
Gibson County Council

Regular Session

May 14, 2013

The Gibson County Council met in Regular Session on May 14, 2013, at 9 AM at the North Annex Meeting Room.

Members Present: President Jeremy Overton, Vice-President Craig Pflug, LeAnn Smith, Bill McConnell, Tony Wolfe, George Ankenbrand and Marilyn Mason, 1st Deputy.

Absent: Derek McGraw and Auditor, Sherri Smith.

Open with Pledge:

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

Special Request:

Dr. Brink and Dr. Krishna representing the Gibson County Board of Health came this morning to address the County Council with regard to Salary Increases. The Board of Health has unanimously approved a salary increase for the County Nurse and the Administrator. Monies can come from the Health Commission Fund, or the local Health Maintenance Fund. Request a \$4400 increase for the Nurse, with Social Security at \$340 and a Request of \$6900 increase for the Administrator/County Health Nurse with \$760 toward social security. The decision was made for multiple reasons, specifically to bring them up to local regional salaries. The Health Board took into account that over the past four years, close to \$25,000 has been saved as a result of several different programs initiated, with overall improvements, as well as grant monies applied for and received, better serving our communities as well as compliance with other Counties. Dr. Krishna stated that in order to keep these highly trained and qualified personnel, there must be a significant increase in their Salaries effective immediately. Council will take the increases under advisement.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from April 9th, 2013 Regular Meeting were read and approved. Motion made by Tony Wolfe to approve the minutes, seconded by George Ankenbrand. Motion carried 4-0.

Department Reports:

- Dan Alvey – EMS – presented March Report. Write-offs for the Month of March \$106,066.73
- Sheriff George Ballard – presented Collection Report. He also wanted the Council to know that this was National Law Enforcement Week and that Wednesday was National

Law Enforcement Day. In addition, several of his deputies would be recognized at this Month's Kiwanis Meeting.

- Jennifer Tuley - Health Department – Submitted Monthly Report for April.
- Terry Hedges – EMA – In connection with National Law Enforcement week, a Memorial Service will be held down at the State Police Post on Wednesday. He also wanted the Council to know that legislation was passed and there will be signage posted on I69 bridges with the names of Gibson County's fallen officers within Gibson County.

Old Business:

Juanita Beadle – County General Additional for Reassessment - \$30,179.00 has been advertised. Motion made by George Ankenbrand to approve the additional, seconded by Bill McConnell. Motion carried 6-0.

Commissioners - Building Fund Additional - \$140,000.00 has been advertised. Motion made by Tony Wolfe to approve the additional, seconded by George Ankenbrand. Motion carried 6-0

Windsor Plastics Abatement – Abatement paperwork was not filed by Windsor Plastics per the Assessor, they did not receive an abatement on their 12 pay 13 property taxes.

New Business:

Sheriff Ballard – Referring to Ordinance #1 – asking that the Council approve monies already in Civil Process Fund 4911 and Sheriff Tax Warrant Fund 4910 prior to the Ordinance be transferred into the Gibson County Police Pension Fund 5501. George Ankenbrand made a motion to approve the transfers, seconded by Tony Wolfe. Motion carried 6-0.

Sheriff Ballard – Mowing Equipment and Trailer – asking the Council to approve the purchase of two zero turn mowers and trailer to help maintain cemeteries within Gibson County. Bill McConnell stated that he believes that this is the responsibility of the ten Township Trustees and does not believe this is a County obligation. Tony Wolfe stated that he felt the Trustees should provide the equipment as well. There was much discussion on this topic and Sheriff Ballard will contact the Trustees in regard to purchasing the mowers. President Overton stated that the Council will take no action on this item as this time.

County Status Qualifications and Overtime – Part time hour reduction from 40 per week to 23.5 per week maximum, effective June 1st, change requested by the Auditor's office and put into place as a result of the Health Care Act. Tony Wolfe stated that at a recent AIC meeting that the part time hours issue as well as others came to the fore front with recent change in regard to the new Health Care laws going into effect in January 2014. Dan Alvey stated that this will be a problem with all 24 hour service departments. Jim McDonald as well as others are working on these issues and will keep everyone posted as to any changes.

Thiesen Bowers & Associates – Stevenson vs. Gibson County Lawsuit – invoice for \$7153.00. Tony Wolfe made a motion to pay this invoice from the Rainy Day Fund, seconded by George Ankenbrand. Motion carried 6-0. No date on the appeal as of today.

2013 County Fund Loans – Marilyn Mason addressed the Council asking in advance, for a County Fund Loan in the event, one is required in 2013. President Overton addressed the Council with regard to borrowing to cover expenses prior to the Spring/Fall Tax Draw - In the spring, the first tax draw is a much larger draw than the Fall draw. Council also has a huge number of appropriations that go out in January. In the Spring of 2011 – borrowed from another fund to make a few payrolls. In the Fall of 2011 – did not borrow. In the Spring of 2012 – 1st time they did not draw. But they also received the draw a month earlier than normal. Spring 2013 – Draw is on time, but they may need to borrow money to meet payrolls, if need be, they can borrow money from CUM Bridge fund. With no further discussion, Bill McConnell made a motion to approve the loan if needed prior to the tax draw, seconded by Craig Pflug. Motion carried 6-0.

Sabrina Frederick – Fort Branch Library Appropriation – They are building a new Library Branch in Haubstadt, and they have received a \$400,000 grant from OCRA. To meet OCRA criteria on this grant, there have been donations from the following: \$25,000 from Toyota, \$20,000 from the Gibson County Foundation as well as monies donated from the Somerfest Committee and the Town of Haubstadt. But the Library is expected to come up with \$94,183. They have this money located in the LIRF or Library Improvement Reserve Fund (also known as the Library Cum Fund). When the Council reviews Library’s Budget, they will see a line in their General Fund that allows them to transfer whatever dollar amount they need into the LIRF fund everywhere year. Bill McConnell asked if the State Tax Board allows this transfer and she said that they do. Now that they are ready to spend this money they must ask for an additional appropriation out of the existing Library monies, not additional tax money. They are asking for the remaining OCRA match of money to be taken from the Library Cum Fund as an additional appropriation and consequently approved by the County Council. She is making the request at this meeting and the additional appropriation will be advertised and then the County Council will revisit and vote at the next meeting. The Council gave their consent to advertise.

Commissioner Steve Bottoms – Presented this State of Indiana Proclamation to the County Council in regard to Emergency Medical Services Week, May 19-25 and it was read in full to the County Council.

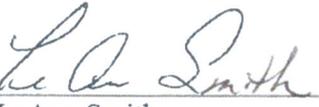
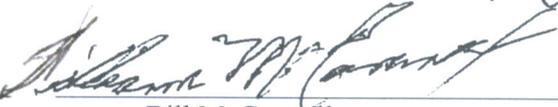
Treasurer’s Dept. made a transfer request of the Council – Line 1000-03-01-16 (part time) in the amount of \$485.00 to be transferred to Line 1000-03-01-19 (overtime). There was a line in the Budget, but no money was appropriated for 2013 and it was not caught before her budget approval. George Ankenbrand made a motion that the part time monies be transferred into the overtime line, seconded by LeAnn Smith. Motion carried 6-0.

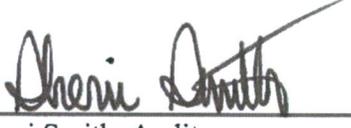
Commissioner President Bledsoe reported that the Phone and Data Systems should be installed by May 23rd and that he would report the status at the next meeting.

Tony Wolfe addressed the Council regarding a decision made in the General Assembly, with the Governor’s signature, that over \$700,250 of available Highway Money would be distributed over the next two years. Marilyn Mason stated we would receive a partial distribution in August of this year. General Fund monies will see a reduction of approximately \$120,000 as a result of the

end of the Inheritance Tax and a reduction in the FIT or Fiscal Income Tax. So the Highway money is a welcomed relief.

With no further business, motion was made by LeAnn Smith to adjourn the meeting, seconded by George Ankenbrand. Motion carried 6-0.

 _____ Jeremy Overton, President	 _____ Craig Pflug, Vice-President
 _____ LeAnn Smith	 _____ Bill McConnell
 _____ Tony Wolfe	 _____ George Ankenbrand

Attest: 

Sherri Smith, Auditor