

**GRANT COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
December 19, 2018**

The Grant County Council met in regular session on Wednesday December 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

1. Call to order

President McWhirt called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.

2. Prayer

Councilman Roorbach led prayer.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Scott led the pledge of allegiance.

4. Roll Call

In attendance were Council members Jim McWhirt, Mark Leming, Shane Middlesworth, Mike Roorbach, Frank Hix and Mike Scott. Also present were Council Attorney Phil Stephenson, Auditor Roger Bainbridge, Chief Deputy Auditor Angela Jarvis, and Financials Deputy Stacey Stevens. Councilman Mike Conner was absent.

5. Approval of Minutes

Councilman Scott moved to approve the minutes of regular session November 14, 2018 as presented. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 5-1 (abstention).

6. Auditor's Report

Auditor Roger Bainbridge reported our fall settlement was completed as of December 7th. During the settlement the Auditor's Ineligible Homestead fund did receive a little over \$105,000.00.

Auditor Bainbridge reported from the general fund balance report. The report shows a significant increase in disbursements for November, which is due to we had 3 pay periods.

Auditor Bainbridge also reported from the health insurance fund. The balance is up almost 1.4 million. This is comparable to 2015 and 2016 totals. This is looking well.

New Business

A. Grant County Economic Growth Council-Jeff Wakefield, CFO of Marion General Hospital expressed what impact the Growth Council has had on some of the nurses at MGH.

Jamie Huller, a plant manager at Huhtamaki spoke about the importance of the Grants for Grads program.

Steve Thomas, the Indiana Wesleyan University bookstore manager spoke about the importance of the Grants for Grads program as well.

Brett Carey, President of the Growth Council expressed that for 35 years the Economic Growth Council has helped make Grant County a better place and asked the Council to consider giving the Growth Council 30,000 in appropriations.

B. Marion Economic Development Commission-Joe Certain, the attorney representing the Economic Development Commission, is asking to consider the reappointment of Randy Stone as the County Council appointment, to serve an additional year. The term would be February 1, 2019 to February 1, 2020. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve the appointment of Randy Stone as requested. Second by Councilman Leming; motion carried 6-0.

Council President Jim McWhirt expressed there are several departments requesting transfers. These transfers are pretty routine so I will entertain a motion to take care of them all in one motion if you so choose. The departments with transfers are as follows: Health Department-general fund, Extension Office-general fund, Veterans Service Office-general fund, Emergency

Medical Services-general fund, County Clerk-general fund, County Commissioners-general fund and CCD, Auditor-general fund, Auditor and Council department, plat book fund, ineligible deduction fund and 911 fund. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve all transfers as requested. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 6-0.

President McWhirt expressed he had a late addition; the Highway Department has transfers in the MVH fund and the Recycling fund. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve the transfers as requested. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 6-0.

C. Clerk-Carolyn Mowery is asking to fill a vacancy. The position is for an Election Deputy to be filled as soon as possible. Councilman Scott made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 6-0.

D. Superior Court II-Magistrate Brian McLane is requesting a change in the funding source of a court reporter. Magistrate McLane explained the issue of getting the incentive reimbursement. Councilman Leming made a motion to correct the 2018 salary ordinance, amend the 2019 salary ordinance to reflect the general fund at 60% and the incentive fund at 40%, and to transfer the reimbursement where it needs to be for 2018. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 6-0.

E. Public Defender-Public Defender Bruce Elliott is asking to fill 2 vacancies. The vacancies are both for Public Defender positions. Mr. Elliott is asking this be effective January 1, 2019. Councilman Middlesworth made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Leming; motion carried 6-0.

F. County Assessor-Assessor Gary Landrum is asking to fill a vacancy due to a new Assessor taking office January 1, 2019. This will make everything fall into a domino effect for positions. Assessor Landrum is also asking for the 2019 part-time hourly rate to be \$13.74 and the board of review 2019 hourly rate to be \$16.00. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve the filling of the vacancies. Second by Councilman Leming; motion carried 6-0. Councilman Middlesworth made a motion to reduce the part-time rate to the \$13.74 per hour, and the adjustment of the salary ordinance. Second by Councilman Hix; motion carried 6-0. Councilman Middlesworth made a motion to amend the salary ordinance to reflect the change in salaries of the staff. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 6-0.

G. County Prosecutor-Newly elected Prosecutor Rodney Faulk is asking to fill two vacancies and to amend the salary ordinance to go along with the filling of these two vacancies. Councilman Scott made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Leming; motion carried 6-0.

H. 2019 Salary Ordinance-Sheriff Reggie Nevels explained a change to the Victim Assistant position that will affect the salary ordinance. Currently that position receives 31,456; Gas City courts pay 6000 as well that comes from a grant. That grant will end. The salary ordinance will need to reflect that position pay going from 31,456 to 37,456, which covers the 6000 that Gas City will no longer be paying. Councilman Middlesworth made a motion to adopt the 2019 salary ordinance #2-2018. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 6-0.

I. Sale of Salin Bank Building-Commissioner Mike Burton expressed there is interest in the sale of the bank building. When the county wants to sell real property the Council needs to approve an ordinance when the value is over 50,000.00. As required we do have two appraisals, one from Metz Appraisal Offices, and one from our County Assessor Gary Landrum. Both came in over 400,000.00. We are asking the Council to approve this so we can move to the next step of holding a public hearing in January. There will be a public auction and we will take bids and this can be done at a Commissioners meeting. President Jim McWhirt read from the ordinance, that it is approval of real property and it does show the location, and to accept the sale price at the sole discretion of the Commissioners. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve the sale and the ordinance #3-2018 of the Salin Bank building. Second by Councilman Middlesworth; motion carried 6-0.

Tony Hendey 1617 S. Nebraska street, Marion spoke about the sale of the building, as being a good thing.

8. Old Business

President McWhirt expressed he has received the approval of the budget for 2019 from the DLGF. President McWhirt is pleased with the approval that was given. The Cum Bridge fund, we adopted at 450,000, the revenue we had projected was a little high, compared what the DLGF approved. This makes us reduce that funds budget by 4,737. The DLGF approved the Cum Bridge fund at 445,263. All the other funds were approved as we adopted. Highway Superintendent David White has been made aware of this and has agreed to cut the budget by 4,737 in the area of culvert pipe and tile. We can approve this reduction of Mr. White's budget by consensus. Council agreed to approve by consensus.

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

Councilman Roorbach expressed the swearing in of newly elected officials will be Saturday December 29, 2018 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, in the Council chambers.

Councilman Mike Scott read aloud a resolution for President Jim McWhirt leaving the Council to become the newly elected Auditor and the retirement of Auditor Roger Bainbridge. The resolution expressed a thank you to both men for a job well done and thanking them for their years of service. Councilman Leming moved to take into consideration the resolution. Second by Councilman Roorbach; motion carried 6-0.

President Jim McWhirt spoke about his service on the County Council for the last 14 years, 10 of those years as President. President McWhirt spoke about all the Council members he has had the privilege to serve with on the Council. President McWhirt expressed it has been a privilege to serve on the Council for the last 14 years.

President McWhirt expressed our next meeting will be January 19th, 2019 at 6:00 pm.

10. Adjournment

President McWhirt adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.