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Gibson County Council  
Special Session  
August 18, 2014  
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The Gibson County Council met in special session on August 18, 2014, at 9:00 AM at the North Annex Meeting Room.

Members Present: President Jeremy Overton, Vice-President Craig Pflug, Councilwoman LeAnn Smith, Councilman Bill McConnell, Tony Wolfe, George Ankenbrand, Derek McGraw and Sherri Smith, Gibson County Auditor

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

**New Business:**

President Overton asked for a moment of silence for Mrs. Jessie McConnell, Councilman Bill McConnell's wife.

Tax Abatement for Koetter-Smith – Todd Mosby, President and CEO of the Gibson County Economic Development Corporation, addressed the Council on behalf of another opportunity to employ more of our residents and bring about our first industrial development along the I69 Corridor. With him, this morning from Koetter & Smith is co-owner and COO, Mathew Smith.

Founded in 1974, Koetter & Smith is a privately owned biomass producer that recycles wood and other organic waste into such renewable products as equine and poultry bedding, mulches, and compost. The firm also produces and markets bulk boiler fuels and fuel pellets for residential use. They will provide a local outlet for a variety of area companies needing disposal alternatives that keep wood and other organic waste out of landfills.

As Koetter & Smith is now expanding, Gibson County has an opportunity to capture an estimated \$2.2 Million investment and an opportunity to employ 4 to 8 more people from our region. See presentation from Todd Mosby for extensive benefits package for Koetter & Smith employees.

As you can see Koetter & Smith is the type of employer any county would appreciate having in their community. I can tell you this project came to us from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation which means and is a fact they have and continue to look at properties in other parts of our state, including some counties next to us. Koetter & Smith has purchased property in eastern Gibson County and hopes to locate near Buckskin.

As the lead economic development organization for Gibson County, I submit to you a real and personal property tax plan to phase-in new taxes over a 5-year period. In year one Koetter & Smith will see 100% of their real and personal property taxes abated and that abatement will decrease by 20% each year through the five year period. So in year two 80% of their property

taxes will be abated, year three 60%, year four 40%, year five 20% until year six when 0% of their property taxes will be abated; thus paying all 100%.

As outlined in the packets, the calculations from Umbaugh & Associates identify in the year 2016 Koetter & Smith will pay approximately \$5,220 in new real property taxes to the county and \$8,180 new personal property taxes for a total of \$13,400. Those figures will increase and decrease for a couple of years before settling in at approximately \$13,080. Over the five years, the savings to Koetter & Smith would be \$49,880; while they would pay \$40,430. Then average approximately \$13,080 each year thereafter.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Gibson County Economic Development Corporation, I ask the Gibson County Council vote to provide the necessary incentives to bring these new jobs, new investment and new additional tax dollars to Gibson County.

Yes, this property sits within the I69 corridor, there are potentially 3 sites. In phase 1, taking pallets, non-treated lumber. In phase 2, trees and tree tops can be taken in from our compost and storm cleanup. Recycling is focus. Initial product will be poultry bedding.

In an effort to encourage industry in the East Gibson region, Councilman Pflug made a motion to approve the 5 year phase in tax abatement, seconded by Councilman McGraw. Motion approved 7-0.

Request from Juanita Beadle, Assessor, to hire part-time employee, request received Council Consensus.

Meeting adjourned by President Overton.

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Jeremy Overton, President

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Craig Pflug, Vice-President

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LeAnn Smith, Councilwoman

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Bill McConnell, Councilman

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Tony Wolfe, Councilman

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George Ankenbrand, Councilman

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Derek McGraw, Councilman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sherri Smith, Gibson County Auditor