

## WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

May 7, 2014

The Whitley County Council met in regular session on Wednesday May 8, 2014 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Tom Western, Vice Chairman Kim Wheeler, Jim Bayman, Bill Overdeer, Glen LaRue, John Barrett and Paula Reimers. Also in attendance were Auditor Jen McGuire, Commissioner George Schrumpf, Alan Tio-EDC, Ross Pietrzak- Region III-A, Michael Barton- Highway, Russ Gilliom, Tony Starkey- Fox Products, Scott Jones, Kathy Shively, Mark Hodges-Sheriff Department and Mary Hartman- Peabody Library.

Chairman Western called the meeting to order and pledged the flag.

**IN THE MATTER OF FOX PRODUCTS ABATEMENT:** A new Statement of Benefits was presented by Alan Tio on behalf of Fox Products for the installation of new business personal property with the investment of \$2,000,000. This investment will add an additional 25 jobs for the silver plating and etching machines used at the facilities located in South Whitley. After discussion of the added capacity, improved quality and European market, a motion to approve Resolution #2014-03 for a ten year abatement was made by Bayman, seconded by Overdeer and carried with a 7/0 vote from Council. Tony Starkey 'thanked' the Council for their support.

**IN THE MATTER OF EDC CREDIT REQUEST:** Alan Tio, presented information to the County Council for a request from the Onsite/Offsite CREDIT appropriation for 2014. The \$10,000 request will fund the Small Business & Entrepreneurship Initiative (SBEI) program being implemented by EDC out of the Outpost building. It will be used to accelerate seed money for applicants working through the twelve week program and just starting out. The County Commissioners gave the request a "Favorable" recommendation. After discussion a motion by Overdeer to allow the \$10,000 request, seconded by Barrett and granted with a 7/0 vote from Council.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISPATCH EQUIPMENT UPGRADE:** Sheriff Hodges, Scott Jones and Kathy Shively were all on hand to field questions regarding the Request for Proposal(RFP) that will be going out to receive Proposals for the new Whitley County Radio Project. The project includes dispatch radio consoles; simulcast radio transmitters, mobile and portable radios. A sealed bid opening will be done by the Commissioners on a date after advertising for proposals. The leasing option will be looked at for the proposal to help maintain the overall cost of the project. The radio coverage will be switched back to VHF from the 800 band throughout the County and the use of the existing towers will save money. After discussion Overdeer made a motion to proceed with the project, seconded by Barrett and carried with a 7/0 vote by Council. The funding of the overall project will be discussed more in the 2015 Budget process and what fund the expense will be paid from.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE WHITLEY COUNTY MUSEUM:** Newly appointed Russ Gilliom presented some information to the County Council on behalf of the Historical Society involving the County Museum. They are moving the genealogy files from the second floor of the Marshall house to the annex. This will help with the weight on the structure and the new location will be more accessible to searchers. Gilliom is requesting the assistance of the Work Release crew for the move. Mr. Gilliom also requested a liaison person for a contact from the County Council and member Bill Overdeer volunteered for the position. The Historical Society is starting to work on the 2016 Indiana Bi-Centennial year celebration for Whitley County.

**IN THE MATTER OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE BOARD:** Auditor McGuire presented the Certificate of Appointment for Ted Linn to the Whitley County Alcoholic Beverage Board for the County Council in 2014-2015. A motion to approve the Appointment was made by Bayman, seconded by LaRue and carried with a 7/0 vote.

**COMMISSIONERS REPORT:** Chairman Schrumpf gave a report from the Commissioners meeting

- Debra Darr- Whitley County Transit requested the Matching INDOT Grant funding from CREDIT for 2014 in the amount of \$25,000. A motion by Reimers, seconded by Barrett approved the expenditure from the County Council with a 7/0 vote.
- Jorell Tucker- Solid Waste asked for a modification to the Highway building that is used for the Solid Waste program. The change will cut an eight foot hole in the wall and place a garage door for the electronic collection. All cost will be paid by the Solid Waste District and the change was approved by the Highway and Planning and Building departments.
- Brandon Forrester – County Engineer presented a contract with Rusmshlag for the inspection of small structures throughout the County.

- The Commissioners are requesting quotes for a feasibility study involving both the Community Corrections facility and the Jail. With the changes in legislation what facility will need to be expanded and what cost will be involved on the local level for confinement.
- Ordinance 2014-03 approved the change in Personnel Policy to meet State and Federal regulations.
- Working with Extension office to help with the cost of printing, in-house vs. outsourcing the printing of the publications and if the brochure needs to be color.
- All the overages from the Print Management will be put in the Department budgets for 2014 just like the change from the supplies out of the Commissioner's budget back to each individual department within the County General Fund.

**IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES:** The Minutes from the April 8, 2014, meeting were reviewed. Councilman Wheeler made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Reimers and carried with a 7/0 vote by members.

**IN THE MATTER OF EXCISE TAX:** Auditor McGuire presented the request for passage of House Bill #1343 regarding motor driven cycles and assessing a flat rate excise tax in the amount of \$10.00 per registration. After discussion of amending the current Ordinance Reimers made a motion to apply the \$10.00, seconded by LaRue and carried with a 6/1 vote with Bayman casting the Nay vote. The change will be effective January 1, 2015. The new Ordinance will be processed in the June meeting for signatures.

**IN THE MATTER ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:**

1176-11800.000-201 Longevity	\$9390.00
1176-22300.000-201 Garage Supplies	\$50,000.00
1176-35600.000-201 Contracted Services	\$6000.00
1000.11303.000.123 County Extension	\$1923.95

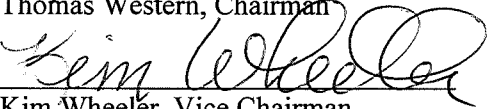
After discussion of the additional cost for the Winter Storms and if any FEMA monies would be given a motion to allow the Additional Appropriations was made by Bayman, seconded by Overdeer and carried with a 7/0 vote by County Council.

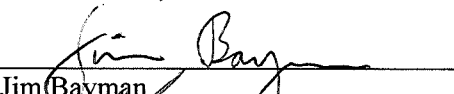
**IN OTHER BUSINESS:** The County Council congratulated both Auditor McGuire and Commissioner Schrupf for Graduating from the 2014 Leadership Whitley County class. Auditor McGuire explained the COIT Tax to Council and how the legislation on Business Personal Property would impact the County with changes to tax rates with the elimination of assessed values. The State Board of Accounts 2014 County Council meeting will be Saturday June 21, 2014 at the Indiana Grand Casino in Shelbyville, IN.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned


**WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL**

  
Thomas Western, Chairman

  
Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman


  
Jim Bayman

  
Glen LaRue

  
John Barrett

  
William N. Overdeer

  
Paula G. Reimers

Attest:  
  
Jennifer McGuire, Auditor