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

**Members Present:** Included President Jeremy Overton, Vice-President Craig Pflug, Councilmen Dan Beard, William McConnell (absent), Derek McGraw, Jay Riley, and Michael Stilwell (via zoom).  
Also Present: Mike Watkins, Auditor of Gibson County, Kristy York, 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy to Auditor, Wendy Williams, 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy to Auditor

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

Mike Stilwell is attending via zoom; therefore, all votes will be roll call votes.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the October 12, 2021, meeting was approved as written by the Council.

**Presentation of Clerk's Report**

Clerk's Report Month Ending August 2021 was acknowledged by the Council.

**Department Reports**

**Health Department** – Director Hornby gave the Council reports and reviewed COVID numbers with them. In last 3 months, the county has had 19 deaths, which she feels is alarming. The test site operates 5 days per week and offers rapid testing; appointments can be scheduled via the website at [coronavirus.gov](https://coronavirus.gov). Director Hornby gave the Council information on cluster septic systems that might be coming to this county.

**Sheriff Department** – Captain Borchelt presented the reports for the Sheriff.

**EMS** – Director Pond provided the October reports to Council. He explained to the Council that the State is allowing EMS Departments the use of first responders. He would like to add a line item to EMS budget for this and offer \$12 per hour for this position. He feels he can transfer from part-time into this line and not request an additional appropriation. Director Pond told Council about the struggle to get parttime workers and he hopes this will alleviate the problem. They will be certified thru the state as a first responder. They will go thru background checks, drug testing, and training before engaging in employment. They can work no more than 24 hours per week. The Council would like Director Pond to consult with the County Attorney to ensure this is appropriate and okay with insurance, then get the information to Wendy Williams before December 1, 2021, this will allow time to get it into the 2022 salary ordinance. He also asked if a person in his office, also a first responder, could get some of these hours. It was explained to him that because these people have full time jobs already, the extra hours would push them into overtime rate and not the \$12 per hour. The County has experienced problems with this scenario in the past.

**Old Business -**

**Additional Appropriation Resolution Adoption** - Advertisement has been made for the following Additional Appropriations:

The Motor Vehicle Highway Fund 1176 had an additional appropriation advertisement that was tabled at the last meeting (10/12/2021) pending additional information. Superintendent Johnson clarified this item by stating this will cover the Mounts Electric contract thru the end of the year. Additional signals were added to the system, thus the additional charges. With this information, the Council was able to move on this request to allow the additional appropriation in Other Services/Charges in the amount of \$12,000. Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the additional appropriation, seconded by Councilman Riley. The vote was 6-0 by a roll call vote.

An advertisement was made for an additional appropriation in the Redevelopment Authority Fund 4050 in Other Services/Charges in the amount of \$6,750 as the fund had not been appropriated. Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the additional appropriation, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 6-0 by a roll call vote.

Ft. Branch-Johnson Township Public Library Rainy Day Fund 201 Capital Expenditures \$35,000 and Rainy-Day Capital Projects Fund 421 \$50,000. Councilman Riley motioned to approve this additional appropriation, seconded by Councilman Pflug. The vote was 6-0 with the roll call vote being taken.

**Owners Representative for Jail Construction Contract** – George Ballard presented a contract with a not to exceed amount of \$7,000 in Pre-Design Services. The contract will run between August 17, 2021 thru March 2022.

Councilman Riley motioned to approve the Owner's Representatives contract, seconded by Councilman McGraw. The vote was 5-0 by roll call vote. Councilman Stilwell's call was dropped at this time. therefore, he did not vote.

**Health Department Trailer** – Kevin asked permission to purchase a trailer for testing and vaccination clinics with refrigeration, heat/air, and generator equipped. They have not been able to find a place to rent that is compatible. This trailer can stay at the health department, making it convenient for all employees to help when needed. The Council Members are on board with this purchase. Funding will come from the testing grant. They are probably going to purchase from Owensboro RV as it is the only place that has the toy haulers; the cost will be between \$32,000 and \$40,000. The RV description is a 29', toy hauler without beds, only a murphy bed. The RV provides an entrance with a separate exit. The toy hauler can serve as a wheelchair ramp. There is an upcoming grant in the amount of \$220,000 to ramp up the immunization programs, as they have fallen off with COVID. This RV will provide a portable vaccination trailer. They hope for the test site to continue as people really like this service and it is convenient for the department. The trailer will fit on the parking lot as they have checked on this. Councilman Pflug worries if the health department can keep the camper on the lot without interference from the city and violating any ordinances. Councilman McGraw and Riley feels it would be exempt. Councilman Pflug motioned to approve the purchase of the trailer, seconded by Councilman McGraw. The vote was 6-0 with a roll call vote.

**Judge's Supplemental Pay for 2022** –Judges prior to Judge Meade always received this supplemental pay, Judge Meade feels the probation user's fees can be used to pay this. According to Judge Meade, most counties have this supplemental. He feels the supplemental would be paid to all 3 Judges, 2 in the Prosecutor's office, and one in the Public Defender's office. In the past, only the Judges were paid. Judge Meade feels this is at the Council's discretion; and it is not tied to their pay, it is supplemental. It must be verified with the state if we are paying; but a change can be submitted to the State. Councilman Pflug wonders if this will affect the Sheriff's pay; Wendy doesn't feel it will have a bearing on the Sheriff's pay. Councilman Pflug told Judge Meade he feels the Council appreciates what the Judges are doing in trying to alleviate the jail overcrowding and all other things they are doing. In 2020 there was a 3.3% increase in Judges/Prosecutors pay; 2022 shows a 2.45% increase while the county employees are only getting a \$.50 per hour increase in 2022. He does not feel it is fair to these employees. The Judge feels the County does not pay this as the state pays and they have much more responsibility than others.

Judge Meade also explained that they are looking at getting a reimbursement for IV-D because of the new Magistrate. The Judges are doing everything they can to help the County. Councilman Riley requested that they come back to December with all the people entitled to the supplemental pay and details of where it will be paid from. They also would like to see the guarantee that it will not come from the general fund and assurance that it can be stopped in future years. Councilman McGraw made the motion to table the item until more information is provided, seconded by Councilman Riley. The vote was 6-0 to table this item by roll call vote.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Renovations to Courthouse for Magistrate and Superior Probation** – Attorney Spindler advised the Council of a need to renovate rooms for the Magistrate. They want to use superior probation room as the hearing room, and the CASA office as the chambers. To expedite this move, they would like to shuffle both probation offices into a rental on the square and move CASA into current circuit probation office. Attorney Spindler would like the Council to give their approval to continue working with RQAW to cut thru a load bearing wall. Financially, Councilman McGraw wants answers on where the money might come from. He explained about the new Correctional Facility taking up a large chunk of change; a probation building and courthouse security project that will take a large portion of money from the Cumulative Building Fund. He wonders where this money might be derived and if this must be expedited. Attorney Spindler and Judge Meade feel it needs expedited and explained the backlog of cases awaiting the magistrate. A hearing room will allow cases to be heard and alleviate the backlog, which stops people from taking matters into their own hands. The CASA office used to house the law library, so renovation should be easy as they plan to take 2 partitions out of the room and install some tables to get the Magistrate moving. This plan will increase security 10-fold, as the Judges will not have to walk thru litigants. Councilman McGraw shared his concern about the cost of upfitting the probation departments into a temporary unit. Attorney Spindler and Judge Meade do not feel there will be a need to outfit the temporary location. If they need video access, they will have to come to the courthouse. There are currently no bids on this project; but they are estimating costs of \$50,000 to renovate the rooms. A councilman asked Judge Meade if probation user fees could cover these fees. Judge Meade approved the use of Fund 2004 Circuit Court User Fees to pay for the project. Attorney Spindler asked the Council to approve a not to exceed amount for both engineering services and construction at \$55,000 from Fund 2004.

Councilman McGraw motioned to advertise for an additional appropriation of \$70,000, (\$5,000 for Pre-Design Services; \$50,000 for Construction and \$15,000 for rent/fees of rental unit) from the Circuit Court User Fund 2004, seconded by Councilman Riley. The vote was 6-0 with a roll call vote.

**Courthouse Janitor Position (Full time & Part time)** – Auditor Watkins presented information for Andy Schafer as he was not available for the meeting. Andy requests moving the current part time employee, in his department, to the full-time vacant position created with the resignation of an employee. Andy also requests a replacement of the part time employee. The Council gave their approval to make these moves.

**Owensville Public Library** – Mrs. English was present at the Council meeting to ask permission to readvertise the additional appropriation received in August, as funds were not specified in the first advertisement. She requested the additional appropriation in August from the General Fund in the amount of \$186,000. The correction would be a reduction in General Fund in the amount of \$139,500, leaving them with \$46,500 of the \$186,000 in this General Fund.

Councilman McGraw motioned to approve advertisement of the reduction for the Owensville Library, seconded by Councilman Pflug. The vote was 6-0 by roll count vote.

An additional needs advertised in the amount of \$46,500 in Fund 201 Rainy Day and \$93,000 in Fund 411, the Thyra Mauck Gift Fund. This will all fall into the Capital Outlays category.

Councilman McGraw motioned to approve advertisement of the additional for the Owensville Library, seconded by Councilman Pflug. The vote was 6-0 by roll count vote.

**Personal Services Transfer Requests** - Fund 1000 Sheriff 05 01 35 Courthouse Deputies into 05 01 28 Overtime to finish year in the amount of \$15,000.

Fund 1000-31 Courthouse from 31-01-17 Overtime/Part time into 31-01-18 Laundry/Mops to correct payroll in the amount of \$140.00.

Fund 1222 Statewide 911 requests a transfer from 01 01 08 Part-time into 01 01 07 Overtime to finish year in the amount of \$4,000.

Councilman Riley motioned to approve the above personal services transfers, seconded by Councilman McGraw. The vote was 6-0 by roll call vote.

The Council chose to vote on this personal service transfer separate because this issue carries controversy. When the union contract was signed, the scholarship funding was not discussed with the Council. The Council does not allow it into the budget, but every year a transfer is made from unused lines into the scholarship line. The Council does not agree with this maneuver, but it has been allowed. President Overton would like a letter or resolution issued to the Commissioners and the Union making them aware that the Council will not financially fund anything put into the contract they have not been apprised of. Fund 1000 Commissioner 30-01-25 Severance into 30-01-27 Scholarship to fund the scholarship line in the amount of \$13,250.

Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the transfer, seconded by Councilman Beard. The vote was 5-1 by roll call vote, Councilman Riley casted the nay vote.

**Kay Vore requested permission to pay invoices** – Kay advised Council of an outstanding invoice for the County Attorney; the Commissioner Department 30 pays this invoice, but the line is in the red. She advised them of the need to transfer from Outside Attorney line to cover this invoice. The Council is okay with this transfer. She then advised them of invoices for Pre-design Services for the Correctional Facility. The Council would like her to transfer from Schematic Design into the Pre-design Services line. Councilman McGraw motioned to transfer \$10,450 in Fund 1233 as stated above, seconded by Councilman Stilwell. The vote was 6-0 by roll call vote.

**Gibson County Clerk's Office Election Department** – Leather Vore and Georgia Straw asked permission to use new electronic poll pads they acquired thru a federal grant given to the State. They want to make the Council aware of future maintenance fees. The ongoing maintenance will run approximately \$5,400 in 2023-2024 and then it will raise to \$7,300 beginning in 2025. The Council told them to be sure and budget the items.

**Out of Series Transfer Requests** – General Fund Department 23, Extension Department from 23 03 13 Auto Travel into 23 04 22 Permanent Equipment in the amount of \$1,812 to purchase new office furniture for the new Educator.

General Fund Department 47 EMS from 47 04 17 Equipment, Gear, Flashlight into 47 03 21 Ambulance Repairs in the amount of \$2,500 because Ambulance Repairs is low in funds.

Cumulative Building Fund 1136 from 01 03 35 Probation Building Professional Services into 01 04 47 Courthouse Security in the amount of \$88.34 to cover deficit balance.

Supplemental Public Defenders Fund 1200 from 01 01 17 Depositions/Transcripts \$2586.75; 01 02 25 Postage/Miscellaneous \$955.14; 01 03 33 Clothes for Trial \$446.11; 01 03 35 Mileage \$500.00; 01 01 15 Investigator Fees \$992.00 into 01 01 13 Trial Attorney Fees \$5,480.00.

Councilman McGraw motioned to approve all out of series transfers, seconded by Councilman Pflug. The vote was 6-0 by roll call vote.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS/REDUCTIONS REQUESTS TO ADVERTISE**

General EMS	1000-47	Payroll \$30,000; Fuel \$7000; Oxygen \$900	\$37,900
Covered Bridge	1134	Other Services/Charges-Repair/Maintenance	\$3,300
Operation Pull Over	9106	Personal Services	\$10,000

Park Grant (Reimbursable) 9130	Capital Improvements	\$199,396.62
Gibson Solar Project 9133	Professional Services	\$57,200

Councilman Pflug made a motion to advertise the additional appropriations, seconded by Councilman McGraw. The vote was 5-0, by roll call vote, with Councilman Stilwell abstaining due to lack of knowledge.

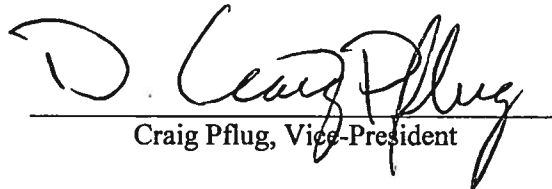
**Demolition of 314 N. Main Street, Princeton** – Attorney Spindler explained that a two-way tie on low bid had recently been received for the demolition of a building. The tie breaker was made by adding a small project onto the demolition request and a new bid was submitted by the tied low bidders. Parker Excavating came in with the lowest bid for both projects at \$37,500, which was lower than the original tied bid. Attorney Spindler requested funding for this project. Council asked if the project could be paid from EDIT where \$500,000 had been budgeted for Jail Bond Payments and no payments have been made to date. A new line will be set up for Jail Project in the EDIT fund and the \$37,500 will be transferred from the Jail Bond line to pay for this project from this new line.

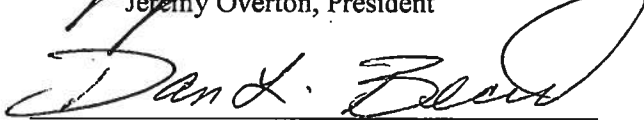
**Change December 2021 Council Meeting date to December 14, 2021** – Council agreed to move the Council meeting to December 14, 2021. Councilman McGraw motioned to approve the meeting date, seconded by Councilman Riley. The vote was 6-0 by roll call vote.

**Adjournment** – Councilman McGraw motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Minutes from the November 9, 2021, Meeting

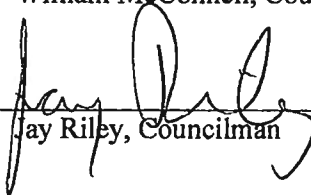
  
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Jeremy Overton, President

  
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Craig Pflug, Vice-President


  
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Dan Beard, Councilman

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William McConnell, Councilman

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Derek McGraw, Councilman

  
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Jay Riley, Councilman

  
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Michael Stilwell, Councilman

Attest:   
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Mike Watkins, Gibson County Auditor