

**GRANT COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
May 18, 2016**

The Grant County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

1. Call to order

President McWhirt called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Prayer

Councilman Conner led prayer.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Hix led the pledge of allegiance.

4. Roll Call

In attendance were Council members Jim McWhirt, Frank Hix, Shane Middlesworth, Tresa Baker, and Michael Conner. Also present were Auditor Roger A. Bainbridge, Council Attorney Kyle Persinger, and Financials Deputy Stacey Stevens. Councilman Mike Scott and Mark Leming were not present.

5. Approval of Minutes

Councilman Baker moved to approve regular session minutes of April 20, 2016 with one correction. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 4-0. Councilman Conner abstained.

6. Auditor's Report

Auditor Roger Bainbridge reported from the General Fund Balance, that we are 3.8 million in the hole, simply due to the fact we have nothing to show for Settlement yet. Last year shows a large amount of receipts, Auditor Bainbridge is not sure why we don't show that this year. Councilman McWhirt stated they may have received an advance in April last year. Auditor Bainbridge expressed that by the middle of June this will all be caught up. Auditor Bainbridge reported 1.9 million has been put into fund 1229, which is the money that came in from the state.

Auditor Bainbridge stated the Health Insurance report does not show a lot of improvement over the last month. We are still waiting on a re-insurance check, Commissioner Mike Burton is checking into this matter. Auditor Bainbridge is hoping by next month's meeting this issue will be resolved. Councilman McWhirt asked how much was expected back from the re-insurance check. Auditor Bainbridge is not sure, and asked Commissioner Mike Burton, whom is present; Commissioner Burton stated the amount should be around 1.3 million.

7. New Business

A. County Sheriff-Reggie Nevels

Sheriff Reggie Nevels is asking for a transfer of funds, in reference to the Detention Center overtime. At this time there is less than 1000.00 and there is still staff on sick leave. These staff will be back to work, it's a matter of how much longer the replacement staff has to be paid overtime. Sheriff Nevels is asking for 16,000 from the D-Home salaries to be transferred to D-Home overtime, which should be enough to get through the rest of the year. Councilman Baker made a motion to approve 16,000 from salary to overtime as requested. Second by Conner; motion carried 5-0.

Sheriff Nevels also is asking to fill a vacancy in dispatch, from Trina Winegardner retiring, to be effective July 1, 2016. Councilman Baker made a motion to fill the vacancy in dispatch effective July 1, 2016 with a salary of 31,141.00 prorated. Second by Conner; motion carried 5-0.

B. County Highway Department – David White

Highway Superintendent David White is requesting a replacement of vacancy for a driver position. Superintendent White is asking to move an equipment operator to the driver position and is asking to fill the equipment operator position. Superintendent White also expressed that another driver has given their 2 weeks' notice and there will be another driver position he will need to have filled. Superintendent White is asking to fill both positions at this time. Superintendent White needs both positions filled immediately for the start of the summer projects. Superintendent White is asking these changes be effective June 6, 2016. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the filling of both positions as presented. Second by Middlesworth; motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent White expressed how he would like the money from the 1229 fund to be broken down. The 1229 fund is the 1.9 million that came from the state, pertaining to House Bill 1001 and Senate Bill 67. 75% of the 1.9 million is to be used for roads, bridges, and road maintenance equipment, and 25% to the County General Fund. HB 1001 is more for road and bridge projects, this is a 50/50 match and 1 million is the cap. Superintendent White has 2 big bridge projects to be completed in 2017. Bridge #10 in Jalapa is estimated to cost 1.5 million for construction, this is a federal aid project, the county has to have 20% of that amount, plus the county has to pay for the inspection part. Bridge #73, on Stone Road, is the other big project Superintendent White has for 2017. This bridge needs replacing; the efficiency rating is very low. With these two projects to be completed the county will need close to 1 million. Superintendent White would like to put the bridge 73 project in for the 50/50 match, with a portion of the 1229 fund money and the bridge levy; with the remainder going for paving projects. Discussion ensued about money from the state and how it is to be issued. Councilman McWhirt expressed the LOIT special distribution fund will be part of the highway budget for the budget process for 2017. Superintendent White will need to ask for additional appropriation at the time it is needed.

C. County Commissioners – Mike Burton

Commissioner Mike Burton is asking for a transfer of appropriation from Cumulative Capital Development Fund to pay for Netech services. Netech has done a data back-up, cleaned and maintained the data center, and a payment needs to be made for the hearing assistance in the courtrooms at the courthouse, the total payment will be 65,000-70,000. Commissioner Burton is asking to transfer 39,000 from Sheriff to Contractual Services, 10,000 from remodeling and repair to Contractual Services, and to transfer funds to make a loan payment on audio/visual equipment in the amount of 16,576.00 from Equipment to Contractual Services. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the transfers as requested. Second by Baker; motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Burton presented papers pertaining to the Councils approval of hiring a part time H.R person. Nancy Bender will start on Monday June 6, 2016 as our new H.R person. Commissioner Burton also communicated about the changes in the IT department. The Commissioners appointed Marcus Elliott as IT director, effective two weeks ago. Kevin Hicks, also in the IT department, was moved to Marcus Elliott's previous position, moving his salary to 38,780.00. Brian Kikendall's salary was increased from 30,600.00 to 38,000.00. Councilman McWhirt stated that even with appropriation being there, it is a filling of vacancies. The process of Council approving these changes needs to take place. There is an amending of the salary ordinance. Council needs to approve the filling of the vacancies and the changing of the salary ordinance. Discussion ensued on how these changes came into effect. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the vacancy changes and salary changes, effective May 2, 2016. No second; motion died. A discussion ensued about when this should be brought back before the Council. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve all changes and be effective on May 16, 2016. Second by Baker; motion carried 4-1.

Councilman McWhirt stated the salary ordinance needs to be brought back at next month's salary ordinance piece.

D. Discussion-Loit Special Distribution

LOIT (local option income tax) is the money we have already collected from income tax. Discussion ensued about how and why the state distributed this money. The state is requiring 75% be put toward roads and bridges. Councilman McWhirt suggests 75% go to roads and bridges, and 25% go to the general fund. We are still going to need the wheel tax to help with the 50/50 match. Councilman Conner made a motion to put 75% in to the 1229 fund and 25% in general fund (487,095.00). Second by Middlesworth; motion carried 5-0.

8. Old Business

None.

9. Reports, Resolutions, Communications and General Discussion

None.

Councilman McWhirt expressed there are negotiations with the Sheriff's department union, involving salaries for 2017 coming soon. Councilman McWhirt asked if Councilman Conner and Middlesworth would serve on the committee with him. Councilman Conner and Middlesworth both agreed to serve on the committee.

State board of accounts has called a meeting on June 18, 2016. Councilman McWhirt has asked Auditor Roger Bainbridge to register him and Councilman Tera Baker for this meeting. Auditor Bainbridge will register Councilman McWhirt and Baker.

The following dates are for budget hearings:

Wednesday August 24th, 2016 at 6:00 pm
Thursday August 25th, 2016 at 6:00 pm
Wednesday August 31st, 2016 at 6:00 pm
Thursday September 1st, 2016 at 6:00 pm

The nonbinding review process is gone; there is a new process that needs to be done. In the August 17th, 2016 meeting we will do what is called reviewing estimated property tax levy limits and estimate circuit breaker reductions.

Wednesday October 19th, 2016 Council meeting will adopt our own budget.

The LOIT review will be at the July 20th, 2016 Council meeting.

10. Adjournment

The next Council meeting will be June 15, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

President McWhirt adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.