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**Gibson County Council**  
**Regular Session**  
**February 9, 2021**

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The Gibson County Council met in Regular Session on February 9, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at the North Annex Meeting Room.

**Members Present:** President Jeremy Overton, Vice-President Craig Pflug, Councilmen William McConnell (absent), Derek McGraw, Jay Riley, Dan Beard, Michael Stilwell (absent) and Gibson County Auditor Mike Watkins, Auditor 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Kristy York, Payroll/HR Specialist Wendy Williams, Commissioner Administrative Assistant, Kay Vore.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited and led by President Overton.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the January 12, 2021 meeting were approved as written.

**Presentation of Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer's Report Month Ending January 31, 2021 was acknowledged by the Council.

**Special Consideration**

Judge Robert Krieg – Hiring of Court Reporter to replace a retiring Court Reporter- Judge Krieg has a Court Reporter retiring at the end of May, however she will use paid time off days through October. He requests permission to hire a new employee on or about March 1, 2021. To meet payroll, an additional appropriation will be required in the amount of \$50,370. The Council approved this additional appropriation advertisement; this motion is recorded in the additional appropriation section.

Next Judge Meade discussed the Probation Building renovation or green field option. Judge Meade asked Dave Stallings of Landmark to update the Council. He told the Council he is working on plans now, that will add a storage facility to the Probation/Public Defender's Building. He feels combining this storage facility in with this building will save the County a bit of money, rather than building 2 separate facilities. The remodel seemed to fall into the \$662,000 range; a new building (without storage facility) came in around \$854,000. EMA, Director Hedges had an estimate of \$450,000 to build a storage facility. Councilman Pflug feels the County needs to keep moving forward, but without hard figures, there is nothing for the Council to approve. Judge Meade asked Landmark to put prices together in two weeks and forward to both Council and Commissioners, so they are ready to move forward in the March meeting. The building will be increased for storage space Talk ensued regarding the current rent paid on the EMS facility at Gibson General Hospital; they pay approximately \$700 per month for this facility plus utilities. The EMS would like to find a new base, to forego this

monthly rent. They will look at combining this unit into this building as well and a copy of the building will be sent to Director Pond.

### **Department Reports**

EMS gave the January report of Business to the Council. They have the Collection Agency agreement signed by Commissioners. Director Pond discussed major issues they are having with an ambulance serving Princeton. He just received a new ambulance for the Owensville Base; they have put \$8,000 into this old unit and they are unsure how much more life it has, as it was purchased used. Commissioners have approved pursuing a new ambulance. Council feels there should be money in the EDIT Plan for broadband that was scrapped after the budget session ended and this line could be used for equipment, providing the Commissioners are willing to transfer the money to the equipment line. The Commissioners will also need to revise their EDIT Plan to account for the equipment purchase. The Council requested that these items be planned during budget sessions.

Sheriff Bottoms gave Council his January reports; there are 94 incarcerated today.

### **Old Business**

Community Representative from Tenaska, Rick Reed on the Gibson Solar Farm Project – Tenaska and Capital Dynamics are proposing a second solar project in Patoka and Union Townships of Gibson County. This project would be a 280 mega watt project, which is enough to power 50,000 homes per year; it will sit on 2,200 acres of land. They have Purchase Power Agreement (PPA) with NIBSCO. The project will connect to a Duke owned 345Kv transmission line running to Francisco. The project will have a 35-year useful life. It is a \$250,000 investment; it is expected to produce \$50,000,000 in additional property tax revenue over the life. It will produce 373 direct/indirect jobs and 12-14 direct/indirect jobs when complete. The leases are anticipated to produce \$2,500,000 of income to those that sign a lease. They also propose an Economic Development Agreement in exchange for an abatement. The abatements proposed are: 5-year Declining or 5-year 100% with a \$1,000,000 Economic Development payment paid in 5 annual installments of \$200,000 beginning in 2025. It is projected that current agricultural property will increase three times the current rate. The Economic Development Agreement will contain language to address decommissioning of the solar project and a road use agreement with surety bonds to assure, at the conclusion of construction, all road repairs occur. They expect construction to begin in 2022 and be operational by 2023. They request the Council move forward on a preliminary Economic Revitalization Area (ERA) so a Public Hearing can be set to approve the ERA. The project website can be found at [gibsonsolar.com](http://gibsonsolar.com).

Baker Tilly then reviewed the abatements and tax benefits of the project. Gibson Solar project is estimated to be a \$215,000,000 project with 95% of the investment being a taxable utility located 90% in Patoka Township and 10% located in Union Township.

The abatement option 1, the Company would pay approximately \$56,000,000 in property taxes over the 35-year life of the project with an estimated \$5,000,000 in abatement. In option 2, the Company would pay approximately \$53,000,000 in property taxes over the 35-year life of the project and receive an estimated \$8,000,000 in abatement. This option also includes the \$1,000,000 Economic Development payment. County Attorney Spindler then reviewed three options for the Council to consider. Option one would see the Council approving the ERA and

moving it to phase II without being bound to any terms. This will set the ERA for a Public Hearing. Option two would allow the Council to take the ERA under advisement. Option three allows the Council to reject the project. The Attorney from Ice Miller reiterated the Council is not bound to the proposals if they agree to move forward. Councilman Riley feels the item should be moved forward to get public input. Councilman Pflug feels that the Council should take this under advisement to allow all Council members to be present to vote on the matter. This also allows time for the Council and the public to think the abatement through. Councilman Pflug motioned that this matter be tabled until the March meeting, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 5-0. This item will be added to the March agenda.

**Resolution for Advertised Additional Appropriations –**

General Fund 1000 (DLGF # 0101)	Dept 38 01 03 Pre-Trial Service's Director	\$6,500
	Dept 36 01 32 Overtime	\$10,000
	Dept 41 01 23 Overtime	\$10,000
	Dept 46 03 10 Professional Services	\$2,320
	Dept 51 01 01 Salaries	\$29,000
	Dept 51 01 10 FICA/Med	<u>\$3,000</u>
<b>General Fund Total</b>		<b>\$60,820</b>
Cumulative Building Fund 1136 (DLGF #1092)		
	Dept 04 04 47 Court House Security	\$605,000
Clerk's Perpetuation Fund 1119 (DLGF # 9589)		
	Dept 01 01 03 Part Time	\$12,480
	Dept 01 01 10 FICA/Med	<u>\$ 1,520</u>
<b>Clerk's Perpetuation Fund Total</b>		<b>\$14,000</b>
Auditor's Ineligible Deduction Fund 1216 (DLGF #9588)		
	Dept 01 01 13 Overtime	\$4,000
	Dept 01 01 05 FICA/Med	\$ 400
	Dept 01 01 08 Perf	\$ 600
<b>Auditor's Ineligible Deduction Fund Total</b>		<b>\$5,000</b>
LIT Correctional/Rehab. Facilities Fund 1233 (DLGF # 0254)		
	Dept 01 03 15 Pre-Design Services	\$13,000

Councilman Riley motioned to approve and sign the resolution for these additional, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 5-0.

**New Business**

**Transfers**

General Fund transfer from 30 01 20 Ed Co-Ordinator into 30 01 11 Commissioners for \$.06 to cover year-end payroll rounding deficit.

The following General Fund transfers were done to combine positions in the 2021 budget.

From 05 01 14 into 05 01 13 Captains (2) \$46,184; from 05 01 18,39,40,41 into 05 01 15 Sergeants (5) \$181,324; from 05 01 20, 30 into 05 01 26 Patrol Officers (9) \$89,414; from 32 01 24 into 32 01 15 Correction Officers \$36,423; and from 41 01 17, 18 into 41 01 12 Assistant Court Reporters (3) \$75,092. Total transfer was \$428,437.00.

Councilman Riley motioned to approve this salary consolidation transfer, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 5-0.

An out of series transfer request from the Health Department

from 1206 03 03 14 Staff Training into 1206 01 01 12 Overtime \$370.49 to clear a 2020 deficit.

Councilman Riley motioned to approve the transfer, seconded by Councilman Pflug. The vote was 5-0.

**ENCUMBRANCES 2020 budget into 2021 budget encumbers the last 4 days of 2020**

	<u>PAYROLL</u>
1000 General Fund	\$445,125.77
1135 Cum Bridge	\$2,680.76
1159 Health	\$3,861.54
1168 Local Health Maintenance	\$379.08
1176 MVH	\$25,012.68
1189 Recorder Perpetuation	\$642.98
1206 Local Health Trust	\$76.65
1213 GAL/CASA	\$3,183.77
1214 GAL/CASA State Capacity Building Grant	\$6,253.60
1222 Statewide 911	\$3,243.66
1224 Reassessment	\$1,314.18
2002 Superior Ct Admin Fee	\$1,275.66
2502 Prosecutor Deferral User Fee	\$ 112.73
4913 Com Correction Project Income	\$1,939.74
8899 IV-D Clerk Incentive	\$29.49

**TOTAL PAYROLL ENCUMBRANCE: \$495,132.29**

Councilman Pflug motioned to approve the payroll encumbrances, seconded by Councilman Riley. The vote was 5-0.

NON-PAYROLL ENCUMBRANCES

1000 GENERAL FUND except Sheriff, Jail, & 911):	\$136,779.50
1000-05 SHERIFF	\$10,109.43
1000-32 JAIL	\$27,773.08
1159 HEALTH	\$1,328.16
E-911	\$11,656.74
1224 REASSESSMENT	\$984.57
2502 PROSECUTOR DEFERL USER FEE	\$70.00

**TOTAL NON-PAYROLL ENCUMBRANCES: \$188,701.48**

**TOTAL ENCUMBRANCES: \$683,833.77**

Councilman Pflug motioned to approve the non-payroll encumbrances, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 5-0.

**Salary Schedule – Amendment #1**

This amendment will increase the Pre-Trial Services Director's salary; Chief Probation's Salary Correction was decreased due to a years of service error; adds overtime to the Court Reporters in the Circuit and Superior Courts; a part time clerk was added back into the EMT budget; a new department was added in General Fund 1000-51 to pay workers at the vaccine clinic, an additional was received from the general fund (CARES Act payroll reimbursement); part time was added into Fund 1119 Clerk's Perpetuation; overtime was added into Fund 1216 Auditor's Ineligible Fund; a Facility Officer was changed to a Field Officer in Fund 4913 Community Correction Project Income and Fund 9122 Grant: Fund 8904 COVID-19 Test Site was added to the 2021 Salary Schedule. Councilman Beard motioned to approve this amendment, seconded by Councilman Riley. The vote was 5-0.

**Additional Appropriations** request to advertise for the following:

1000 50 11 15 Part time \$12,327 to reinstate a part time position cut in the 2021 budget.

Councilman Pflug motioned to approve the advertisement, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 5-0.

1000 41 to replace a retiring Court Reporter in the amount of \$50,370. Councilman Riley motioned to approve the advertisement, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 5-0.

**Adjournment** – Council adjourned the meeting


Minutes from the February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Meeting

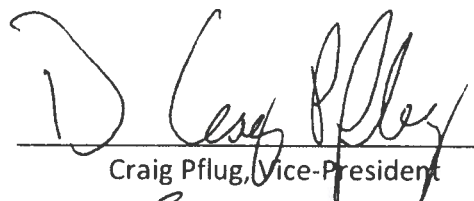
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Jeremy Overton, President

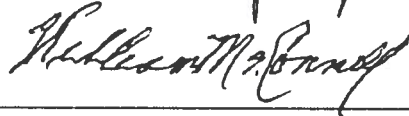
  
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Jay Riley, Councilman

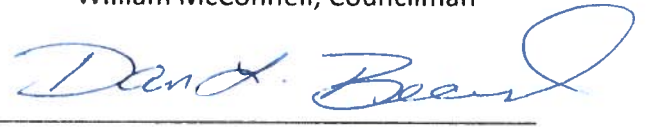
  
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Derek McGraw, Councilman

  
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Michael Stilwell, Councilman

Attest:   
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Mike Watkins, Gibson County Auditor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Craig Pflug, Vice-President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William McConnell, Councilman

  
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Dan Beard, Councilman

James M. Smith