council he had submitted a CF-1 for council review. The CF-1 is for a new machine they are adding at a cost of \$4,939,895. It is a turning, boring, milling center, or a "high-powered piece of equipment", that will take tolerances to a fraction of 1/2 of 1,000th. HMC is an authorized contractor for the military and this machine will assist them with accommodating military contracts. They are working on various items for the military which require minute tolerances. HMC still does work for the mining industry, as this was the original onset of their business. They ship to Australia, South Africa, Columbia, and Guatemala. They are still in business because they are a good business. Attorney Stilwell requests that Council not postpone their decision. He explained that law indicates the abatement must be agreed upon before purchasing the equipment. They want to buy the machine very soon; it is coming from Austria and will not be operational until March 2023. The 2007 abatement shows they had 35 employees, now they have 70 employees and are running 3 shifts. For this tax abatement, their plan is to maintain the current 70 employees and hopefully grow to a few more. The 2017 tax abatement will fall off next year. If granted this request for abatement, the first pay will be in 2025. The statement of benefits shows their payrolls are more than \$4 million per year and they will pay property taxes of more than \$195,000; \$140,000 is personal property tax. Attorney Stilwell explained the County could abate this property for 20 years, but they are only requesting a 10-year abatement. Attorney Stilwell asked for public questions or concerns. Attorney Stilwell feels the Council should also consider the fact that HMC maintains the business; he does not feel it is always about expansion. Councilman Pflug asked if an old machine will disappear to replace this new investment. Henry says yes, it will replace some other machines and help them stay

competitive. They are not selling machines, as the machines they are talking about taking out of their inventory are fully depreciated. Assessor Beadle says personal property is never completely depreciated; they are probably paying at least 30% tax. Councilman Pflug says they usually take these abatements under advisement to decide if this is a 7-year or 10-year abatement and he would like to see it taken under advisement until the October meeting . CFO Auberry feels this is an acceptable timeline. Assessor Beadle will send Council the last 2 abatements. The Council will reach out to Attorney Stilwell if they have questions.

Revision of Ordinance 2020-04 (Rev. of Ordinance 2020-01, Rev. to Ordinance 201501) – Juli Shade from the Health Department requested Council approve a new fee structure for vaccine administration. This new rate will align county fees with the state allowed fees and take the fee from \$25 down to \$20. The ordinance is with Attorney Spindler’s office to make the change. Attorney Spindler advised the Council they can approve the rates going into the new ordinance and he will circulate the new ordinance for signatures, when complete. Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the new lower fee of \$20, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 6-0.

TBIN CF-1 Compliance Report for Approval – Auditor Watkins presented this CF-1 to Council President for signature, no motions were required.

Personal Series Transfers –

1000 General Fund, EMS requests	moving from	11409 Full Time Paramedics	\$40,000
	into	12304 Overtime Paramedics	\$40,000
		Increase in OT Budget	

Councilman McGraw motioned to approve transfer, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 6-0.

Out of Series Transfers -

1000 General Fund, Sheriff requests	moving from	41901 Emergency Lights	\$4,500
	and	41800 In Car Video	\$1,890
	into	30501 Vehicle Repair	\$6,390
		To Finish Year	

1000 General Fund, Sheriff requests	moving from	31302 Returning Felons	\$4,000
	and	31901 Law Enfrcmnt Traing	\$2,000
	into	32401 Gas, Oil, Tires	6,000
		To finish year	

1000 General Fund, Sheriff requests	moving from	31106 Per Diem	\$1,000
	and	31700 Employee Drug Test	\$200
	into	32401 Gas, Tire, Oil	\$1,200
		To finish Year	

1000 General Fund GIS requests	moving from	31407 GIS Website Hosting	\$1,538
	and	35000 GIS Contractual Srvc	\$2,000
	and	35303 GIS Software Maint	\$3,080
	and	35200 GIS Equipment Repairs	\$1,000
	into	22500 Computer Equipment	\$7,618
		Purchase new PC	

2100 Supplemental Adult Probation	moving from	30505 Maintenance/Repair	\$20,0000
	and	30506 Bonding/Insurance	\$9,600
	and	31406 Vehicle Maint/Repairs	\$3,200
	and	31500 Travel	\$2,526
	and	31700 Drug Testing	\$2,474
	and	32102 Cell Phone	\$2,500

and	39400 Security	\$5,000
into	44207 Furniture/Fixtures	\$45,300
	Purchase new furniture for new offices	

Councilman McGraw motioned to approve transfers, seconded by Councilman Riley . The vote was 6-0.

Additional Appropriation Requests –

1000 General Fund	EMS requests additional Appropriation	
	32100 Ambulance Repairs (Major)	\$15,000
	and 22100 Diesel Fuel/Gas	\$35,000
	Treasurer requests additional Appropriation	
	11500 2 nd Deputy	\$7,816
Commissioner	10401 FICA/Medicare	\$ 598
	and 12500 PERF	\$1,110
	Payout County Employee that took a position w/GCSWD	

This will bring the total General Fund request to \$59,524

Councilman Riley motioned to advertise the additional, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 6-0.

Salary Schedule Amendment#5 – The Council will increase the Jail Commander, Assistant Jail Commander, Shift Supervisor Lieutenant, and Correction Officers by \$1.99 per hour, effective 9/12/2022. Since the 8/9/22 meeting, they received a letter from their attorney asking what they had been done to stimulate employment. They are hoping this will encourage employment in this department. Councilman Riley motioned to approve the salary amendment, seconded by Councilman McGraw. The vote was 6-0. These people will not get an additional raise in 2023.

Wendy Williams asked if new employees should start \$1,000 less.

Council decided to waive the \$1,000 less per year on all new jail correction officers, until staffing needs are met. Councilman Riley motioned to approve waiving the \$1,000 less per year, seconded by Councilman McGraw. The vote was 6-0.

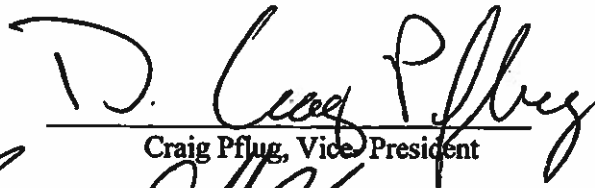
Transfer Request for Community Corrections - Community Corrections is requesting that Fund 1123 be allowed to transfer \$50,000 into project income fund 4913 for new cameras for Community corrections. They have an old, outdated, analog system. BCS will update these cameras in the amount of \$75,000. Councilman McGraw is a member of this board and told fellow Councilmen this motion was unanimously approved. This system is remotely accessible. Fund 1123 has the money. These cameras are in areas that are not accessible for vandalism and if they do vandalize, they can see who did the vandalism. Councilman Overton wanted to ensure this system will integrate with the new system in the jail. They explained that it should not be a problem.

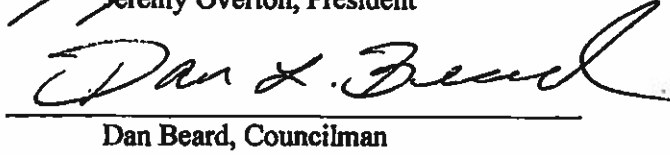
Councilman McGraw motioned to approve this fund-to-fund transfer, seconded by Councilman Riley. The vote was 6-0.

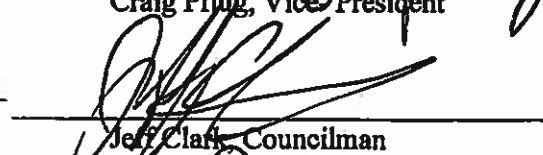
Councilman McGraw motioned to adjourn.

Minutes from the September 13, 2022, meeting

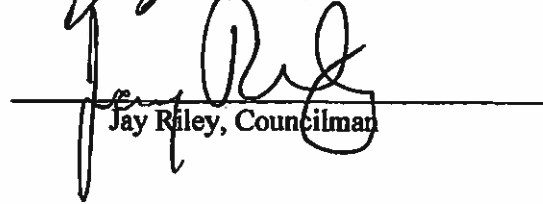

Jeremy Overton, President


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