
Gibson County Council
Regular Session
March 8, 2011

The Gibson County Council met in regular session on March 8, 2011 at 9:00 AM in the North Annex Meeting Room.

Members Present: George Ankenbrand, President, Jeremy Overton, D. Craig Pflug, William McConnell, William George and LeAnn Smith. Tony Wolfe was absent.

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

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting, February 8, 2011 were approved with a motion by Craig Pflug and seconded by Jeremy Overton. Passed 6-0.

Department Reports:

EMS director Dan Alvey presented the council with the end of month report for February 2011. Write-Offs were identified as \$45,569.68 and collections of \$88,306.64. Discussion was held about why the amount is down from previous months. Reasons given were that mainly Medicare is slow to pay their share early in the year and Medicare payments are down this year.

Health Department: Jennifer Schatz reported that the Health Department had hosted a health fair at the Princeton High School this past weekend. Over 320 people attended and 200 participated. Forty booths were set up and \$2350.00 was collected from sponsors. It was recommended that the health fair move to a new location next year.

Sheriff Department: Sheriff Ballard offered a reduction in cost to the county by recommending to the Council to remove one salary line for one matron and move that money to hiring a new 2nd shift corrections officer. Discussion was held and William George made it a motion and it was seconded by Craig Pflug. Motion passed 6-0.

Recorder: Debbie Wethington asked the Council for permission to transfer \$15,000.00 from the perpetuations fund to fund part time help. Craig Pflug made a motion to approve to spend up to \$15,000.00 and be moved from the perpetuation fund and to keep the part time help to fewer than 1200 hours a year. Jeremy Overton seconded and passed 6-0.

Ft. Branch Library: A Trustee needs to be appointed to the Ft. Branch Library Board of Trustees. Jim Bryant was recommended for the position. Jeremy Overton made a motion approve Jim Bryant as the new Trustee. William McConnell seconded and passed 6-0.

Health Department: Jennifer Schatz told the board Charles Goldbach is retiring on May 1, 2011. She would like to hire a new Food Service Sanitarian. After much discussion the Council recommended that the health department use part time until it sees it can't do it that way anymore. Jennifer Schatz told the board she could live with that for the present.

EMS: Dan Alvey is wanting the Council to approve a change in the number of paramedics from 12 to 13 and EMTS from 12 to 11. This will accommodate the promotion recommended by Dan Alvey last month. Jeremy Overton made a motion to approve the move pending the approval of the union business agent and the commissioners. William McConnell seconded and passed 6-0. Dan Alvey asked the board for approval to hire Judy Adams as a part time employee. Jeremy Overton had discussed this with the union business agent and it was approved.

Abatement: Jerry Stilwell, representing Highway Machine Shop, Inc., informed the Council that the Highway Machine Shop is asking for an abatement hearing during the April County Council meeting. The abatement is asked on a \$800,000.00 construction of a new building and

\$3,200,000.00 for a new machine to put into the new building. Also an additional 3 employees will be hired.

EMS: Dan Alvey told the Council that an arbitrator had ruled on a salary grievance, dating back to November 3, 2009, favorably for the employee. The arbitrator ruled that the employee is owed back pay from November 3, 2009, to the present. The total sum amounts to \$4669.55. After some discussion, the Council decided to consult the county attorney, Jim McDonald, and await a recommendation from him on what to do next.

Purdue Extension request for \$500.00: Due to an error in advertising the announcement in the paper, correctly, a request for \$500.00 appropriation for part time help for the Purdue Extension office will have to be voted on again. Craig Pflug made a motion to pay it and Jeremy Overton seconded. Motion passed 4-2 with William McConnell and George Ankenbrand opposing.

Treasurer: Mary Key informed the Council that she has hired a new 1st Deputy. She asked the Council instead of the usual 90% pay for starting employees, she would like to see 100% pay for the 1st Deputy because of her 35 years working in the bank and is very familiar with the accounting procedures used in her new position. Jeremy Overton suggested that she put her requests on paper. Craig Pflug suggested at least a 6 month probation.

Dormant Accounts: Dormant accounts 0252, 0356 and 0502 were moved to the County General Fund. Fund 0518 was moved to 0519 and 0524 was moved to 0804.

Jeremy Overton explained to the Council how the county stood on tax caps and said that the caps aren't as bad as feared. The county is holding steady and no more additional losses, of money, are expected this year.

William McConnell told the Council that the county is not getting any Rainy Day money this year and probably not next year. The county will be receiving \$100,000.00 less money in the EDIT Funds and the county will receive \$90,000.00 less money in River Boat money this year.

Steve Bottoms had questions concerning the EMS employee's arbitration case and how money was spent on the legal support of that arbitration. He also asked about the County Surveyor's litigation and how much it has cost the county so far. The Council told him that \$30,000.00 had been spent on the County Surveyor's case so far. He also asked about the \$100,000.00 given to the Gibson County Redevelopment Commission. Bob Townsend explained that the money comes out of EDIT money and the money is used to help fund the Commission. The Commission's responsibility is to bring more business into the county. More business means more tax money which will help fund state, county and local government.

Jeremy Overton made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by William McConnell. Motion passed 6-0.

George Ankenbrand, President

Jeremy Overton, VP

D. Craig Pflug

Tony Wolfe

William McConnell

William George

LeAnn Smith

Attest: C.T. Montgomery, Auditor