
Gibson County Council
Departmental Budget Meeting
July 15th, 2020

The Gibson County Council met in Regular Session on July 15th, 2020, at 9:00 AM at the North Annex Meeting Room.

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

Bill McConnell and Derek McGraw were absent. Auditor Smith explained the new format to the Council. This format has a column showing the amount of change over last year's amount. If the amount increased, it is highlighted red. If the amount of change is \$0 or less, the amount is shown. In the cases where department heads are not appearing before the Council, they were invited to include a word document explaining any changes or things they want the Council to know. The departments with the biggest, most complicated, or new budgets are those the Council will see today. Lynda explained that if an asterisk exists, it indicates a new line. The names of people have also been provided for ease. The books are compiled by Department Code. The lines have also been simplified for ease in reading; totals have been outlined. Notes will be added to these sheets, so all comments are captured.

Circuit Court – Department 36 – Judge Meade told the Council he has included a Part-time line, as this was omitted from last year's budget and he has had a need for the line as he has had a lady out quite a bit this year. He has added a new guardian ad litem line, this is for civil cases that require this position. Often, people do not pay, and this will allow the Judge to get this position, but GAL receives reimbursement, it just takes some time.

The largest adjustment to this budget is in the Court Reporters - 1 is getting a little more for Chief Court Reporter (CCR) and he want to bring this position equal to the Bailiff's salary. This CCR position has an incredible amount of responsibility. the Bailiff should not be making more than the CCR, as the CCR runs the court. This is a \$7,165 per year increase, which is a huge disparity to the Bailiff. Circuit Court can pay for this for approximately 2 years for both courts out of another fund. Overtime will still be paid on this position. There were 100 charges set back due to COVID-19 and 2021 will surge due to this. The other court reporters will not mind, as they realize the CCR does so much more work; surrounding Counties pay a bit more than Gibson County.

Pauper Attorney 36-01-27, will have a savings of \$250K; it is being moved into the Public Defender's Department – a new department (43) in Superior Court Section.

New Lines - 36-01-13 and 36-01-14 are not new positions. 36-01-13 was paying two court reporters and 36-01-14 paid one court reporter. 36-01-13 will be titled Chief Court Reporter and 36-01-14 will pay two court reporters.

Public Defender - Department 43 – Chief Public Defender, Lisa Moody explained this is a new department consisting of a Chief Public Defender, 2 office staff and 4 contract attorneys.

The Prosecutor's Salary raises as of 7/1/20, but this position CPD follows this amount and they will get their raise in January of 2021, not July 2020.

They will need new computer equipment when they move into their new building because the current equipment being used is Lisa Moody Law's equipment. CPD received a quote from Parrish on this new equipment.

Professional Liability Insurance can be removed because she will go onto the County's policy.

They will need new furniture in the new building and rent will go away when they move, but this move date is uncertain at this time.

The State will reimburse 40% for everything except misdemeanor cases. After this reimbursement, the department should net out at \$467,011 per year and in 2019 the County General Fund spent approximately \$500K for pauper attorneys, so this will be a savings of approximately \$30K for the County. There are 5 contracted attorneys for this Department. The county received \$90K for bail bonds in 2019, now that will go to Supplemental Public Defender Fund and this fund can only be used for one-time expenses, this fund can also receive 40% reimbursement. Bond money will be down due to Pre-Trial Assessment. Additional pay for the Contract attorneys will be paid for a jury trial. The money is paid only for the days of trial, not for work going prior to the trial.

Superior Court – Department 41 – Probation Officer, Jodi Luttrell presented the budgets. Amy Ellis, Probation Officer/Drug Court Director is moving to the General Fund because the revenue is no longer available. This is due to Pre-Trial mandate and there are no more home detentions. Community Correction is supposed to do home detentions by statute, and this has decreased Probation's Income. All agencies must collaborate on this. Drug Court is now certified. Under the Pre-trial mandate, everyone arrested should be assessed.

Probation is working with 2 less staff now, as they have moved to Pretrial.

41-01-10 has moved to Dept. 38 Pretrial Services Department.

There is a 2021 Probation Wage Rate Chart.

Line 41-01-11, is a new line. 41-01-12 and 41-01-13 are court reporter positions currently being used the names are being amended to Chief Court Reporter and Assistant Court Reporter, but they are not new positions.

Line 41-01-22 is currently a Court Report position. It was added for Judy Cox's replacement. It is being renamed Probation Officer and the probation officer is being moved from 2505 to County General budget

Judge Krieg made an error on his original budget for Dept 41, he wants to pay the Judges Supplemental out of Fund 2001, not this General Fund Budget.

Pre-Trial Services – Department 38 – Line 38-01-05 Caseworker will not be paid from this department, they will be paid from Fund 9118, a new grant fund. They received this grant to help pay for an additional person for one year. The position only renews if the grant renews.

Magistrate – Dept. 40 - has a target start date of July 2021. It was understood in the original setup of this department, no new staff at all would be required for this department. They would

share the staff for a few years. The Judge later sent an email clarifying this. He wanted a line in the budget for future needs, however they will use a current court reporter for the position to begin the department.

10:00a.m.- Commissioners – Department 30 – Commissioner Key and Kay Vore – Councilman Overton would like to see legal fees broken out between retainer, legal fees of County Attorney, and legal fees outside contract attorneys.

Councilman Pflug questioned why Attorney McDonald receives a retainer plus additional fee. He would also like the number of people on County insurance. They would also like to check other counties protocol on their legal fees. Line 30-04-21 will upgrade all courthouse servers.

Department 33 – New APC Budget – Professional Services was entered as \$1,000,000; Kay says this should be \$100,000. Councilman Pflug wonders if this budget will be enough should the Commissioners move forward on enacting this plan. Commissioner Key told the Council that Posey County shares their Flood Plain Director with this department and pays them a stipend. The Commissioners are reaching out to other counties to check on their budgets. Gibson County will be land use only, not code enforcement.

Department 44 – County Landfill – Lot 4 Project at Toyota will move more dirt to this site. \$15,000 per year contract because they do not have to monitor as much. The other \$50,000 is for maintenance.

Department 45 – Animal Services – They provide the Commissioner's with monthly reports; Commissioner's seem satisfied with progress in this department, their response is better, and they seem to be more organized. This building will eventually have to be moved because of the landfill's proximity, but because of monitoring, they can stay for now.

EDIT – Councilman Pflug asked what was being done in the Architect/Engineering/Technical line to have an increase of \$30,000. Commissioner Key thinks this is for the Storm Water setup; until that fund has fees to cover. Broadband was added to the plan, by reducing road paving. Kay explained to the Council that almost everything spent this year from Building Improvement/Land Acquisition has gone to pay for things at the jail. She asked the Council if the jail did not have funds to cover this? Councilman Riley feels the reason for this might be due to the Commissioners being responsible for the jail building.

10:50 Highway Department – Fund 1135 – Superintendent Lewis asked for pay increases of \$.50 per hour.

LOCAL ROAD/STREET FUND 1169 – They reduced this budget by \$50,000, by reducing Machinery/Equipment line. They expect a 10% reduction in revenue due to COVID.

MVH FUND 1176 – Requested a \$.50 per hour increase for employees. Travel expenses increased due to the requirement to attend more conferences. They reduced Stone/Gravel; and increase bituminous, but still saved. Sign maintenance has stepped up; thus, they have an increase in this line. Councilman Overton passed on word from Baker Tilly that the Highway

Department might not be able to sustain if they continue to spend as they did in 2019. Superintendent Lewis told the Council the Hwy Department's goal is to maintain a cushion of 50% reserve for each line item. Fund 1173 (sub-fund of 1176) discussion ensued. 04-03-62 was bumped up for repairs plus an additional \$10,000 for Road Equipment. They had to increase 04-03-91 because this pays for Toyota stop lights and the number of lights in this area continue to increase. Computer software is being paid by the Commissioners; thus, this line was deducted. Superintendent Lewis explained to the Council they were doing as much mechanic work in house as they could. The equipment has so many electronics, now days it is hard work on them in house. They have upgraded equipment the best they could in the last 6 years, he feels downtime is much better now than 6 years ago. One of the things done in the 2020 Budget due to the decline in revenue was pushing the purchase of a Road Grader out; they will look at this again next year, they might have to go into a short-term loan program. They have a retirement coming up this year; this was unplanned and will be requesting through an additional appropriation. He is unaware of any others.

11:18 EMS Department 47 – Director Allen says some Counties have requested bonuses/hazard pay for COVID-19. They can seek reimbursement for this through the CARES Act, he wonder's if this has been considered here as they have no choice but enter a home whether there is COVID-19 present or not. He is requesting a large amount in 47-03-51 heart monitors. He needs 3-4 new ones at \$25,000 each. He is trying to buy refurbished ones; however, there are not that many available for purchase. He will also need to replace the portable ventilator (8 @ approximately \$1,000 each from the Durable Equipment line 47-0422); vents on hand are at least 20 years of age. He tried to keep all other lines the same. President Riley asked if the heart monitors and ventilators could be phased in, rather than all bought at the same time. Director Allen feels it best to replace all; without a cardiac monitor on the truck, the unit cannot be certified as a Paramedic Unit. Councilman Overton questioned why not replace the monitors as they go down, since they are on backup units. Director Allen says a couple of the monitors are already down. They try to maintain the ones they have. They take equipment off one unit and put it on the standby unit, if they must use a standby. Councilman Pflug asked about the fleet's age. Director Allen told them the fleet is in good shape. The oldest truck is a 2009, the black one in Owensville. It will be replaced this year and the black truck will go into a backup spot; a 2011 unit will be traded in for this new truck. He feels the fleet is in good shape. No new units coming in 2021. Councilman Riley asked if the County owned all the ambulance bases except the Gibson General Base. The answer was yes, the County pays \$7,500 per year rent from Gibson General with a signed 30-year lease; also, it is the most expensive to heat and cool.

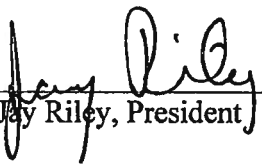
Health – Fund 1159 is requesting \$.50 per hour pay increases, even though the worksheets show more than the \$.50 per hour (amended budget numbers were used, rather than 2020 budget number). They are cutting the part-time line and moving that savings to the overtime line, as they are expecting more overtime. The screener for the courthouse is not in next year's budget, as they do not anticipate that continuing after a vaccine comes about. In Fund 8119 they added a


general expense line, as the grant allows this. They decreased the travel expense line and added more money in the general expense line. They are going to increase this grant, as they are working more; the more activities you do, the more grant money can be received.

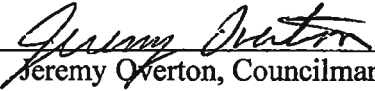
Sheriff Bottoms will present his budget on August 11th @10:30 a.m. or following Council Meeting.

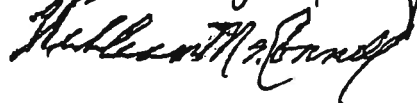
Auditor Smith advised the Council the motion made in yesterday's meeting needs to be revised. The Council motioned to pay bills out of Fund 1233 Jail Income Tax. Auditor Smith advised this should be an additional appropriation advertisement so payments can be made from this fund. Auditor Smith will advise the County Attorney of this error, as well as the fact that there is no contract to pay the Architect, as the County Attorney suggested in yesterday's meeting.

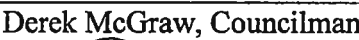
Minutes from the July 15th, 2020 Departmental Budget Meeting.

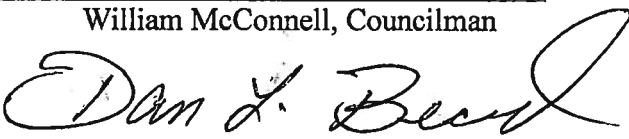

Jay Riley, President

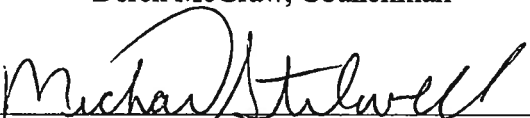

Craig Pflug, Vice-President



Jeremy Overton, Councilman


William McConnell, Councilman


Derek McGraw, Councilman


Dan Beard, Councilman


Michael Stilwell, Councilman

Attest: 
Sherri Smith, Gibson County Auditor