

**GRANT COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
August 15, 2018**

The Grant County Council met in regular session on Wednesday August 15, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

1. Call to order

President McWhirt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Prayer

Councilman Roorbach 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, Mark Leming, Mike Roorbach, Mike Conner, Shane Middlesworth and Mike Scott. Also present were Council Attorney Phil Stephenson, Auditor Roger Bainbridge, Chief Deputy Auditor Angela Jarvis, and Financials Deputy Stacey Stevens.

5. Approval of Minutes

Councilman Conner moved to approve the minutes from the regular session for July 18, 2018 with one correction under letter "F", last paragraph. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 7-0, with the correction noted.

6. Auditor's Report

Auditor Roger Bainbridge reported from the general fund balance report. The additional receipts we received in June have carried over into July and probably we will see that carry over until the end of the year. We just received more receipts for property taxes that we settled in June than is normal for the spring installment. This will probably carry over to December, and by December it should balance itself out.

President McWhirt asked about the special distribution. Discussion ensued concerning this distribution.

Auditor Bainbridge also reported from the insurance fund balance report. The 1.3 million you see on the report is incorrect, there is a process we follow and a "dummy check" did not get done so the balance should be \$825,336.17. That is in line with what it was last month a little higher but not 1.3 million. These will be reflected in next month's report.

Auditor Bainbridge expressed he is waiting to hear from the DLGF about the dormant funds. Discussion ensued concerning these funds.

New Business

A. Review of Estimated Property Tax Levy Limits and Circuit Breaker Losses-

President Jim McWhirt expressed that a couple years ago the General Assembly changed the process in how county government is involved in the review of the local budgets of various local units in the county. The process is not final until it is all done by each unit and until our final assessed evaluations come out, final levy & final budgets, this is not a final, this is a preliminary. This information comes from the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) and the Auditor's office has compiled this information for us. Each year the state dictates the levy, for the 2019 budget the percentage of increase is 3.4%. We will be doing the estimates of property tax levy limits first then we will do the circuit breakers.

The Calculation of Estimated Maximum Levy for budget year 2019 is as follows:

Grant County	Civil: \$15,299,664
Center Township	Fire: \$110,696

	Civil: \$238,426
Fairmount Township	Fire: \$41,933 Civil: \$23,732
Franklin Township	Fire: \$21,654 Civil: \$136,312
Green Township	Fire: \$37,142 Civil: \$6,522
Jefferson Township	Fire: \$48,047 Civil: \$34,496
Liberty Township	Fire: \$24,682 Civil: \$11,320
Mill Township	Fire: \$56,313 Civil: \$172,355
Monroe Township	Fire: \$13,916 Civil: \$15,133
Pleasant Township	Fire: \$24,215 Civil: \$41,419
Richland Township	Fire: \$13,359 Civil: \$20,487
Sims Township	Fire: \$8,476 Civil: \$46,908
Van Buren Township	Fire: \$19,602 Civil: \$26,809
Washington Township	Fire: \$67,532 Civil: \$40,130
Marion Civil City	Civil: \$18,627,100
Gas City Civil City	Civil: \$1,358,722
Fairmount Civil Town	Civil: \$771,860
Fowlerton Civil Town	Civil: \$32,816
Jonesboro Civil City	Civil: \$362,395
Matthews Civil Town	Civil: \$128,927
Swayzee Civil Town	Civil: \$178,426
Sweetser Civil Town	Civil: \$142,132
Upland Civil Town	Civil: \$431,037
Van Buren Civil Town	Civil: \$309,028
Converse Civil Town	Civil: \$67,577
Fairmount Public Library	Civil: \$77,038

Gas City/Mill Township Public Library	Civil: \$464,217
Jonesboro Public Library	Civil: \$52,844
Marion Public Library	Civil: \$1,608,971
Matthews Public Library	Civil: \$8,061
Swayzee Public Library	Civil: \$63,139
Barton-Rees-Pogue Memorial Library	Civil: \$47,828
Van Buren Public Library	Civil: \$105,663
Converse Public Library	Civil: \$5,034
East Central Indiana Solid Waste	Civil: \$188,680

The second part of the review is the 2019 estimates of property tax caps by unit. The 2019 Estimated Property Tax Circuit Breaker Impacts are as follows:

Grant County	\$ 2,027,322
Center Township	\$ 50,568
Fairmount Township	\$ 877
Franklin Township	\$ 32,920
Green Township	\$ 47
Jefferson Township	\$ 152
Liberty Township	\$ 12
Mill Township	\$ 30,707
Monroe Township	\$ 380
Pleasant Township	\$ 7,240
Richland Township	\$ 3,969
Sims Township	\$ 6,670
Van Buren Township	\$ 41
Washington Township	\$ 2,216
Marion Civil City	\$ 5,082,318
Gas City Civil City	\$ 209,203
Fairmount Civil Town	\$ 61,951
Fowlerton Civil Town	\$ 2,223
Jonesboro Civil City	\$ 74,528
Matthews Civil Town	\$ 594

Swayzee Civil Town	\$ 15,993
Sweetser Civil town	\$ 8,666
Upland Civil Town	\$ 3,140
Van Buren Civil Town	\$ 203
Converse Civil Town	\$ 14,125
Eastbrook Community School Corp.	\$ 16,801
Madison-Grant United School Corp.	\$ 44,663
Mississinewa Community School Corp.	\$ 591,648
Marion Community School Corp.	\$ 2,208,209
Oak Hill United School Corp.	\$ 460,218
Fairmount Public Library	\$ 2,669
Gas City-Mill Township Public Library	\$ 62,777
Jonesboro Public Library	\$ 10,866
Marion Public Library	\$ 427,538
Matthews Public Library	\$ 37
Swayzee Public Library	\$ 7,486
Barton-Rees-Pogue Memorial Library	\$ 348
Van Buren Public Library	\$ 77
Converse Public Library	\$ 885
East Central Indiana Solid Waste	\$ 25,818

B. Emergency Management Agency- EMA Director Tom Culley is requesting a transfer of 5,500 from part time deputy to garage and motors. The transfer will help to pay for a repair on the command bus and maintenance on 3 EMA service vehicles. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the request as presented. Second by Councilman Middlesworth: motion carried 7-0.

C. County Clerk- Clerk Carolyn Mowery is asking for approval to fill a vacancy. The vacancy is for a First Deputy Clerk in Superior Court I. Clerk Mowery would like to fill this vacancy as soon as possible. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the request as presented. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 7-0.

D. Superior Court III- Judge Warren Haas is asking for approval to fill a vacancy. The vacancy is for a court reporter. Judge Haas would like to fill this vacancy as soon as possible. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the request as presented. Second by Councilman Middlesworth: motion carried 7-0.

E. Procedures to Amend County Income Taxes-

President McWhirt expressed at the July 18th meeting we agreed to terms to have Mr. Stephenson draw up the ordinance and resolution to send to the DLGF for their review and approval. We were hopeful in getting that information back by tonight's meeting, but that did

not occur. At the time it is given to them they have 30 days, and it appears they are going to use the 30 days. August the 24th is their final date they have to get it back to us. What we are going to do is have Mr. Stephenson introduce the resolution and the ordinance and we will conduct the public hearing on the annex that we have purposed. We will not take action on the resolution or the ordinance until we have that information back from the DLGF. We will put that agenda item on Wednesday August 29th. That will be the first item on our agenda that evening. President McWhirt turned introducing the ordinance and resolution over to Council Attorney Phil Stephenson.

Council Attorney Phil Stephenson explained the process as follows. Attorney Stephenson expressed at the next meeting we will have to approve a resolution, this is what sends it to all the entities that are involved. They have 30 days from that day in which to vote. If we change any part of the resolution, then I have to resubmit that back to the DLGF, they will have a new 30 days which means we submit it to the other entities 30 days from the day of submission. The whole process has to be submitted to the DLGF by October 31st. If it is not it will delay when it goes into effect, I do not anticipate any significant change to this resolution or ordinance by the DLGF.

What we are really doing tonight is simply introducing the resolution. This will be resolution #1-2018, which I am formally introducing to you now. We cannot vote on that until the 29th. The other thing you're going to see is the ordinance. We will not put a number on the ordinance at this time. We are introducing the ordinance tonight as well, but voting on neither.

Councilman Conner asked if it is possible for anyone to make a motion to modify any portion.

Attorney Stephenson expressed he would rather not, because I don't know for sure what the final ordinance could be if the DLGF moves something. You would be amending a resolution that is not on the floor at the moment. Typically an amendment would be done with a motion to adopt, and then you would amend it, and then vote on the amendment then vote on the amended. I am asking you not to tonight for obvious reasons.

Councilman Conner expressed he has concerns that people in the community think he does not support the Growth Council. When the motion was made at our last meeting to lower CEDIT from .03 to .01, I abstained. I did so because the Growth Council is a client of our firm. Some may have looked at my abstention as I do not support the Growth Council, which is not true. Because of that reason, what I would like to do is make a motion that we don't cut CEDIT by 2/3, we do something less drastic. I purpose we reduce by 1/2 instead of 2/3, which would be my motion. I still have to abstain from the vote but I am making that motion.

President McWhirt expressed we did not anticipate any motions being made. President McWhirt asked Attorney Stephenson if it was ok to accept the motion.

Attorney Stephenson expressed the problem is you can only amend an ordinance while it is on the floor, at the moment it is not on the floor.

President McWhirt expressed he does not accept the motion as it is out of order at this time; bring it back on the 29th.

Councilman Conner stated he will have to abstain from the whole thing. I am against a tax increase, but I do support the Growth Council.

President McWhirt opened the public hearing and expressed the changes that are being considered at this point, at least being purposed is; we are increasing our 1% of certified shares of local income tax percentages to 1.3%. The other change we are considering is the .03% of the .25 going to the Growth Council to .01%. This is what will be in the ordinance at our August 29th meeting. President McWhirt asked for public comment at this time.

Bill Gartland, President of Atlas Foundry and past President of the Growth Council: Mr. Gartland expressed, he is showing his support for the motion made by Mr. Conner that will be purposed at the end of the month. Mr. Gartland is not against all cuts, there is not a need for such a drastic cut.

Phil Bowers, President of J.G. Bowers told a story of how his family built their company and how the Growth Council helped them with the process. Mr. Bowers asked the Council to reconsider the cuts to the Growth Council.

Rob Kinglsey, Community Affairs Manager of Indiana Michigan Power expressed his support of the Growth Council.

Tim Street, past President of the Growth Council expressed his support of the Growth Council.

Wendy Puffer, Co-Founder of Marion Design Co., expressed her support of the Growth Council.

Councilman Conner expressed his thanks to all whom showed up and spoke.

President McWhirt closed the public hearing, and expressed, we will add the action portion of the meeting onto the August 29th agenda.

8. Old Business

None.

9. Reports, Resolutions, Communications and General Discussion

Committee Reports-None

President McWhirt stated the budget hearings are scheduled for August 22nd, 23rd, 29th, and 30th. We will have an executive session meeting on August 29th at 5:30 pm to discuss possible litigation.

The next council meeting will be Wednesday September 29, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Councilman Roorbach made a motion to table and moves the ordinance & resolution from tonight's meeting to August 29, 2018. Second by Councilman Leming; motion carried 7-0.

10. Adjournment

President McWhirt adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.