

**Gibson County Council
Regular Session Meeting
July 08, 2025**

The Gibson County Council met in regular session on July 08, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the Southwest Annex Meeting Room.

Council Members Present: President Jeremy Overton, Vice President, Derek McGraw, Council Members: Jay Riley, Craig Schafer, Robert Schleter, Michael Stilwell, and Hannah Whitehead (absent) 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 – June 10th meeting minutes were approved as written.

Clerk/Treasurer Reports –these reports were acknowledged by the Council.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Sheriff Department - Sheriff Vanoven told the Council that background checks are being conducted on prospective new employees; some of their departments are working 12-hour shifts. A commissary report was provided to the Council, as required two times per year.

EMS – AJ provided a report to the Council and open house will be July 26th from 3-6. He feels their collections are back on track; there are roughly 600 claims awaiting payment.

Health Department – Administrator Shade gave Council their monthly reports; there were no questions. They are at the fair this week and invite everyone to stop by and check out all they have to offer. They are working on the “Food is Wellness” program.

EMA – Director McKinney is distributing weather radios and hearing-impaired devices that attach to them. RFPs have been sent out for a new emergency warning system. She is helping update radios for local fire departments and police departments. She is still working to try and get flood reimbursement.

OLD BUSINESS

Jail Project –George Ballard, Owners Representative told Council that the Commissioners had opened bids for the new correctional facility parking lot paving; bids were taken under advisement. There will be a meeting this week to discuss taking down the old jail which will include short and long-range plans. They had their first state jail inspection yesterday which he felt went very well. The federal lawsuit has been dismissed, and they no longer must provide reports on this matter.

Resolution for Allocation of Public Safety LIT Tax for Fire Services Provided by Townships, Fire Districts, Etc. – Attorney Spindler asked if anyone from the public wished to speak about the proposed allocation; no one requested to speak. He then explained that he was presenting a resolution to the Council, after receiving timely letters from the units requesting they receive a portion of the LIT public safety tax. He then read from the resolution the amounts that each entity would receive. Council Member McGraw made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Council Member Riley. The motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Wheel Tax – Commissioner Lewis explained that Engineer Holden wished to increase the current wheel tax rate. Engineer Holden would like to have a first reading on this rate increase, so the amount is raised

to the maximum allowable rate. If the council approves advertisement, Attorney Spindler will advertise the new rate, and Council will decide at the next meeting if they will adopt the new wheel tax rate. Council Member McGraw made the motion to advertise the new wheel tax rate, seconded by Council Member Schleter. The motion passed 6-0.

Radio Transmitter Project – Sheriff Vanoven explained, what he feels is, a very serious issue. Due to jail budget constraints, it was cost prohibitive to update the radio system. When the system was shut down to move into the new jail, part of the system did not come back to life. He explained the Motorola equipment he would like to purchase to the Council and that Motorola is an Indiana State preferred provider. Councilman McGraw agreed with the Sheriff. The Sheriff feels they have \$55,000 in EDIT; they would like to advertise an additional appropriation of \$70,000 in the E911 fund; and they would like to advertise for an additional appropriation of \$110,000 from Riverboat Fund (which has over \$600,000 in the fund). Councilman McGraw would like to advertise so they can fix this immediately. Council Member McGraw made the motion to advertise the above additional appropriations as needed, seconded by Council Member Riley. The motion passed 6-0.

Additional Appropriation Resolution

Fund Name/Number

General Fund 1000	10000 Personal Services	\$ 280,000
	30000 Other Services/Charges	\$ 2,000
Medical Care of Inmate Fund 1174	20000 Supplies	\$ 4,000
	30000 Other Services/Charges	\$ 3,000
MVH Fund 1176	20000 Supplies	\$1,500,000
Sheriff's Fleet Maintenance Fund 4011	20000 Supplies	\$ 25,000
	30000 Other Services/Charges	\$ 20,000

Council Member McGraw made the motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Council Member Stilwell. The vote was 6-0.

Transfer Requests:

Fund 1176 Motor Vehicle Highway Loc 0530 Highway Administration

From	11801	County Engineer	
Into	11805	County Engineer/Hwy Superintendent	\$14,229.
From	11113	Supervisor	
Into	11805	County Engineer/Hwy Superintendent	\$40,959.56

Fund 1135 Cumulative Bridge

From	11801	County Engineer	
Into	11805	County Engineer/Hwy Superintendent	\$72,940.10

Fund 1000 General Loc 06 County Surveyor

From	11122	GIS Director	
Into	33003	Professional Services	\$ 4,370.

Council Member McGraw made the motion to approve the transfers, seconded by Council Member Schleter. The vote was 6-0.

Adjournment -Councilman McGraw made the motion to adjourn.

Minutes from the July 8th meeting

Jeremy Overton, President

Derek McGraw, Vice-President

Jay Riley, Council Member

Craig Schafer, Council Member

Robert Schleiter, Council Member

Michael Stilwell, Council Member

Hannah Whitehead, Council Member

Attest:

Mike Watkins

Michael A. Watkins, Gibson County Auditor

