

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

March 8, 2016

The Whitley County Council met in regular session at 8:00 am on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman Jim Bayman, Tom Western, Glen LaRue, Bill Overdeer, and Paula Reimers. Absent was Council member John Barrett. Also in attendance were Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, EMA Director Amy Biggs, Ronald Glassley from the Sheriff's department, Sheriff Gatton and Jody Hollenbaugh from the Sheriff's department, Clerk Debbie Beers, Judge Heuer, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, Heidi Darley and Leslee Derbeck from STAR Insurance.

Chairman Western called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING A PART-TIME POSITION: Clerk Debbie Beers presented a request to the Council. She stated that the part-time position in her office does not meet the needs of the office. The election deputy works 100-200 hours for each election and without this position, she does not have much help. They are short staffed in the Clerk's office and all the employees have a lot of longevity but not one to back them up if they go on vacation. Debbie's request is that she would like to make her part-time position into a full time position. She can use the funds that she has available in the part-time line item to help fund the full time salary but other than that she does not have the extra funds to help pay for the position. The part-time position currently makes \$14.00 per hour and work 29.5 hours per week. One of the personnel committee members did factor the position for Debbie and she would like to see the position have a salary of \$29,863.00. The increase in the position would be around \$10,671.00 per year plus benefits. After discussion, Council member LaRue made a motion to approve the full time position request, seconded by Overdeer, and passed with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SHERIFF SALE FEES: Sheriff Gatton and Jody Hollenbaugh presented an ordinance from 2012 that was for the Sheriff sale fees. Half of the fees that are collected from a Sheriff's sale shall be deposited into County General and the other half shall be deposited into special, non-reverting fund for use by the Whitley County Sheriff's department. The fund for the Sheriff's department was never created and the Sheriff would like the fund to now be created and half of the funds to be deposited into the fund. Attorney Sigler is working on an ordinance to establish the fund due to Ordinance 2012-04 not establishing the fund. Council member Bayman made a motion to approve any money collected after today to be deposited into this new fund when it is created by ordinance, seconded by Reimers, and passed with a 5/1 vote with LaRue voting against.

IN THE MATTER OF NEW PERMITTING SOFTWARE: Planning Director Nathan Bilger presented a request to Council for permitting and inspection software. The permitting system the County currently has is outdated and the company is no longer in business. The two options that are being considered are Schneider Engineering and CityForce. Schneider would be beneficial because it would integrate with our GIS and it has a slightly lower cost. The problem with Schneider is that the conversion may not be supported with our current system. The cost for Schneider is \$3,000 for the setup and \$6,750 for annual hosting and maintenance. The cost for CityForce is a setup fee of \$6,000 and then \$575 per month for hosting and maintenance through the end of the year and then beginning next year it would go up to \$669 per month. Nathan stated that the preferred option is CityForce due to the larger feature package and faster implementation. Nathan presented this to the Commissioners at their last meeting and it had a motion for a favorable pass to Council. The Council made a 6/0 consensus to move forward with the project.

IN THE MATTER OF CORRECTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

Sheriff:

1000.11502.000.0105 Acct & System Coordinator \$348

Planning:

1000.11611.000.0124 Asst Planner \$348

Emergency Management:

1000.37004.000.0146 Equip Repair & Maintenance \$3,000

In regard the additional appropriation corrections for the Sheriff and the Planning department, Council member Western made a motion to approve the requests, seconded by Reimers, and carried with a 6/0 vote. In regard to the emergency management additional appropriation, please see the minutes below "In Other Business".

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES: The minutes from the February 2, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Council member Western made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Reimers, and passed with a 6/0 vote.

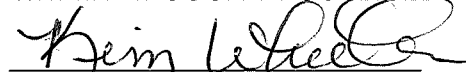
COMMISSIONERS REPORT: Commissioner Rethlake gave a report from the Commissioners meeting:

- Commissioner Rethlake reported to the Council that the Commissioners opened bids for the new Highway department truck on Monday, March 7, 2016 at 2:00 PM. There were a total of three bids. The first bid was from WA Jones for one 10' HD complete scraper, one complete hydraulic system, and one truck bed for \$69,632.00. The second bid was from Selking International for one 2017 tandem axle truck chassis for \$120,441.00 and the last bid for the truck chassis was from Peterbilt in Fort Wayne for \$130,200.00. The Commissioners took all of the bids under advisement and made no decisions.
- Commissioner Rethlake stated that the Commissioners discussed the security problems at the Government Center. The Commissioners are looking into the different options they may have but are concerned for the safety of the employees with no security except cameras that the Courthouse security is able to view.
- April 22, 2016 is Highway Director Michael Barton's last day. The Commissioners are currently seeking candidates for the position.
- In regard to the County's insurance trust fund balance, there is currently a balance of \$172,468 and the Commissioners would like to see the balance be around \$350,000.
- Commissioner Rethlake also shared the distribution amounts of the LOIT tax to each of the taxing units.


IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS: EMA Director Amy Biggs presented a request for additional funds to the Council. In 2015, Amy had a line item in her budget for \$3,000 for vehicle repairs. In 2016, she was not the EMA Director when the budget was completed and the \$3,000 was not included in the budget. She is requesting that the line item be reinstated because she has two repairs that are necessary. There is an issue with the hub assembly and there is also a problem with the transmission. Amy previously had to get work completed on the vehicle so there was heat in the vehicle for the winter which cost \$408.10. The hub assembly is going to cost \$1,041.03 which is a quote from Whitley Tire and Auto Care. Council member Reimers made a motion to approve the request, seconded by LaRue, and passed with a 6/0 vote. Ron Glassley presented a proposal to Council for a DVR system and cameras. He would like to purchase 62 cameras altogether but he is suggesting to proceed in phases. If the County decides to proceed in phases, they may be able to obtain a grant for the second phase. Council member Bayman approved \$10,607.44 for the first phase and to pay the funds out of Cumulative Capital Development, seconded by LaRue, and passed with a 6/0 vote. The Council received a Region IIIA appointment letter to make their appointment for the 2016 Board of Directors. The Council questioned what our involvement is with Regional IIIA and do not believe that we any longer need to be members of Region IIIA. Council member Bayman made a motion to drop Region IIIA, seconded by LaRue, and passed with a 6/0 vote. Jill Snyder, the Whitley County Drug Free Indiana Coordinator, sent the 2015 annual budget to the Council. The Council reviewed the budget and Council member Reimers made a motion to approve the funding, seconded by Western, and passed with a 6/0 vote.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 AM.

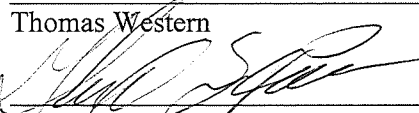
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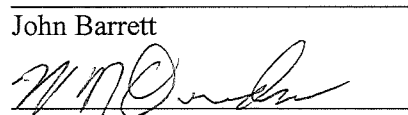
Kim Wheeler, Chairman



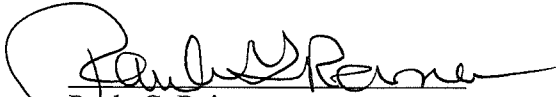
Jim Bayman, Vice Chairman

Thomas Western


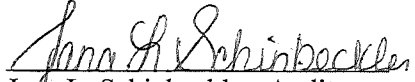
Glen LaRue

John Barrett


William Overdeer


Paula G. Reimers

Attest:


Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor

