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Gibson County Council  
Regular Session  
Budget Meetings, Readings and Adoption  
August 10, 2010

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The Gibson County Council met on July 13, 2010, at 9:00 AM in the North Annex Meeting Room.

Members present:

Jeremy Overton, Pres      George Ankenbrand, VP  
D. Craig Pflug              William McConnell  
William George              Tony Wolfe              Cecil R. Allen

Members absent:

The meeting was called to order with all present standing and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting of July 13, 2010, were approved with a correction on the vote for the Prosecutor's budget, the vote had been 5-1 not 6-1, with a motion by Ankenbrand seconded by Allen and passed 7-0.

Department Reports: EMS: Dan Alvey gave the monthly reports and reported that he has a paramedic position open and is testing for part time people.

Safety: Andy Schafer thanked Dan Alvey for presenting information to the Highway Department concerning how to handle the extreme heat on the job site to prevent any heat related health concerns.

Highway: Jerry Heldt gave a work progress report.

Sheriff: Allen Harmon asked if the new hire policy includes the personnel at Community Corrections. The Council stated that it does because they are county employees even though it is grant money which supports the funding. He is replacing the Program Director who has retired. The person being hired for the position is a past employee that has been gone for about two years. He asked if he could request that the starting salary be higher than the 90% of base pay stated in the Salary Ordinance. He will need to present the request in written form with all necessary information for the Council to make the decision.

EMA: Terry Hedges was asked by McConnell about the expenses incurred during the "EMGE" property fire. Hedges reported that the county paid for the fuel used by the fire equipment, the EPA paid for the demolition during the fire and the property owner is responsible for all other expenses.

Health: Kanda Walden requested to be able to hire a part time preparedness coordinator and part time nurse. There was discussion of her duties and she stated the person would be working on preparedness and then filling in when a nurse is needed. It was agreed to allow her to hire this person. She also requested additional funding in the Bio-terrorism grant, \$4,800, and Tobacco Master Settlement Grant, \$15,000 for Tulip Tree Health Center. The additional requests were approved to advertise.

Additional (advertised): Highway: This concerns the new hours and funds needed to pay all necessary areas that the Commissioners allowed to complete road work during the longer date time hours. This was approved with a motion by Pflug seconded by Wolfe and passed 7-0.

Election: Funding necessary to pay meals for workers for the fall election. This was overlooked during the preparation of the budget. This was allowed with a motion by Wolfe seconded by Allen and passed 7-0.

Recorder: This additional is to correct a change within the budget due to a change by the State to the Perpetuation Fund financing. It is necessary to pay the salary and computer expense within this fund. This was approved with a motion by Allen seconded by McConnell and passed 7-0.

Superior Court: Judge Penrod asked for \$50,000 from the Supplemental Public Defender Fund. A motion to approve this was made by Ankenbrand seconded by Wolfe and passed 7-0.

Commissioners: There is a necessity for an additional of \$60,000 to replace money transferred from the Workman's Comp to fulfill an obligation within Liability Claims. After discussion it was approved to use Rainy Day Fund money with a motion by Allen seconded by Wolfe and passed 7-0.

Transfers: Highway: A request to transfer \$20,000 from Culverts into Lead, Heavy, Light equipment operator Overtime and \$1,000 from Office Supplies to Administration Overtime. This was approved with a motion by Ankenbrand seconded by Allen and passed 7-0.

Tulip Tree Health Center: Nora Nixon presented an appeal for funding the Dental Program at the Center. Wolfe asked about the availability of budgets for the Center. He is concerned what kind of impact the money would have on the program and if this would be necessary for the continuation of the program. A onetime donation is one concern but an ongoing obligation is another. There was discussion about the Center with Allen stated that the Center has been open for 10 years and see it continuing for many years to come. He would like to see the Council earmark \$25,000 from either Rainy Day or Riverboat and see what ever other funding she could get otherwise. Wolfe stated he would like to see the records with all Council present to discuss the issue. Overton stated that this would be a good idea and possibly during budget time and with the struggle that the County is having at this time with health insurance for the employees.

Old Business: Sign the approved Salary Ordinance.

New Business: Bob Townsend stated that the Commissioners have been looking into the possibilities to do renovations on the electrical and mechanical of the Courthouse and Jail. After the studies have been

made it has been determined that it will cost approximately \$1.5 million. He stated some of the findings and problems that have occurred over the last couple of years. There is now an opportunity to get federal subsidized with a guaranteed but would like to have the Council allow \$300,000 from Rainy Day Fund to get this project started. The EDIT Fund could sustain the payments for a 15 year bond loan. The projected energy savings for both the Courthouse and Jail is \$24,000 a year. A motion was made by Allen to use \$300,000 from Rainy Day Fund to pursue the \$1.5 million bond with the Commissioners taking 100% of the bond payments from the EDIT Fund seconded by Wolfe and passed 6-1 with McConnell casting the nay vote.

Princeton Public Library: Ed Prior, the Council appointee to the library board, asked for the Council acknowledgement of his conflict of interest statement because of his position with First Bank which has possibility of the bank doing business with the library. This fact is recognized and the letter acknowledge with President Overton's signature.

Council of Ageing of Gibson County: Becky Cederholm, representing the Council of Ageing, asked the Council to consider at budget time to increase the County's contribution for 2011 to \$29,000 from \$25,000. She explained what services and activities the Center provides.

**Recess for 10 minutes and start budget session.** Overton announced that the Council would be having budget session the rest of the day, the next day and Monday and Tuesday of the next week.

Budget session started after the recess. First department to come was the Highway with a request for an increase for the grade-all driver because of the added responsibility needed to run this piece of equipment.

Pflug stated he had to leave at noon but would be back at 3:00.

Break for lunch resume at 1:00.

Met with department heads.

Michael Stevenson, Surveyor, asked for up to \$7,000 for a 42 inch color scanner for his office from Rainy Day or Riverboat. He stated that he has an opportunity to buy this scanner at a reduced price which would allow them to scan the larger maps, etc. for easier access for documents and such. This was allowed with a motion by Allen seconded by Wolfe and passed 6-0.

Wolfe had to leave and Pflug returned 3:00.

Having met with other departments the budget session was halted and would resume at 8 AM on Wednesday, August 11, 2010.

**Reconvened 8 AM, 8-11-10**

Councilman Pflug absent

Met with department heads.

Nora Nixon of Tulip Tree Health Center came to discuss possible donation from the Council. She stated that the total cost of the Dental Program for the year would be approximately \$100,000. She presented the paper work that was requested at the regular meeting. Allen made a motion to pledge \$25,000 for this purpose from the Rainy Day fund with Wolfe seconding and passing 6-0.

Break for lunch resume at 1:00.

Reconvened

During the afternoon session Sheriff Harmon asked for the Council to allow the person hired at the jail to be paid at the 94% level of beginning pay based on the years of experience with the department in previous years. This was allowed with a motion by Allen seconded by McConnell and passed 6-0.

Budget session recessed until Monday, August 16, 2010 at 8 AM.

**Reconvened 8 AM, 8-16-10**

All members present

Allen stated that he would like to return the budgets to the department heads to allow them to try and reduce their own budgets by 5% to allow a 2% raise for the employees. There was discussion and a decision made not to do this because the Council didn't think it would be possible due to all the cuts already made within the budgets.

Overton stated that the goal should be to balance the budget without over spending what revenue is expected in 2011 and be able to save by watching the spending during the year to save where possible. McConnell stated that he would not vote for a tax increase.

The State estimation of income for 2011 is 11.4 million dollars which is an increase of \$500,000. The amount of general fund 2011 proposed budgets is 12.383 which is mostly an increase in wages.

Met with department heads

Break for lunch resume at 1:00

Reconvened

George Ankenbrand presented a conflict of interest statement. This was filed and accepted by the Council.

Budget session recessed until Tuesday, August 17, 2010 at 8 AM.

**Reconvened at 8AM, 8-17-10**

The Highway department presented two out of series transfers: in the 702-01 budget, \$2,011.64 from Drainage taxes to Stone and Gravel and in the 0790 budget, \$60,000 from labor and equipment to bridge inspection. The transfers were allowed with a motion by Ankenbrand seconded by Wolfe and passed 7-0.

After discussion of budgets the Council recessed until Monday August 23, 2010, at 8 AM. Due to a conflict the meeting was changed to Tuesday, August 24, 2010 at 8 AM. The media was notified.

**Reconvened at 8 AM, 8-24-10**

All members present.

There was discussion of the 911 and Wireless funds received by the Sheriff's department.

Kanda Walden, Health Dept., asked for a clarification on the wages to be paid the part time person that was hired the past week for Preparedness Coordinator and Part time Nurse Positions. According to the Salary Ordinance a part time position earns \$9.00 per hour and a part time nurse earns \$17.00 per hour. Walden requested a \$15.50 per hour salary for easier bookkeeping. After discussion a motion to allow the \$15.50 per hour was made by Allen seconded by Ankenbrand and passed 6-1 with Overton casting the nay vote.

Wolfe made a motion to include the wording "up to" (\$17 per hour) to the statement in the Salary Ordinance for the part time nurse position. The motion was seconded by Ankenbrand and passed 7-0. Salary Ordinance for 2011 would include a grade all line in the Highway budge for heavy equipment operators at eh salary of \$16.04 per hour with a total of 13 heavy equipment operators.

The meeting for budget readings was discussed. The Council would met Monday, September 13, 2010, from 6:00 to 6:30 to check over the budget to make sure no mistakes were made, the regular session meeting for September would be at 6:30 with the first budget reading starting immediately after the regular meeting. This information would be sent to the media.

The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Overton seconded by Wolfe and passed 7-0.

**Monday, September 13, 2010 First Budget Reading**

All members present

After the regular session Council meeting the first reading of the 2011 budget was held.

**Tuesday, September 14, 2010, 8AM**

Reconvened

All members present

The seconded reading of the budget 2011 was held.

A review of all binding and non-binding budgets was made. There were no recommendations and any of the binding or non-binding budgets.

A motion to approve the Owensville-Montgomery Township Fire District budget was made by Ankenbrand seconded by McConnell and passed 7-0

A motion to approve the Solid Waste District budget was made by Pflug seconded by Ankenbrand and passed 7-0.

A motion to approve all non-binding budgets was made by Ankenbrand seconded by Allen and passed 7-0.

A motion to adjourn was made by Pflug seconded by Ankenbrand and passed 7-0.

**September 24, 2010 Budget Adoption Meeting**

All members present

Meeting was called to order with all standing and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Note: Strike the Casa Director \$5,000 from the 0497 budget

New hire in Health Dept. to replace Kanda Walden upon her retirement

A motion to pass and approve the 2011 budget was made by Ankenbrand seconded by McConnell and passed 6-1 with Allen casting the nay vote.

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Jeremy Overton, Pres.

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George Ankenbrand, VP

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D. Craig Pflug

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William McConnell

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Tony Wolfe

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William George

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cecil R. Allen

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mary B. Key, Auditor