

**Gibson County Council
Regular Session Meeting
June 10, 2025**

The Gibson County Council met in regular session on June 10, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the Southwest Annex Meeting Room.

Council Members Present: President Jeremy Overton, Vice President, Derek McGraw (absent), Council Members: Jay Riley (absent), Craig Schafer, Robert Schleter, Michael Stilwell, and Hannah Whitehead

Also present were Auditor Mike Watkins, 1st Deputy to Auditor, Kristy York, and 2nd Deputy to Auditor, Logan Vickers

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

Approval of Minutes - May 13th meeting minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer Reports (2) –these reports were acknowledged by the Council.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Sheriff Department - Sheriff Vanoven gave the staffing update. They have no open Deputy positions; five open Corrections positions, which is causing significant overtime, but they are utilizing part-time people to help fill absences; two open Communications positions; and Community Corrections is fully staffed, but they are hiring part-time employees.

Health Department – Administrator Shade gave Council their monthly reports; there were no questions. They are creating a new team to help prevent suicide, overdose, etc.

Surveyor's Office – Surveyor Martin explained that in 2024 he had attended a class that invited them to apply for a \$30,000 GIS grant. They have been using Wessler as GIS support; They will be moving into a new version of the GIS software as the state wants the Indiana counties to become standardized per state specification.

Highway Department – Superintendent Holden told Council they are working on chip/seal and the 2026 budget amongst the many other items. He has been working overtime to get the department caught up. The community crossings grant is changing on July 1st with HB 1461.

Animal Shelter – Sharon Werne invited everyone to groundbreaking on Saturday at 3:00. The wellness clinic will be held on Saturday at Princeton Vet Hospital; vaccinations will be offered for \$20. A reservation must be made in advance. The shelter is busting at the seams; they are requesting foster homes for the animals.

OLD BUSINESS

Jail Project –George Ballard, Owners Representative told Council that the Federal Lawsuit had been dismissed; the county is no longer running under those stipulations. They are working with Garmon to project the cost of razing the old jail. Bids should be arriving on paving the gray building's parking lot, as this is a stipulation set forth by the City of Princeton.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Meeting Information – This information was presented by Auditor Watkins. The budget meeting times will be emailed by Auditor Watkins.

Additional Appropriation Resolution

Fund Name: General Fund 1000	10000 Personal Services	\$106,319
Fund Name: Statewide 911 Fund 1222	10000 Personal Services	\$ 40,000
Fund Name: EMA Prepare/Women's	20000 Supplies	\$ 3,000
Fund 4100	30000 Other Services/Charges	\$ 3,000
Fund Name: EMS Donation Fund 4101	30000 Other Services/Charges	\$ 1,233
Fund Name: Sheriff's Fleet Maintenance	20000 Supplies	\$ 20,000
Fund 4011	30000 Other Services/Charges	\$ 10,000

Council Member Stilwell made a motion to approve the resolution for additional appropriations, seconded by Council Member Schleter. The vote was 5-0.

Additional Appropriation Resolution for Oakland City Public Library

Fund Name: Rainy Day Fund

30000 Other Services/Charges \$ 75,000

Council Member Stilwell made a motion to approve the resolution for additional appropriations, seconded by Council Member Schleter. The vote was 5-0.

Transfer Requests:

Fund:1000 General 0005 County Sheriff T#7

from 11312 Captain (2)

into 13400 UHP Part Time \$15,000

Council Member Schleter made a motion to approve this transfer request, seconded by Council Member Stilwell. The vote was 5-0.

Additional Appropriation Requests to Advertise

General Fund 1000, Sheriff AA#4

10000 Personal Services \$ 190,000

General Fund 1000, Jail AA#3

10000 Personal Services \$ 90,000

General Fund 1000, Superior Court

30000 Other Services/Charges \$ 2,000

Medical Care for Inmates Fund 1174

20000 Supplies \$ 4,000

AA#6

30000 Other Services/Charges \$ 3,000

MVH Fund 1176

20000 Supplies \$1,500,000

Sheriff's Fleet Maintenance Fund 4011

20000 Supplies \$ 25,000

AA#5

30000 Other Services/Charges \$ 20,000

COVID 19 Response Fund 8903

20000 Supplies \$ 10,000

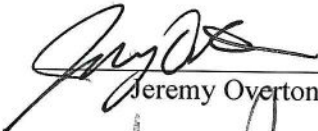
Council Member Stilwell made a motion to approve advertisement of additional appropriations, seconded by Council Member Schleter. The vote was 5-0.

Public Comment – Mark Fehrenbacher commended the Council and taxing entities as his property tax rate was lowered this year, however, his taxes still raised roughly 7.5%. He feels this is because his assessed value rose approximately 7.9% because of the “trending”. He feels the TS-1A should talk about trending, so Council Members are not unnecessarily blamed for an increase in taxes.

Patty Vanoven says the Log Inn had a great turnout for their 200th anniversary. The Chamber is hoping to have a booth at the Haubstadt Sommerfest; she invited everyone to stop by for a visit.

Adjournment - Councilman Schleter motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Whitehead.

Minutes from the June 10th meeting



Jeremy Overton, President



Derek McGraw, Vice-President



Jay Riley, Council Member



Craig Schafer, Council Member



Robert Schleter, Council Member



Michael Stilwell, Council Member

Hannah Whitehead, Council Member

Attest: 

Michael A. Watkins, Gibson County Auditor

