
Gibson County Council
Regular Session
January 14th, 2020

The Gibson County Council met in Regular Session on January 14th, 2020, at 9:00 AM at the North Annex Meeting Room.

Members Present: Included President Jay Riley, Councilmen William McConnell, Jeremy Overton, Derek McGraw, Dan Beard, Michael Stilwell and Gibson County Auditor Sherri Smith.

Members Absent: Craig Pflug

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

Election of Officers

Councilman McGraw made a motion to keep the officers, without change, seconded by Councilman Beard. With no further discussion, the Motion carried 6-0. Councilman Riley will remain President; Councilman Pflug will remain Vice President.

Special Consideration

Judge Krieg came before the Council to discuss several items. He began with overtime. He wanted the Council to understand that public employees have the option to request compensatory time in lieu of overtime. However, FSLA says compensatory time may only be given in lieu of overtime if the employee agrees. The Council wants to get away from compensatory time altogether. Wendy Williams has emailed State Board of Accounts regarding overtime; once an answer is received the office will move forward on this item.

Judge Krieg will have a retiree in August, however the retiree will be physically leaving the position in May. The Judge would like a new employee to shadow this retiree beginning on March 22, 2020. An additional appropriation of \$52,000 for the new position will be required; the budget has enough money to fund the retiree. Councilman Overton made a motion to advertise for this \$52,000 additional appropriation, seconded by Councilman McGraw. With no further discussion, the Motion carried 6-0.

The Judge discussed Courthouse Security next; a plan has been submitted to the Indiana Supreme Court. The County is required to do significant upgrades. The next meeting on this is 1/23/2020; the Architect, Dave Stallings will attend this meeting.

A Pre-Trial Services Director job description was submitted for the new position Bree Edwards will move into, from Superior Court Probation Assistant. The Judges are requesting the Council fund this new position, based on the Probation pay scale chart, at the appropriate pay for a

Probation Officer, with 2 years of experience. The Judge requests an additional appropriation of \$71,000 for this position. Brian Modafari has been moved into Pre-Trial Services Assistant. No replacement is requested for this position. However, the Superior Court Probation Assistant will need to be replaced. The Council gave their okay on this replacement. Councilman McGraw made a motion to advertise for this \$71,000 additional appropriation, seconded by Councilman Stillwell. With no further discussion, the Motion carried 6-0.

The Probation Department relocation is moving forward with help from Architect, Dave Stallings. The Commissioners will be requesting bids soon. They hope this department will be moved by the end of the year.

The Magistrate is moving forward, after testifying last Wednesday before the House Courts Committee. They voted 11-0 in favor of this proposal. The new start date for this position, pending final approval by the legislature is January or July of 2021.

The Judges are looking at the Public Defender System; they requested that Lisa Moody work with the State Public Defender's office to assess the feasibility of Gibson County joining the state public defender system. This system requires a qualified attorney. If in this system, the County could receive 40% reimbursement for various positions. Capital cases are 50% reimbursable. It is the hope of both Judges to either save the County money by receiving reimbursements or at least help alleviate the negative financial consequences that are occurring due to the pre-trial release program. There are currently 60 Indiana counties in this program.

2020 Appointments – the only change was the Chamber of Commerce appointment.

Councilman Overton will accept this appointment. The appointments are as follows:

Community Corrections – Derek McGraw; E911 Advisory Board – Dan Beard; Gibson County Solid Waste – Craig Pflug; Safety Committee – Dan Beard; Sheriff's Pension Board – Jeremy Overton & Jay Riley; Evansville Urban Transportation System – Bill McConnell; Chamber of Commerce Ex-Officio – Jeremy Overton; Council Finance Committee – Jeremy Overton, Jay Riley, & Craig Pflug; Regional Economic Development – Mike Stillwell; Gibson County Development – Mike Stillwell; Gibson County Redevelopment – Phil Young & Bruce McIntosh; Gibson County Economic Development – Mike Stillwell; Gibson County Advisory Planning Commission – Mike Stillwell

Approval of Minutes

December 17th, 2019 – approved as read

Presentation of Treasurer's Report

December 31, 2019 - acknowledged

Department Reports

EMS – provided a written report to Council along with a breakdown of the 2019 budget and revenue. Director Allen told the Council the Commissioners are seeking a new attorney for collections.

Health – provided a written report to the Council. Director Hornby told the Council the Ordinance recently approved for new fee schedule would need to be amended due to an error on the administration fees. The new ordinance has this fee at \$20 and it should be \$25.

Sheriff, Tim Bottoms reported to the Council that the pension fund for 2019 grew by \$61,212.60. He also provided written reports for 12/19 Collections and Monthly Statistics.

EMA – Director Hedges told the Council the Mitigation Plan is being finalized and he was involved in several projects.

Old Business

- EMA Director Hedges to discuss County Emergency Sirens – Director Hedges previously presented proposals, there were no questions regarding these proposals.

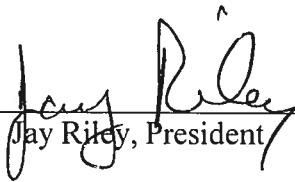
New Business

- Salary Schedule – Amendment #1 -Community Corrections Board recently approved raises for 2020. They will get the same raise as County Employees; the new ordinances reflect this change. Councilman McGraw made a motion to approve this Salary Ordinance Amendment, seconded by Councilman Beard. With no further discussion, the Motion carried 6-0.
- Council Review of County Encumbrances – The Council acknowledged and approved these encumbrances.
- EMS Director Allen discussed wages with the Council. He advised them the shortage of paramedics has created a competitiveness in wages. He feels information he has attained from neighboring counties proves Gibson County behind in wages. He told the Council that Wabash County, IL is paying part-time Paramedic's \$24 per hour; Davies County is paying full-time medics \$25 per hour; Vanderburgh County is paying top medics at \$28 per hour. Director Allen would like the Council to think about adjustments to wages; Council feels budget time is the best time to address. Councilman Overton asked Director Allen to bring data collections to budget discussions.

- Owensville Carnegie Public Library would like to fill the vacancy by Trustee Amber Taylor with Vanessa Riggs. Councilman Beard made a motion to approve this appointment, seconded by Councilman McGraw. With no further discussion, the Motion carried 6-0.
- Bill McConnell discussed the importance of the Census.

Derek McGraw made motion to adjourn the meeting.

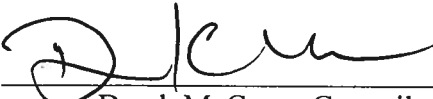
Minutes from the January 14th, 2020 meeting

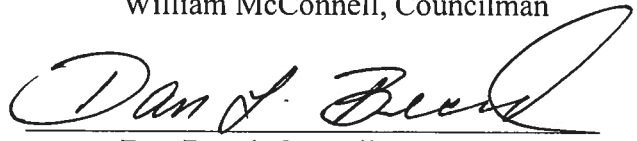

Jay Riley, President

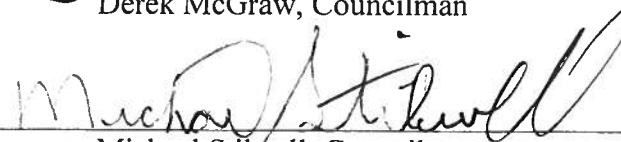
Jeremy Overton, Councilman




William McConnell, Councilman


Derek McGraw, Councilman


Dan Beard, Councilman


Michael Stilwell, Councilman

Attest: 
Sherri Smith, Gibson County Auditor