
Gibson County Council
Regular Session
July 9, 2013

The Gibson County Council met in regular session on July 9, 2013, at 9:00 AM at the North Annex Meeting Room.

Members Present: Jeremy Overton, LeAnn Smith, Bill McConnell, Tony Wolfe, George Ankenbrand, Derek McGraw and Sherri Smith, Gibson County Auditor

Absent: Craig Pflug

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

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from June 11, 2013 meeting were read and approved by the Council.

Personnel Requests: Dr. Krishna and Cheri Sweeney addressed the Council regarding Ordinance No. 2013-01, increasing rates charged by the Health Department. President Overton asked what they did if someone told them that they could not afford to pay, Cheri Sweeney stated they work with the families. Councilman Wolfe made motion to approve the Ordinance, seconded by Councilman McGraw. Motion carried 6-0.

Dr. Krishna went on to discuss the hiring of the New Health Administrator, along with approval to utilize Jennifer Tuley on a part time basis to assist in training through mid-August. President Overton stated they have already created a "part time line" and will add an additional \$2,500 to pay her a maximum of 24 hours per week, work done in the office and time clock utilized. Councilman Ankenbrand made the motion, seconded by Councilman McGraw. Motion carried 6-0.

Dr. Krishna addressed the Council regarding the Salary for the New Administrator. President Overton stated that the Council reviewed all salary increases during the budget period for the following year. No increase would be considered at this time. Dr. Krishna went on to say that during the interview process they did not disclose the current or proposed salary to prospects. Dr. Brink stated they have a candidate that they would like to hire but are not sure that person would take the position at the current salary of \$38,100 and he felt it imperative they offer a higher salary.

President Overton stated he felt the position should have been advertised at the current salary so as to make potential candidates aware of the salary. He then asked about the bio-terrorism grant. In the past, the bulk of the bio-terrorism monies totaling \$3000 per year were going to the Health Administrator and Dr. Brink stated they have not made a decision on this program since Jennifer Tuley resigned. Concluding extended discussions, the Council reiterated that salary increases are handled during budget times.

President Overton asked Dr. Brink if he believed there was \$3,000-\$4,000 available in your approved 2013 Budget to do an out-of series transfer (if necessary) into the Administrator Salary Line and Dr. Brink believed there was. President Overton stated that this issue would be tabled to the end of today's meeting to determine if funds would be available.

Dr. Brink stated that a request for an increase for the Public Health Nurse would be dropped at this time and brought up during budget meetings.

Dr. Brink requested additional part time hours for Bill Tuley, the summer months are his busiest time. Currently 24 hours a week has been approved.

President Overton stated that an HR Director or an Attorney will need to be hired to help answer these questions as they come up. County Attorney McDonald stated that if you allow that to happen and they violate the rules, and it falls into the review window, you may be fined.

Department Report

Sheriff Ballard presented the Commissary Report to Council. Lawsuit on the Pension Plan by former Sheriff Harmon has been dismissed. Inmate garden looks good.

Veterans Officer Barbara Schenks presented quarterly report to Council. Councilman Wolfe asked if she had enough volunteers to drive the vans. She said she has four drivers but could always use more and this would help put the word out.

Old Business:

Todd Mosby and Mike Crabtree were asked to come to the meeting today and Councilman McConnell stated he had heard people were questioning the number of employees vs. the commitment at the facility. Mr. Mosby stated they have more employees working there at the facility than they had originally identified. The numbers printed in the newspaper are correct, 110 in the building. He will provide a report at the end of each year for three years and there is an additional 60 employees to be hired.

New Business:

County Clerk Becky Woodburn made a request of the Council to replace an employee in the Clerk's Child Support office. Pam Fetcher has transferred to the Prosecutor's Child Support Office. County Clerk Woodburn intends to hire Sara Schoenheit into this position at 100% Salary with the Council's approval. Council Approved Salary.

County Recorder Debbie Wethington made a request of the Council to replace Sara Schoenheit who transferred to the Clerk's Child Support office. County Recorder Wethington intends to hire Hanah Williford into this position at 100% due to previous work experience in the Assessor's office. County Approved Salary.

Surveyor Michael Stevenson requested transfer from his drainage board budget into fund number 1158. He commented that he did not think he had to come before Council for this transfer. Auditor Sherri Smith asked him to present this request to the Council, because of a meeting scheduled for today and not miss the opportunity. 1st Deputy Marilyn Mason stated they do not have to transfer any funds, the Surveyor can simply write a claim. Councilman Wolfe requested Surveyor Stevenson explain the improvements to the drainage maps that they've made and problems they face with water sheds. You used to have a Property Tax Bill AND a Drainage Tax Bill. The State wanted the Drainage Tax added to the Property Tax Bill and gave the Auditor's office 2-3 weeks to make the change. As property was transferred, the ditch tax associated did always follow the correct property.

Auditor Smith made a request of the Council to transfer \$2000 from the part time salary line to overtime. It is an in-series salary transfer which needs to be approved by the Council. It was determined that released mortgages had not been removed from tax statements for two years. That information has since been corrected by a review of the Recorder's records and a weekly report to the Auditor's office which allows us to maintain up to date records. Motion made by Councilman Wolfe to approve the transfer, seconded by Council Ankenbrand. Motion carried 6-0.

Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Grant – President Overton stated this is a two year grant for \$57,080. It will be paid as a cost reimbursement grant by the Indiana State Department of Health. The money will not actually be spent or paid out in advance of receipt of the funds. Gwen Seikman, is the contract employee. Councilwoman Smith made the motion to approve the appropriation of funds, seconded by Councilman Wolfe. Motion carried 6-0.

Council returned to discussion of New Health Administrator's Salary. They reviewed the Health Departments budget for the remainder of the year looking for funds to apply toward the proposed Salary increase. Councilman Wolfe made a motion to waive the probation period and pay the new Health Administrator a current salary of \$38,100. Motion did not receive a second. Councilman Ankenbrand made a motion to amend the Salary Ordinance to \$40,500 and waive the typical 90% probationary period, seconded by Councilman McGraw. Motion carried 5-1 with Councilman Wolfe voting against. The Council went on to state that there should be no expectation of an increase during budget talks.

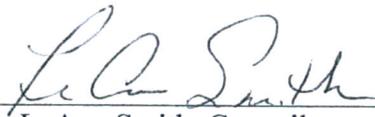
Councilman Wolfe has requested a representative of Vuteq come to the August meeting and discuss SB1-102. He felt if we were holding one Company to a certain standard, they should all be held to that standard and would appreciate a report from Vuteq.

Commissioner Bledsoe asked Auditor Smith about the program that was initiated earlier in the year with SRI in regard to double homesteads. Auditor Smith stated they had come up with 400 names initially and now they are down to about 200 names on the list and we were still working our way through that list. The initial contact letter has been sent out questioning and verification of the credit.

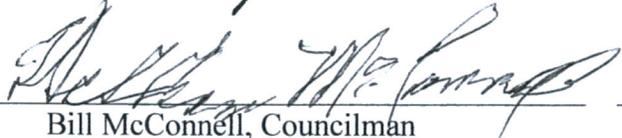
With no further business, President Overton recessed the meeting for five minutes to reconvene and hold Annual Budget Meetings with Department Heads.



Jeremy Overton, President



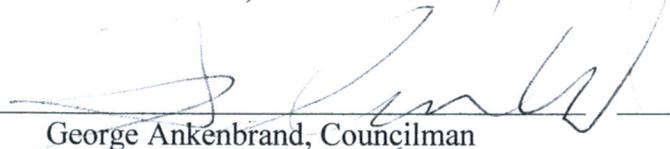
LeAnn Smith, Councilwoman



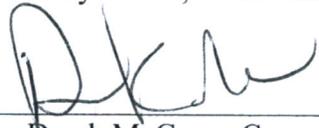
Bill McConnell, Councilman



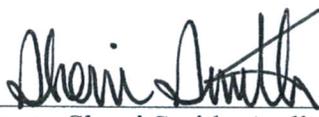
Tony Wolfe, Councilman



George Ankenbrand, Councilman



Derek McGraw, Councilman



Attest: Sherri Smith, Auditor