

**GRANT COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION  
October 16, 2019**

The Grant County Council met in regular session on Wednesday October 16, 2019 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**

Dwight Elliott, Senior Pastor at Marion's First Friends Church led prayer.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Councilman Conner led the pledge of allegiance.

**4. Roll Call**

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

**5. Approval of Minutes**

Councilman Scott moved to approve the minutes from the regular session for September 18, 2019. Second by Councilman Conner; motion carried 7-0.

**6. Auditor's Report-**

Auditor Jim McWhirt expressed the financial report by funds I have no comments concerning this report. Next the fund summary report again no comment on this report. The county general fund balance monthly report we are in good position compared to recent years, we are at a fiscally sound position at this point. Comparison of projected receipts to actual receipts, the receipts are coming in as expected, Local Income Tax receipts are above expectation due to the increase we did this year. Earnings on investments we have exceeded what we expected by this time, which is good, that money helps fund our general fund. MVH and Local Road and Street, up until September have exceeded the projection by a little bit. Disbursements of budget versus actual we appear to be in good shape. The cash flow analysis I have no comment. The health insurance fund, we are in good shape in comparison to last year. Just to make you aware the State Board of Accounts audit for 2018 is complete and the report is available on line.

President Shane Middlesworth read a statement:

“The negotiations with the members of IUPA Local 825 are still on going. Therefore it is not appropriate at this time for us to discuss anything in that regard. In addition we will not be entertaining any public comment on that topic”.

**New Business**

**A. County Recorder**-Recorder Kathy Foy is asking to transfer \$1000.00 from Digital Microfilm to COTT Software. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve the transfer as requested. Second by Councilman Conner; motion carried 7-0.

**B. County Extension Office**-Kristina Goff is not present but is asking to transfer \$325.00 from Equipment Repair to Overtime and \$117.03 from Postage to Overtime. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Conner; motion carried 7-0.

**C. Emergency Medical Services**-EMS Director Duaine Ashcraft is asking to transfer \$15,000.00 from ALS Reimbursement to Run Reimbursement. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Conner; motion carried 7-0.

**D. County Prosecutor**-Prosecutor Rodney Faulk is asking to transfer \$500.00 from Maintenance and Repair to General Fund Publications and an appropriation of \$4,700.00 from IV-D Incentive Fund to cover the cost of a new shredder. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve both request as requested. Second by Councilman Conner; motion carried 7-0.

**E. Community Corrections**-Director Chris Cunningham is asking to fill a vacancy. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Conner; motion carried 7-0.

**F. County Highway**-Superintendent David White is asking to fill the position of Bridge Foreman, the current Bridge Forman's last day is October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 7-0.

Superintendent White is also asking for the following transfer's:

\$5,000.00 from Bituminous to Buy Out Days

\$8,400.00 from Bituminous to Part-time

\$90,000.00 from Bituminous to Equipment

\$66,000.00 from Bituminous to Pavement Markings

Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the transfers as requested. Second by Councilman Scott; motion carried 7-0.

**G. County Sheriff**-Sheriff Reggie Nevels is not present but is asking for a transfer in the amount of \$51,444.59 from Misdemeanant Fund to Sheriff Work Crew Salaries. This is an annual transfer that is done every year. Councilman Roorbach made a motion to approve as requested. Second by Councilman Conner; motion carried 7-0.

**H. County Auditor**-Auditor Jim McWhirt is requesting and recommending Council establish the Central Dispatch Construction Fund (#4806). This is for the purpose of accounting for transactions associated with the renovations for Central Dispatch. Councilman Conner made a motion to approve the Central Dispatch Construction Fund #4806. Second by Councilman Roorbach; motion carried 7-0.

## **8. Old Business**

### **A. Adoption of 2020 Budgets**-President Middlesworth read the tax rates as follows:

<b><u>Fund</u></b>	<b><u>Adopted Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Adopted Tax Levy</u></b>	<b><u>Adopted Tax Rate</u></b>
General	\$24,024,889	\$13,500,000	0.6923
2015 Reassessment	\$466,433	\$500,000	0.0256
Debt Service	\$687,388	\$875,000	0.0449
Highway	\$3,763,268	\$0	0.0000
Local Road & Street	\$550,000	\$0	0.0000
Cumulative Bridge	\$1,160,000	\$1,300,000	0.0667
Health	\$534,124	\$425,000	0.0218
Cum. Capital Development	\$368,000	\$400,000	0.0205
Economic Dev. Income	\$1,400,000	\$0	0.0000
Tax Credit			

Councilman Jonathan Perez expressed “I know Jim is on a deadline to get our documents in and we have on going items we are not discussing, but how are we adopting a budget when we still do not know what those final numbers are going to be? I understand we will take the full levy and it will just be unallocated”.

Auditor McWhirt expressed “Well then the bottom line is it needs to be adopted tonight, because of our publication date. If anything happens with the negotiations later, it would have to be an amendment or an additional appropriation to the budget in 2020, after the DLGF has approved this one, we are past that date and we can’t change it now. It can be changed as soon as the DLGF approves it, you can do an additional appropriation as soon as 2020 starts and incorporate whatever changes you do.

Councilman Perez “Additional appropriations are subject to approval too”.

Auditor McWhirt “By this body”.

Councilman Perez “And the DLGF”.

Auditor McWhirt “That’s true, there is no doubt you have an operating balance to accommodate that. You got to make sure what you do is within the operating balance available to you. I am assuming that would be the case you would never appropriate something that wouldn’t be part of the financial ability that you have. That’s not a problem going forward, the timing is what it is. Obviously, ideally it would be done now, but it’s not. We have got to move on and take care of it later”.

Councilman Perez “So this is just to approve to adopt at the levy”?

Auditor McWhirt “Your adopting the budgets that have been approved so far, in this case the employees that have not been settled there is nothing as far as an increase to include in this number because nothing has been established yet. That would be taken care of at some point in

the future, whenever that happens. The levies we are adopting, that we are advertising, in this document are at our maximum, so you will be able to get what's coming to you as far as the levy goes. You're going to be covered by this just some parts of the budget you would like to have done by now, they are not going to be able to be done until later. That's where we are at this point".

Councilman Conner made a motion to adopt the ordinance for appropriations and tax rates that's in the budget as presented. Second by Councilman Scott.

President Middlesworth asked if there were any questions.

Councilman Roorbach spoke about the process of how we do budgets.

Auditor Jim McWhirt expressed he has a document for Council to sign, this is the form we upload to the Gateway site.

Councilman Perez asked Council Attorney Phil Stevenson if it is possible to do the budget and levy separately. Attorney Stevenson's reply was "no".

Auditor McWhirt expressed "We are actually adopting this, the form has it all on there".

President Middlesworth asked for public input.

Kevin Carmichael "I'm a taxpayer here in Grant County. Jonathan to answer your question, you don't have to approve it tonight. It does not have to be approved tonight, there is a yay or a nah on those forms that you have in front of you. Yes, it would slow everybody up, but you are in negotiations for a chunk of change for people that are tax payers in this community also that work here. Yea there would have to be an additional appropriation for everything starting in the next year, but you can hold it up, you don't have to vote yes tonight. You said you have to vote yes".

Auditor Jim McWhirt "If you don't vote yes obviously there would be no budget approved".

Kevin Carmichael "Correct, but that can happen so let's not say that it has to be voted as yes, now we are both Cubs fans but what your saying is it has to be voted yes tonight".

Auditor Jim McWhirt "What your saying is correct, but there would be no budget for next year at this point".

Kevin Carmichael "There would be no budget at this time, absolutely, correct".

President Middlesworth asked for any further public comment. There was no further comment.

Motion carried 6-1.

Auditor Jim McWhirt "My comment would be why do an additional for the whole thing when we can do additional for what we need to later, that would be my comment".

President Middlesworth “That would be logical”.

Kevin Carmichael “Principal”.

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

**A. Committee Reports-None.**

**10. Adjournment**

President Middlesworth adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.