

**GRANT COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
August 17, 2016**

The Grant County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, August 17, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**1. Call to order**

President McWhirt called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**2. Prayer**

Councilman Conner led prayer.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Councilman Middlesworth led the pledge of allegiance.

**4. Roll Call**

In attendance were Council members Jim McWhirt, Mike Scott, Frank Hix, Shane Middlesworth, Tresa Baker, and Mike Conner. Also present were Auditor Roger A. Bainbridge, Council Attorney Phil Stevenson, Chief Deputy Auditor Tammy Miller, Assistant Chief Deputy Chris Hancock, and Financials Deputy Stacey Stevens. Councilman Mark Leming was not present.

Councilman McWhirt added to the Agenda; County Auditor Roger Bainbridge is asking for additional appropriation from the plat book fund that will be item B under New Business.

Under item 3 in New Business the Jonesboro Public Library is asking Council to make an appointment to their Board of Directors.

Under Old Business; item A the JDAI grant will be tabled until the September meeting. They are gathering more information to be considered.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

Councilman Scott moved to approve regular session minutes of July 20, 2016 as presented. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 6-0.

**6. Auditor's Report**

Auditor Roger Bainbridge reported from the General Fund Balance report. Auditor Bainbridge reported he received word from the state that the COIT fund, which has been separate (a second general fund), in 2017 is to be combined into the general fund. CEDIT will remain separate. The general fund balance at the end of July 2016 is comparable to the balance at the end of July 2015, and is not too far from July 2014. Discussion ensued about the rainy day fund and money received from the state for the Highway Department.

Auditor Bainbridge also reported from the Health Insurance Fund, there is a typo showing an ending balance for August that is wrong and should not have been there. At the end of July the balance is 2.2 million, which is a very healthy balance. We did receive a 1 million reinsurance check.

**7. New Business**

**A. Reviews of Estimated Property Tax Levy Limits**

This is the first time we have conducted this type of review. A note from the DLGF states, in August the county fiscal body shall do a review of the Estimated Tax Levy Limits and Estimated

Reductions due to Circuit Breakers for each taxing unit. The Council fiscal body will either prepare or distribute a written recommendation for the taxing unit or the county Auditor will distribute the minutes of the meeting to all taxing units after the minutes are approved by the fiscal body. This is not the entire budget or budget process; it is just projections of what is part of the process. We are more than likely not going to make a recommendation; it will just be a notification from the county Auditor, after we adopt the minutes at the September meeting to the various units.

Grant Counties 2017 maximum levy gets calculated with 4 funds we are involved with: General Fund, Health Fund, Reassessment Fund, and Cum Bridge Fund, the maximum levy for 2017 is 13,334,437, which is 3.8% above prior years. The growth factor in 2017 levy maximum is 3.8%, in recent years it has been 2.6, and 2.8.

The Calculation of Estimated Maximum Levy for budget year 2017 is as follows:

Grant County	Civil: \$14,804,487
Center Township	Fire: \$102,938 Civil: \$221,717
Fairmount Township	Fire: \$38,994 Civil: \$22,069
Franklin Township	Fire: \$20,137 Civil: \$126,760
Green Township	Fire: \$34,539 Civil: \$6,065
Jefferson Township	Fire: \$44,680 Civil: \$32,079
Liberty Township	Fire: \$22,952 Civil: \$10,527
Mill Township	Fire: \$52,366 Civil: \$160,277
Monroe Township	Fire: \$12,940 Civil: \$14,072
Pleasant Township	Fire: \$22,518 Civil: \$38,516
Richland Township	Fire: \$12,423 Civil: \$19,051
Sims Township	Fire: \$7,882 Civil: \$43,621
Van Buren Township	Fire: \$18,228 Civil: \$24,930
Washington Township	Fire: \$62,799 Civil: \$37,317
Marion Civil City	Civil: \$17,352,455
Gas City Civil City	Civil: \$1,269,456
Fairmount Civil Town	Civil: \$717,769

Fowlerton Civil Town		Civil: \$30,516
Jonesboro Civil City		Civil: \$338,027
Matthews Civil Town		Civil: \$118,340
Swayzee Civil Town		Civil: \$165,922
Sweetser Civil Town		Civil: \$134,389
Upland Civil Town		Civil: \$400,831
Van Buren Civil Town		Civil: \$288,950
Converse Civil Town		Civil: \$62,900
Eastbrook Comm. School Corp.	School Bus Replacement School Transportation	\$204,163 \$596,2015
Madison-Grant United School Corp.	School Bus Replacement School Transportation	\$230,580 \$771,457
Mississinewa Comm. School Corp.	School Bus Replacement School Transportation	\$201,769 \$676,379
Marion Comm. School Corp.	School Bus Replacement School Transportation	\$471,836 \$2,348,151
Oak Hill United School Corp.	School Bus Replacement School Transportation	\$242,965 \$744,951
Fairmount Public Library		Civil: \$71,639
Gas City/Mill Township Public Library		Civil: \$431,686
Jonesboro Public Library		Civil: \$49,140
Marion Public Library		Civil: \$1,496,216
Matthews Public Library		Civil: \$7,496
Swayzee Public Library		Civil: \$58,714
Barton-Rees-Pogue Memorial Library		Civil: \$44,476
Van Buren Public Library		Civil: \$98,259
Converse Public Library		Civil: \$4,681
East Central Indiana Solid Waste		Civil: \$175,458

The second part of the review is the 2017 estimates of property tax caps by unit. The 2017 Estimated Property Tax Circuit Breaker Impacts are as follows:

Grant County	\$1,454,202
Center Township	\$38,007
Fairmount Township	\$164

Franklin Township	\$19,183
Green Township	\$36
Jefferson Township	\$137
Liberty Township	\$13
Mill Township	\$29,673
Monroe Township	\$284
Pleasant Township	\$3,908
Richland Township	\$113
Sims Township	\$128
Van Buren Township	\$33
Washington Township	\$1,678
Marion Civil City	\$3,678,677
Gas City Civil City	\$192,495
Fairmount Civil Town	\$8,123
Fowlerton Civil Town	\$124
Jonesboro Civil City	\$70,572
Matthews Civil Town	\$554
Swayzee Civil Town	\$924
Sweetser Civil Town	\$1,348
Upland Civil Town	\$3,042
Van Buren Civil Town	\$258
Converse Civil Town	\$5,195
Eastbrook Community School Corp.	\$15,859
Madison-Grant United School Corp.	\$4,711
Mississinewa Community School Corp.	\$605,169
Marion Community School Corp.	\$1,507,058
Oak Hill United School Corp.	\$18,647
Fairmount Public Library	\$367
Gas City-Mill Township Public Library	\$59,063
Jonesboro Public Library	\$10,258
Marion Public Library	\$305,908

Matthews Public Library	\$35
Swayzee Public Library	\$156
Barton-Rees-Pogue Memorial Library	\$338
Van Buren Public Library	\$67
Converse Public Library	\$297
East Central Indiana Solid Waste	\$16,981

Auditor Bainbridge expressed “In my opinion, these numbers are understated, because historically people wait until the deadline to file for deductions, which is the end of the year. Those are not taken into consideration in these numbers, when you file for deductions that will cause you to hit the caps harder”.

Councilman McWhirt expressed “I doubt the AV will grow to offset the increase in levies. The estimates they used are just what were available to them”.

Councilman McWhirt stated to let the record show we conducted the review of the materials required. There are no recommendations from this body to the various units, regarding this information. It is theirs to us as they see fit as they go through their budget process. The minutes will be approved at the September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting and then can be sent to the various units.

**B. Auditor Roger Bainbridge-Additional Appropriation-Plat Book Fund-**

Auditor Roger Bainbridge communicated that after a service call on the platter printer, that prints the large maps, is broken and will cost 3500-4000 to be fixed. This machine is over 12 years old. In the last Commissioners meeting Auditor Bainbridge expressed to the Commissioners that this expense can be taken care of through the plat book fund, if Council approves the additional appropriation. Auditor Bainbridge presented an estimate from Office Concepts for 7000.00 for a new printer. Auditor Bainbridge expressed in addition to the printer cost there will be an additional estimated cost of 1000.00 for the ink. Auditor Bainbridge is looking at other options, but is asking for a total of 8000.00 in additional appropriation. A discussion ensued about the cost of printers from other companies.

Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the additional appropriation as presented. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 6-0.

**C. Jonesboro Public Library-Appointment to the Board of Directors-**

Jonesboro Public Library is asking Council to appoint Norma Davis to their Board of Directors, for a term starting immediately thru December 31, 2020.

Council Conner made a motion to approve the appointment of Norma Davis to the Jonesboro Public Library Board of Directors as requested. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 6-0.

**8. Old Business**

This item has been tabled until the September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**9. Reports, Resolutions, Communications and General Discussion**

None.

President McWhirt expressed the next meetings are our budget hearings. Budget hearings are on the following dates starting at 6:00 p.m.:

Wednesday August 24<sup>th</sup>

Thursday August 25<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday August 31<sup>st</sup>

Thursday September 1<sup>st</sup>

The next regular Council meeting will be Wednesday September 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**10. Adjournment**

President McWhirt adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.