
Gibson County Council
Regular Session
March 12, 2013

The Gibson County Council met in regular session on March 12, 2013, at 9:00 AM at the North Annex Meeting Room.

Members Present: Jeremy Overton, Craig Pflug, LeAnn Smith, 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 Jeremy Overton.

Special Requests:

Mr. Phillip Earles was awarded a thirty-seven year Certificate of Appreciation from Emergency Management Service by President Overton. He was asked to speak of changes throughout the years. He personally felt that Indiana has some of the best educated EMS programs. Some of Mr. Earles' family members, including his Mother, were in attendance.

Judge Penrod addressed the Council in February and now re-addressing them in regard to a specific dollar amount for the full time position, because \$31,964 which is more than the 90% originally approved. He requested that the salary of \$31,964 be paid the same as 2001-01-01-21. Request did not require a Salary Ordinance Amendment because the line was already funded. Program is subject to State Salary Requirements and there are two positions that will increase in pay simultaneously. Salary Ordinance will remain the same on these two lines.

He also told them that the Drug Court has received its Provisional Certification and they can start collecting fees for services and will also setup respective budgets. Derek McGraw told Council that he had observed the process first hand and encouraged everyone to attend. Drug Court is held every Monday at 1:00 in the afternoon.

Jason Spindler spoke on behalf of Judge Meade. Correspondence has been circulated pertaining to a supplement for Frances Barr as Chief Probation Officer. Joe Williams was recently certified as a probation officer, bringing the total to four including the Chief. State Law mandates her supplement be increased to \$7500 as of the date of certification, and the Judge is asking the change be made effective March 1st, 2013. Salary Ordinance to be amended and increase funded out of Line 2003, Circuit Court Probation Administration. Tony Wolfe made motion and seconded by Bill McConnell. Motion carried 7-0.

Sherri Smith spoke for Becky Woodburn, Clerk. Another request was made of the County Council to consider a pay increase to 95% of base for a 2nd Deputy, Cindy Wernz. Council decided that due to past practice, they would not approve an increase at this time. However they did agree to entertain the idea of bumping her salary to 94% of base for 2014. Sherri Smith will contact Becky Woodburn.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from January 8, 2013, and January 23, 2013, meeting were read and approved through a motion by Tony Wolfe and seconded by LeAnn Smith. Motion carried 7-0.

The minutes from February 12, 2013, meeting were read and approved through a motion by Criag Pflug and seconded by George Ankenbrand. Motion carried 6-0

Department Reports:

EMS – Dan Alvey provided Council with Monthly Report and stated they had write-offs for the month of February in the amount \$35,105.22. Mr. Alvey also made a request of the Council to fill Mr. Earles' vacated position. Council approved filling the position.

Sheriff Ballard provided monthly reports and office statistics to the Council. He was asked about the new medical care program for the inmates and stated that he thought everything was going great and that it was a much better care for the inmates.

Old Business:

Gibson County Commissioners – Requesting additional Appropriations which have been advertised. George Ankenbrand made a motion to approve additional appropriations of \$22,500 from General Fund to 1000-30-03-63 (Maintenance on Equipment) and seconded by Bill McConnell. Motion carried 7-0.

Salary Ordinance – Amended to Remove Nurse Line– motion to table, include pay increase for Frances Barr and will and sign at next meeting.

New Business:

Amended Economic Development Plan – Tony Wolfe addressed the Council regarding the State's Distribution of the Edit Tax and explained that he had met with each of the Commissioners in regard to receipt of the Edit Monies which went directly into the Edit Account instead of the Rainy Day Fund. This year the certified distribution to the County will be \$3,568,782 to all units in the County.

Cecil Allen address the Council with regard to the Plan that there is \$150,000 for Gibson County Economic Development. He said that last year when they submitted their Edit fund, the question was raised why did it go from \$100,000 to \$150,000 and it was explained that it was a one time \$50,000. Now he sees \$50,000 in 2013 and 2014 making it 3 times that \$50,000 is being put into Economic Development and he is questioning "Why?"

It wasn't very long ago that the Commissioners came before the TIF district to ask for money to buy vehicles and he felt the \$50,000 would be better used to buy vehicles for the County rather than the Gibson County Economic Development Building.

Tony Wolfe stated that the Building was purchased two years ago and they wanted \$250,000 for renovations. There was discussion and the Council would not let \$250,000 out of the Edit Fund all at once. Knowing GCED could pursue grants, they reduced the figure to \$50,000 per year and maybe they wouldn't need the money because of receipt of grant money. This was a pledge or a promise made to ED. He went on to say that Gibson County is not investing near the money that other Counties are investing when it comes to Economic Development.

Cecil Allen said that the Commissioners stated this was agreed to only as a one-time pledge for \$50,000 and it is in their minutes. Who pledged \$250,000 over a five year period and when was it brought up and voted on either by the Commissioners or the Council?

Bruce Fisher stated that he did not remember the \$250,000 and that the \$50,000 would be a down payment for a \$500,000 grant. President Overton stated that the Commissioners submitted their Budget.

County Attorney Jim McDonald stated the Commissioners approve the Plan and then submit their Budget to the Council. \$150,000 is for Economic Development and he asked Tony Wolfe to tell how much is in that fund, as well as the name of that fund? Tony Wolfe stated the fund had \$2,451,000 and the title of the Budget is "Economic Development Income Tax". \$2,451,000 is to be spent on Economic Development Income Tax. The budget will come from the Commissioners to the County Council for \$150,000 for Economic Development. He doesn't recall a five year plan. A budget will come every year to the Council for their approval. President Overton asked Cecil Allen if he thought they should spend less on Economic Development and he said "no". The Commissioners have no strings to the Budget that goes through Economic Development. They make a request of \$150,000 and that is what goes into the budget. What they spend it on is totally up the Economic Development Corporation, whether they spend it on buildings or on jobs to this community, their decision, we have no control on where they spend their money, we just have a budget.

Cecil Allen wants Economic Development to have \$100,000, original agreed amount, and the balance of \$50,000 go to the Commissioners to buy vehicles. County Attorney Jim McDonald stated that the Commissioners would say that the Economic Development Income Tax Fund is not a slush fund. This fund has been used to fund roads and GIS Employee, etc. Vehicles should come out of the Council Council's Budget.

President Overton stated that they have a Budget in front of them and Tony Wolfe states that the SBOA and the DLGF says it has already been appropriated either approve the entire amount or do not approve any of it. Cannot approve individual lines, they have had that discussion before.

Tony Wolfe made a motion to approve the Amended Economic Development Plan, and seconded by Derek McGraw. Motion carried 7-0.

Dan Alvey – Automated CPR and Monitor demonstrated to the Council for purchase of equipment. Name of Presenter was Justen Spirk with Zoll Medical. Dan requested the Council consider the purchase of this equipment for \$165,000. President Overton stated they will make a decision at the April meeting.

Sheriff George Ballard – Replace Communications Officer – Per County Council Policy, Sheriff Ballard is requesting permission to approve the hiring a Communications Officer (Dispatcher) Lea Wickert to replace Rachel Hayes. Council approved the hire. He also told them about the Commissioners approval to plant a vegetable garden for the inmates to work.

Sheriff George Ballard – Ordinance – tax warrants and out of state civil process collections to go directly into the pension fund. Tony Wolfe made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Craig Pflug. Motion carried 7-0.

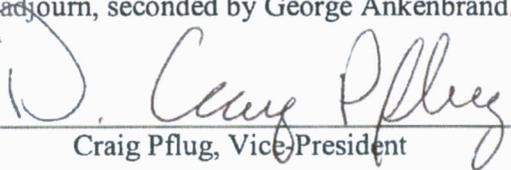
Juanita Beadle – Requests permission to purchase a new computer for \$1,000 out of the Sales Disclosure Fund with a balance of \$14,575.00, line 1131. Craig Pflug made a motion to approve the purchase and seconded by LeAnn Smith. Motion carried 7-0.

Tony Wolfe addressed the Council with regard to Fund Balances.

Meeting Adjourned: Tony Wolfe made a motion to adjourn, seconded by George Ankenbrand.



Jeremy Overton, President



Craig Pflug, Vice-President

LeAnn Smith

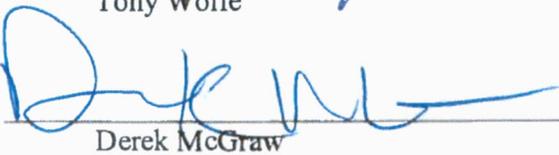
William McConnell



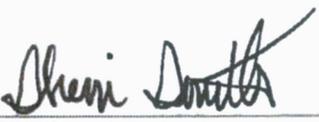
Tony Wolfe



George Ankenbrand



Derek McGraw

Attest: 

Sherri Smith, Auditor