

**GRANT COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
December 20, 2017**

The Grant County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Grant County Council Chambers.

In attendance were Council members Jim McWhirt, Michael D. Conner, Mike Roorbach, Shane Middlesworth, Frank Hix, Mike Scott and Mark Leming. Also present were Council Attorney Phil Stephenson, Chief Deputy Auditor Angie Jarvis and Transfer Deputy Sharon Kirkwood.

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

Councilman Conner led prayer. Councilman Scott led the pledge of allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

There were no minutes for approval.

**Presidents Notes**

President McWhirt added two items to the agenda. They are as follows:

New Business

Item D – Health Department – Vacancy

Item O – Public Defender – Vacancy

**Auditor's Report**

Chief Deputy Jarvis stated, "Reports were in the folder. The December Settlement was processed and completed. The property taxes came in about \$40,000 short but Excise Tax Receipts were up and offset the shortage."

**New Business**

**Converse-Jackson Township Public Library – Appointment**

President McWhirt stated Converse-Jackson Township Public Library Director Andrew S. Horner requested an appointment to the board be filled by Elaine Sweet.

Councilman Conner moved to appoint Elaine Sweet to the library board to fulfill the term of January 1, 2018 to January 31, 2021 as requested. Second by Councilman Roorbach; there was no public input. Motion carried 7-0.

**Area Plan Commission - Appointment**

President McWhirt stated Larry Strange, Executive Director of the Area Plan Department, requested that Robert Monroe be reappointed to the Commission Board for another four year term.

Councilman Conner moved to reappoint Robert Monroe as the citizen appointee of the Council to a four year term beginning January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2021. Second by Councilman Scott, there was no public input. Motion carried 7-0.

**Transfers**

The council discussed allowing the following transfers to be made in one motion.

Councilman Scott moved to approve the following transfers as requested:

**County Area Plan Commission**

0101-079-2000.20	0101-079-1000.12	\$ 300.00
Garage & Motors	Part Time Salary	

**Superior Court II**

0101-202-3000.23	0101-202-3000.90	\$ 358.00
Travel & Conference	Dues	
0101-202-3000.23	0101-202-2000.11	\$ 1,345.00
Travel & Conference	Office Supplies	

**County Health Department**

1159-610-3000.12	1159-610-1000.73	\$ 5,688.71
Prevention of Disease	Hospital & Med Ins	
1159-610-3000.12	1159-610-1000.74	\$ 163.64
Prevention of Dis	Life Insurance	

**County Treasurer**

0101-003-3000.29	0101-003-3000.23	\$ 48.25
Training & Ed	Travel & Conference	
0101-003-3000.29	0101-003-3000.91	\$ 30.00
Training & Ed	Dues	

**Veterans Service Office**

0101-012-3000.23	0101-012-2000.11	\$ 150.00
Travel & Conference	Office Supplies	

**Emergency Medical Services**

0101-301-4000.42	0101-301-3000.91	\$ 2,000.00
Equipment	Dues	
0101-301-3000.04	0101-301-2000.20	\$ 2,000.00
ALS Reimb	Garage & Motors	
0101-301-3000.10	0101-301-1000.12	\$ 300.00
Run Reimb	Part Time – Overtime	
0101-301-3000.05	0101-301-1000.12	\$ 300.00
Education	Part Time – Overtime	
0101-301-4000.41	0101-301-1000.16	\$ 1,000.00
Equipment	Salaries	

**Emergency Management Agency**

0101-360-1000.13	0101-361-2000.20	\$ 2,000.00
Part Time	Garage & Motors	

**County Highway Departments**

1176-531-2000.31	1176-530-3000.24	\$ 200.00
Stone & Gravel	Telephone	
1176-531-2000.31	1176-533-1000.31	\$ 500.00
Stone & Gravel	Uniforms	
1176-531-2000.31	1176-533-2000.31	\$ 5,000.00
Stone & Gravel	Garage & Motor Supplies	
1176-531-2000.31	1176-533-3000.03	\$ 200.00
Stone & Gravel	CDL Physicals	
1176-531-2000.31	1176-533-3000.21	\$ 500.00
Stone & Gravel	Radio's	
1176-531-2000.33	1176-532-4000.20	\$658000.00
Bituminous	Community Crossing Grant	

**Local Road & Street**

1169-524-4000.05	1169-532-4000.18	\$ 50000.00
Paving Projects	Garthwaite Project	

**Recycle**

4013-506-2000.20	4013-506-4000.41	\$ 1000.00
Gas, Oil & Lube	Equipment	

**County Commissioners**

0170-002-4000.41	0170-002-1000.12	\$ 400.00
Equipment	Overtime/Part Time	
0170-002-1000.72	0170-002-1000.12	\$ 100.00
Retirement	Overtime/Part Time	

**County Auditor**

0152-004-2000.44	0152-004-4000.41	\$ 4,000.00
Digital Microfilm	Equipment	
0152-004-2000.43	0152-004-4000.41	\$ 4,311.00

Second by Councilman Conner; there was no public input. Motion carried 7-0.

**County Prosecutor**

Realignment of Full-Time Deputy Prosecutors

County Prosecutor, Jim Luttrull, “ I am requesting to realign the full-time deputy prosecutors within the current budgeted full time deputy prosecutor salary line items given the recent vacancy. The only difference in the current salary amounts would be an elimination of the IV-D Incentive Supplement reducing the highest salary from \$62,284 to \$61,038. Every other amount will stay the same as budgeted for the year and 2018.”

Discussion ensued with the following motion.

Councilman Conner moved to approve the request as presented. Second by Councilman Scott, there was no public input. Motion failed 4 to 3 with Councilman Roorbach, Middlesworth, Hix and McWhirt voting nay.

President McWhirt stated the request would be revisited in January after the Department of Local Government Finance approved the budget. Then the request could be reviewed at the January Meeting.

#### **Health Department - Vacancy**

Doctor John W. Kennedy, Health Department Director, requested to fill a Food Inspector vacancy. The previous inspector resigned to work for Whitley County for \$6,000 more. Discussion ensued covering issues of whether the position was needed, could other office employees be cross trained, could other counties lend us their food inspectors, the quantity of restaurants to be inspected and the B.S. degree required for the position.

David Glickfield, Health Department Attorney, expressed concern for possible liability issues of not filling the position.

Tony Hendey, 1617 S. Nebraska St, Marion, questioned what type of Bachelor's Degree was required?

Doctor Kennedy stated the Health Board had set the requirement meaning they wanted a college degree behind the inspector.

Councilman Middlesworth moved to approve filling the vacancy. Second by Councilman Leming, there was no further public input. Motion carried 5-1 with President McWhirt abstaining.

#### **Amendment to Grant County Police Retirement Plan**

President McWhirt asked Council Attorney Phil Stephenson to explain the changes on the amendment. Attorney Stephenson stated the document was incomplete for his review and therefore was not wishing to advise the council until the entire document could be reviewed.

President McWhirt stated the item would be tabled until the January meeting.

#### **Facility Renovation Bond Sale**

President McWhirt reported bonds were sold on December 12, 2017 in the amount of \$8,505,000 at a rate of 2.99827% with a payoff in 2037. The full amortization schedule and documentation will be forthcoming.

#### **New Business**

##### **Public Defender – Vacancy**

Bruce Elliott, Director of the Public Defenders, requested to fill a vacancy. After much discussion concerning the position and its reimbursable factor from the state the council decided upon the following motion.

Councilman Conner moved to approve filling the vacancy effective for January 1, 2018. Second by Councilman Middlesworth, there was no public input. Motion carried 7-0.

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

##### **A. Committee Reports**

President McWhirt stated the council and commissioners had met with elected officials and department heads to discuss the financial situation of the county. The departments were told of a firm that would be conducting a study and a questionnaire would be forthcoming. Commissioner Burton explained that the firm will be sending out the questionnaire and they are expected to be answered. Councilman Roorbach commended Commissioner Burton on their choosing the firm.

Discussion ensued of strategizing over the upcoming budget and priorities that will help the council make the tough decisions for budget 2019.

President McWhirt stated the next meeting will be January 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.  
President McWhirt adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

