

**GRANT COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
April 20, 2016**

The Grant County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

1. Call to order

President McWhirt called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. Prayer

Auditor Bainbridge led prayer.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Scott led the pledge of allegiance.

4. Roll Call

In attendance were Council members Jim McWhirt, Mike Scott, Frank Hix, and Shane Middlesworth. Also present were Auditor Roger A. Bainbridge, Council Attorney Kyle Persinger, Chief Deputy Auditor Tammy Miller, Assistant Chief Deputy Chris Hancock, and Financials Deputy Stacey Stevens. Councilman Mike Leming arrived at 6:13 pm. Councilman Tera Baker and Michael Conner were not present.

5. Approval of Minutes

Councilman Middlesworth moved to approve regular session minutes of March 16, 2016 as presented. Second by Councilman Hix; motion carried 4-0. Councilman Scott abstained.

6. Auditor's Report

Auditor Roger Bainbridge reported from the General Fund Balance report that the receipts of disbursements for February and March were similar. March started off about 1.1 million behind where we were last year and ended up about 1.1 million where we were last year. This is a concern, and we hope this will improve. Trending does not show a negative direction and we are "holding our own".

Auditor Bainbridge also reported from the Insurance Report, there are some concerns here. Health insurance comparisons shows the end of April last year the ending balance was 1 ½ million dollars. At almost the end of April now the ending balance shows 432,000. Our deficit is a million dollars or more, than what it was this time last year. In addressing the reason why, UMR paid over a million dollars in January and December, this is what has left us with the totals we have now. We are waiting on some claims, so there will be some insurance reimbursements.

7. New Business

A. Correctional Services – Cindy McCoy

Cindy McCoy from Correctional Services presented a revised letter for a salary ordinance amendment. This request is to accommodate an internal transfer between 2 existing staff. The names and salaries are listed in this letter. A juvenile officer has moved to the adult alcohol and drug area. This is a new classification calling for a 1000.00 annual differential. Then using the savings from the reduced other position, which was a vacancy, which means a lower seniority for the person coming in. The first one will be retroactive to April 4th, 2016, which is when the change was made. The second one has 2 different rates of pay, because of the start date, which is explained in the revised letter presented to council. Councilman Scott made a motion to approve the salary ordinance as presented by Correctional Services, updated on March 24, 2016. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 4-0.

B. County Highway Department – David White

Superintendent David White made a request for additional for the Highway vehicle insurance. Superintendent White had budgeted 45,000 and the vehicle insurance came in as 50,000. In speaking with the insurance company Superintendent White stated there may be a refund due to some vehicles coming off the policy due to being sold at an auction at the Highway Department.

Superintendent White is also asking for additional for bituminous materials (780,000). Superintendent White had budgeted 500-600,000, and materials for paving what is on the list to be done came in at 1.3 million. There is an un-appropriated balance to cover this amount (950,000).

In addition Superintendent White made a request for additions for equipment in the amount of 140,000. Superintendent White had budgeted 150,000 for equipment, there is a “wish list” of equipment Superintendent White submitted to the council totaling 282,000. The price of a new dump truck was more than expected. This new equipment will be just adding to what the Highway Department already has. The snow plows are additional; the stainless steel sanders are new, the dump truck will replace an old one still in use that will be sold at the next auction the Highway Department has.

Councilman Scott made a motion to approve the request from the Grant County Highway Department for vehicle insurance in the amount of 5000, bituminous materials increase in the amount of 780,000, and request for equipment increase in the amount of 140,000 as presented. Second by Councilman Hix; motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent White has also requested a salary ordinance. In January 2016 Superintendent White moved a mechanic up to the garage foreman position, due to an employee retiring in December 2015. Superintendent White would like to increase the second mechanics salary by 4.5% (from 31,358 to 32,769). Superintendent White has done away with a third mechanics position. Things are going well with just the 2 mechanics. The safety director at the Highway Department does a lot of extra work on different projects and Superintendent White would like to have this position have the same pay as a foreman. Superintendent White proposed transferring the money from the salary of the mechanics position he had done away with. Councilman Leming had questions about the mechanics working more hours and discussion ensued about why these raises are being asked for. Council is not convinced this increase in the salaries is necessary and suggests Superintendent White come back at budget time to make the request. No motion was made to approve this request, request was not approved.

C. County Commissioners – Mike Burton

Commissioner Mike Burton presented an addendum to the letter presented to Council for a part time Human Resource position that explains duties and the acronyms of the Human Resource position. Commissioner Burton expressed that in all the surrounding counties the H.R. position is overseen by the Commissioners. Commissioner Burton is requesting a part time H.R position for the Commissioner’s office. As a part time position this will save the county money by not having to pay benefits. Commissioner Burton is asking for 20 hours a week at 20.00 per hour for this position. This will require 13,100 for the rest of the year to pay this position. This is the additional appropriation the Commissioners are asking for. Commissioner Burton has worked with Auditor Roger Bainbridge on this and the 12,100 will come out of the IHF fund in the Auditor’s office. In 2017 this will require appropriation for 20,000.00. Council asked Commissioner Burton questions concerning this position and discussion ensued.

Councilman Middlesworth made a motion to approve the part time Human Resource position and additional appropriation as presented. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 5-0.

D. County Auditor – Roger Bainbridge

Auditor Bainbridge is asking to replace a vacancy in the Auditor's office. A previous employee did not handle duties correctly and Auditor Bainbridge and Chief Deputy Tammy Miller have reorganized office staff. Auditor Bainbridge is asking this be retroactive back to February 8, 2016.

Councilman Middlesworth made a motion to approve the replacement of a vacancy in the Auditor's office and the reduction of appropriations as presented. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 5-0

8. Old Business

None.

9. Reports, Resolutions, Communications and General Discussion

None.

10. Adjournment

The next Council meeting will be May 18, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

President McWhirt adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.