

**GRANT COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
February 19, 2020**

The Grant County Council met in regular session on Wednesday February 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

1. Call to order

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

2. Prayer

Chris Cunningham led the prayer.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Leming led the pledge of allegiance.

4. Roll Call

In attendance were Council members Shane Middlesworth, Frank Hix, Mark Leming, Mike Scott and Jonathan Perez. Also present were Council Attorney Phil Stephenson, Auditor Jim McWhirt, Chief Deputy Auditor Angie Jarvis and Financials Deputy Stacey Stevens. Councilman Mike Scott entered at 6:15 pm. Councilman Mike Roorbach was absent.

5. Approval of Minutes

Councilman Perez moved to approve minutes from the regular session for January 15, 2020. Second by Councilman Leming; motion carried 4-0 (1 abstention).

6. State of the Judiciary-Judge Spitzer presented the Judiciary address as follows: See attached.

7. Auditor's Report- Auditor Jim McWhirt expressed the Treasurer's bank reconciles with the Auditor's office for the end of December and January. We do have some additional appropriations I anticipate at some point in the near future. The 911 fund for the Central Dispatch project, General fund also for the Central Dispatch project and the Central dispatch construction fund. Hopefully I will have these ready for you in March. Just as a reminder at some point we will be establishing a Central Dispatch Operations fund, which will be for the operations of the dispatch, salaries, etc....

New Business:

A. Marion Economic Development Commission-H. Joseph Certain attorney for the Marion Economic Development Commission is asking to appoint Anne Duncan as the representative of the Grant County Council to the Marion Economic Development Commission. Councilman Leming moved to approve the appointment as requested. Second by Councilman Conner; motion carried 6-0.

B. County Assessor-Rhonda Wylie is asking to transfer \$3,000.00 from Contractual Services to Equipment for the purchase of a new desk and computer with an extra monitor. Councilman

Conner made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Leming; motion carried 6-0.

C. Veterans Affairs-Brad Hodson is asking to approve the replacement of the Administrative Assistant for the County Veteran Service Office effective immediately. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the filling of the vacancy as requested. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 6-0.

D. Community Corrections-Chris Cunningham is requesting to fill a vacancy for a secretary and a field officer position. This will be effective immediately. Councilman Leming made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Conner; motion carried 6-0.

Chris Cunningham is also asking Council to adopt a policy allowing the filling of vacant grant funded positions as they occur without waiting on Council approval. After much discussion, Councilman Perez made a motion to approve the filling of any (county wide) grant funded positions without Council approve. Second by Councilman Leming; motion carried 6-0.

E. County Clerk-Pam Harris is asking for additional appropriation in the amount of \$75,000 to help promote the Vote Center concept. Darren Reece and Steve Shamo (Micro-Vote) spoke about the new vote centers. After much discussion Council asked Clerk Harris to come back in March with more exact amounts and more information for approval.

Clerk Harris is also asking to transfer \$932.96 from supplies to office equipment to pay for new desks and 4 (four) dual monitor arms. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Leming; motion carried 6-0.

F. County Health Department-Tara Street is asking to transfer \$4,500.00 from CPR Instructor to Communicable Disease Nurse. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the transfer as requested. Second by Councilman Leming; motion carried 6-0.

Tara Street is also requesting a salary ordinance amendment to raise the rate of pay from \$21.00 to \$22.00 per hour for the LHMf grant funded Nurse Health Educator. The annual budgeted/appropriated amount will not change. Councilman Conner made a motion to amend the salary ordinance as requested. Second by Councilman Perez; motion carried 6-0.

G. County Prosecutor-Evan Hammond has several requests. The first request is to establish a Forfeiture & Seizure fund. After some discussion Councilman Conner moved to approve establishing the fund as Ordinance #1-2020. Second by Councilman Perez; motion carried.

Request #2 is to close the Forfeiture & Education fund and transfer the remaining balance of \$58,252.59, \$30,678.24 be transferred to the JEAN Team Forfeiture & Seizure fund and \$27,574.35 be transferred to the new Forfeiture & Seizure fund. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the request as Resolution #1-2020. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 6-0.

Request #3 is to fill a vacancy of an Investigator, with the change of making this a Deputy Prosecutor position to be paid \$32,800.00 and a salary ordinance amendment. Councilman

Conner made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Perez; motion carried 6-0.

Request #4 is to make a current Dispute Resolution Officer the new Office Administrator to be paid \$29,300.00, and to make the current Office Administrator a Dispute Resolution Officer to be paid \$28,600, this is combining two Dispute Resolution Officer positions into one.

Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the salary ordinance amendment and the changing and combining of positions. Second by Councilman Perez; motion carried 6-0.

The final request is to hire a new Deferral/Diversion person to replace any vacated position at a salary of \$30,300.00. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Perez; motion carried 6-0.

H. County Commissioners-Commissioner Mark Bardsley expressed the Board of Commissioners is recommending Council to consider using E911 funds for a school safety project. Brian Sharp, Director of School Safety at Marion schools spoke about and explained the Alert app. System-School Guard 911 and Hero 911 system. The cost of a county wide system is \$16,500 for a setup fee and \$20,856.00 in annual user fees. After further discussion President Middlesworth expressed Councilman Perez had a motion on the table that died due to lack of a second. Councilman Scott made a motion to approve the one time set up fee for up to \$16,500.00. Tony Hendley 1617 S Nebraska Street, Marion spoke about cost of this system. Second by Councilman Perez; motion carried 4-2.

Commissioner Bardsley is also asking for a salary ordinance amendment in the E911 fund for the Public Safety Communication Direct position to be \$55,000.00 plus benefits. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 6-0.

Commissioner Bardsley has a recommendation and plan of action for the Detention Center. The recommendation is for the Detention center to house female prisoners and 14 beds for juveniles (option 3). Judge Dana Kenworthy spoke and expressed in her opinion this is the best option. Commissioner Bardsley expressed he can put out proposals for bids, this process could take up to 60 days with advertising, etc... After further discussion Councilman Conner made a motion to proceed with option 3 of the Detention center project and proceed with getting bids. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 6-0.

8. Old Business

None.

9. Reports, Resolutions, Communications and General Discussion

A. Committee Reports-Councilman Leming gave an up dated on the Are Plan Board, they are hiring an attorney to go through with the Holloway CAFO.

Councilman Perez gave an update for the EMT Committee.

10. Adjournment

President Middlesworth adjourned the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

