

**GRANT COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
April 18, 2018**

The Grant County Council met in regular session on Wednesday April 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**1. Call to order**

President McWhirt called the meeting to order at 6:05 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, Frank Hix, Mike Roorbach, Mike Conner, Shane Middlesworth, Mark Leming and Mike Scott. Also present were Council Attorney Phil Stephenson, Auditor Roger Bainbridge, Chief Deputy Auditor Angie Jarvis, and Financials Deputy Stacey Stevens.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

Councilman Scott moved to approve the minutes from the March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 meeting as presented. Second by Councilman Conner; motion carried 7-0.

**6. Auditor's Report**

Auditor Roger Bainbridge reported from the General Fund balance report. We are a little bit ahead of schedule of where we were last year, which can be contributed to a decrease in disbursements.

Auditor Bainbridge also reported from the Insurance Fund report. The ending balance for the end of March is a little over ½ million dollars. This is down a little from the end of February. We are expecting around 280,000 in stop loss reimbursements at this point. We are still running a little bit more for the year in expenditures than we are in receipts.

**7. New Business**

**A. Request for Residential Tax Abatement-**Adam Young is building a new home in Grant County and is requesting a residential tax abatement for a period of 3 years, to help with the cost of building the home. The approximate appraisal value of the home is 230,000 and should be finished being built by the end of the year. Attorney Phil Stephenson explained the process of residential tax abatement. After further discussion the Council decided to not make a motion on this item.

**B. County Extension Office-**Interim Extension Director Kris Goff presented the Extension Contractual Service Agreement between Purdue University and the Government of Grant County. There was a discrepancy from the original budget presented by the Grant County Extension Office. The correct Contractual Services amount was not requested from the Grant County Extension Office. After discussion, Councilman Conner made a motion to table this item until necessary to take action. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 7-0.

**C. County Commissioners-**Commissioner Mike Burton presented the monthly Financial Monitoring Report (FMR) for the County Health Insurance Plan that has been provided by USI. Commissioner Burton expressed this is important information showing what the County is actually spending compared to what was estimated. The Commissioners will continue to provide a report at each of the monthly Council meetings.

**D. County Health Department-**Health Officer John Kennedy is asking to fill a vacancy for the Vital Records Registrar. This is a self-funded position with an annual salary of 23,976. Dr. Kennedy is asking for immediate replacement of this position. Councilman Scott made a motion to approve the filling of the position as requested effective April 30, 2018. Second by Councilman Conner; motion carried 4-3.

**E. County Area Plan**-Area Plan Director Larry Strange is asking to fill a vacancy and move a position in the Area Plan department. Director Strange is asking to move the current Permits Clerk to the vacant Executive Administrative Assistant position and then fill the vacancy of the Permits Clerk position. The pay would remain the same for both positions. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve the moving of positions within the office. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 7-0. No action was taken on filling the vacancy of the Permits Clerk position.

**F. County Treasurer**-Treasurer Tiffany Griffith is requesting to appoint her Assistant Chief Deputy to Chief Deputy effective April 23, 2018. Treasurer Griffith is also asking to fill the vacancy of First Deputy Treasurer. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the appointing of Assistant Chief Deputy to Chief Deputy. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 7-0. No action was taken on filling the vacancy of First Deputy Treasurer.

**G. County Highway Department**-Superintendent David White is asking for an additional appropriation in the MVH fund: Bituminous \$900,000.00 and Garage & Motor \$25,000.00. Councilman Middlesworth made a motion to approve the additional appropriation as requested. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 7-0.

Superintendent White is also asking to fill three (3) truck driver positions. These positions will become vacant in the near future due to one retiring, one leaving for higher paying job, and one leaving the state. Superintendent White expressed this is a busy time of the year for the Highway department and he would like to fill these positions as soon as they become available. Councilman Middlesworth made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 6-1.

**H. County Auditor**-Auditor Roger Bainbridge is requesting an appropriation from our Rainy Day Fund for the purpose of 2018 County Health Insurance as approved by Council in the amount of \$410,000. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 7-0.

## **8. Old Business**

**A. Superior Court II-Juvenile Division**-Magistrate McLane is back to request filling the vacancy of a Court Reporter position. Magistrate McLane has spoken with the other Judges and they have discussed all the suggestions that have been given to them over the past few months and they do not see a way to make things run smoothly without filling this position. Councilman Conner spoke with Grant County Clerk Carolyn Mowery concerning this matter. Councilman Conner expressed Clerk Mowery has a position she can give up that is becoming vacant in her office and she would be willing to forgo filling this position to allow for Magistrate McLane to fill the Court Reporter position that is needed. Council members expressed they appreciate the working together of the departments to make things run smoothly during this time of need. Councilman Conner made a motion to fill the vacancy of Court Reporter in Magistrate McLane's court, effective May 14, 2018. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 6-1.

Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve amending the salary ordinance of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Support effective when the payout is complete. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 7-0.

## **Reports, Resolutions, Communications and General Discussion**

None.

The next Council meeting will be May 16, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

## **10. Adjournment**

President McWhirt adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

