

Gibson County Council Regular Session Meeting April 09, 2024

The Gibson County Council met in Regular Session on April 09, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the North Annex Meeting Room.

Members Present: President Jeremy Overton, Vice President, Derek McGraw, Council Members: Jeff Clark, Jay Riley, Robert Schleiter, Michael Stilwell, and Hannah Whitehead
Also present were Auditor Mike Watkins, 1st Deputy to Auditor, Kristy York, and 2nd Deputy to Auditor, Wendy Williams

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

Approval of Minutes - March 12, 2024, minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer / Clerk Report –reports were acknowledged by the Council.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

EMA – EMA Director McKinney informed the Council of the 2023 Salary Grant Reimbursement: in the amount of \$30,000. She requested permission to hire a part-time employee to help in an administrative capacity. This employee would work 24 hours per week at \$15 per hour. A transfer will be made from full-time to part-time, as there are no plans to use the full-time salary line and the salary ordinance will be amended. This new employee will require proper certification to qualify for the salary reimbursement grant. The position should be advertised. Council Member Clark asked who covered for the EMA Director while on vacation; Jim Deffendall helps while she is out.

Health Department – Administrator Shade gave Council monthly reports; there were no questions. The health department is part of a Narcan plan with the state and they have distributed Narcan to all town halls and Princeton City Police. They also have test strips available to the public; the strips check for fentanyl and xylazine in drugs. Administrator Shade reported the Health Department will purchase an AED unit for Francisco after discovering they did not have an AED unit.

Sheriff Vanoven gave Council the monthly reports, as well as 2022 and 2023 annual reports; there were no questions. The March jail average population was 89. Job statistics were provided; they need five correction officers and three dispatchers. The deputies are fully staffed at nineteen after swearing in two on April 1st. Sheriff Vanoven gave a report of “we do great things” where the deputies recently helped with a medical condition; the gentleman was saved with use of an AED. One of the deputies assisting on this call participated in CPR and AED training on March 21st and put it to good use on March 26th. All Sheriff Department employees are CPR and AED certified.

OLD BUSINESS

Jail Project –George Ballard, Owners Representative told Council that painting will begin next week in the Sheriff’s office. Kitchen equipment has been ordered. The old jail building is still on the agenda to be torn down.

NEW BUSINESS

Personal Service Transfer Requests:

Fund 1000-05 Sheriff Dept requests a transfer	from 11312 Captain	\$ 1,604
	into 11111 Elected Official	
Transfer to cover Sheriff salary increase starting on July 1 2024		

Fund 1000-380 requests a transfer from 10201 Corrections Officers \$40,000
into 12303 Overtime

To help fund overtime in the jail while short staffed.

Fund 1222-911 Fund requests a transfer from 11002 Communications Officer \$ 8,000
into 11300 Part-time

To help fund overtime while short staffed.

Council Member McGraw made a motion to approve transfer requests, seconded by Council Member Riley. The vote was 7-0.

Out of Series Transfer Requests:

Fund 1000-201 Superior Court requests a transfer from 44101 Equipment \$5,000
into 33204 Conference Travel Costs

Council Member McGraw made a motion to approve the transfer request, seconded by Council Member Riley. The vote was 7-0.

Additional Appropriation Requests to Advertise –

Fund 2502 Prosecutor Deferral Program requests 30000 Other Services/Charges \$60,000

To cover rent for the remainder of the year and pay for future moving expenses.

Fund 1197 Storm Water Management Operating Fund – 30000 Other Services/Charges \$10,000

Council Member McGraw made a motion to approve advertisement of additional appropriations, seconded by Council Member Stilwell. The vote was 7-0.

Citizen Concerns: Dick Smith was present to discuss whether CR 600 S and 1075 W in Montgomery Township. He wonders when it will be paved. He feels CR 1075 W has excessive crowning due to heavy traffic. A Commissioner had told him the repaving would occur in 2024.

He also spoke regarding concerns over a neighbor who is also an employee of Gibson County Highway Department. Mr. Smith provided a letter to the Council citing abuse of county resources. A Council Member asked the Sherriff to investigate this matter; Sheriff Vanoven felt this matter should be referred to the State Police for investigation. Sheriff Vanoven verified that the Council wanted him to contact the State Police; Council Members agreed and feel if this activity is occurring, it is not acceptable and should be investigated.

The letter also expressed concern about three new businesses located in the neighborhood. Two of which are using their property as dumping grounds, which he feels is posing a concern about the water supply. He feels batteries sitting on the ground will cause contamination. The other business in the neighborhood is a dirt racetrack. All the businesses seem to be disrupting the quiet, residential neighborhood.

Chamber of Commerce Director, Patti Vanoven told the audience that the Chamber and the Extension Office will be conducting a workshop on parliamentary procedure titled “Meeting Mojo”. The workshop will be held at the Princeton Public Library on April 25th at 5:30.

Councilman McGraw motioned to adjourn.

Minutes from the April 09, 2024, meeting

Jeremy Overton, President



Derek McGraw, Vice- President



Jeff Clark, Council Member

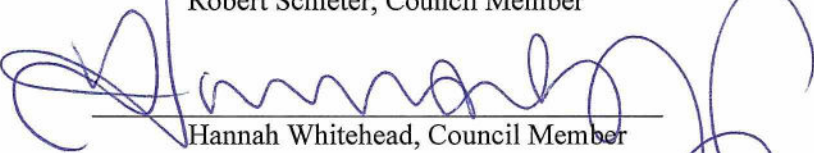
Jay Riley, Council Member



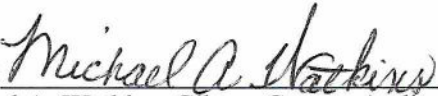
Robert Schleiter, Council Member



Michael Stilwell, Council Member



Hannah Whitehead, Council Member

Attest: 

Michael A. Watkins, Gibson County Auditor

