

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 1, 2016

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, August 1, 2016 at 1:00 pm in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman George Schrumpf, Vice Chairman Don Amber and Commissioner Tom Rethlake. Others in attendance were Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator Pam Smith, Council member Tom Western, Shell Chavis from the Board of Animal Health, Sarah and Noah Hilty, Alan Townsend, Mark Parker from the Post and Mail, Joan Null, Stanley Crum, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, Assistant Planner Cathy Gardner, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, EDC President Jon Myers, Dwight Busche and Karen Harpel from Impact CNC, Recorder April Whetstone and Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library.

Chairman Schrumpf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Attorney Sigler stated that he only had to report on the two contracts that are being presented to the Commissioners in the meeting and he will elaborate on them when they are presented.

IN THE MATTER OF THE FIDLAR CONTRACT: County Recorder April Whetstone gave the Commissioners an update on the Recorder's Office. They have been given the opportunity to change their software process. The current software the office uses has been used since 2007 and she would like to upgrade. Preferred IT has been involved in the process and the software will be Google-driven and not Windows-driven. The fee for the contract is going to be \$17,000 per year and it is a five year contract. The funding is available in the Recorder's Office Perpetuation fund. Commissioner Amber made a favorable pass to Council for approval, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE CITYFORCE CONTRACT: Planning Director Nathan Bilger presented the final contract for the permitting database for the Planning and Health Department to utilize. The contract has been revised per Attorney Sigler's recommendations and Nathan is requesting final approval. The payment will be made to be at the start of each quarter and Commissioner Rethlake would like a statement added in the contract that any unused fees will be refunded to the County if the contract is terminated. In the contract, this would be placed under Section 12.4 under Termination of the Contract. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve with the changes recommended, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Rethlake amended his motion to include when the changes are made, the Chairman may sign the contract, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE REZONING PETITION: Planning Director Nathan Bilger presented a request that was tabled at the first meeting in July for a rezoning petition to rezone an area from agricultural to parks and recreation. This would allow for a proposed lodge use and they are a special exception use under the parks and recreation district. It is approximately about a 14 ½ acre parcel that has the rezoning petition. Commissioner Amber made a motion to rezone the area and to follow the recommendation of the Planning Director, seconded by Rethlake with discussion. Commissioner Rethlake asked if they were going to come back to ask for the other, approximately 60 acres, be rezoned as well. The governing body that would make the decisions on hunting at the lodge would be the Board of Animal Health. The only request that is to the Commissioners need to give approval for is the rezoning request. After the end of discussion, the motion passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE LOCAL COMPANY EXPANSION: EDC President Jon Myers presented a request to the Commission on behalf of Impact CNC for an expansion. The proposal is to add \$1.2M in real estate improvements and \$2,007,000 in new machinery and IT equipment. The company is requesting a tax abatement for both the real estate improvements and the new machinery and equipment in addition to \$50,000 from the County's on-site/off-site fund. The cost

benefit analysis for the County is positive and they plan to add ten (10) new jobs to their current location. Commissioner Amber made a favorable pass to Council for the tax abatements and the \$50,000 from CEDIT funds, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY COORDINATOR: County Coordinator Pam Smith presented a request to use County facilities to the Commissioners. The request was from the Whitley County Community Christmas Committee for the Whitley County Christmas Celebration. The event takes place from December 2nd to December 3rd and will be held on the Courthouse lawn and inside the Courthouse. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Amber and passed with a 3/0 vote. Pam had a request to the Commissioners in regard to a cell phone stipend for a Maintenance employee. She would like the Commissioners to approve the request back to January. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN A MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The minutes from the July 18, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Amber made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote. The claims were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Rethlake made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Amber and carried with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Amber made a motion to table the PERF discussion from the previous meeting to the next meeting in August, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester presented a right-of-way permit to the Commissioners that had previously been requested and denied for a telecommunications tower. This is the second request for the right-of-way permit is South of US 30 which is a better site option and part of the road has been vacated. Brandon suggested that the Commissioners wait to approve the request to obtain more information on safety concerns. Commissioner Amber stated he thought they were going to vacate the section where the tower would be located. Commissioner Amber made a motion to deny the request per it being located in an easement, Rethlake seconded the motion with discussion. Brandon stated that it may be too close to the roadway and without there being guard rails he suggests they deny it as requested because they are not giving any options for safety. After discussion, the motion passed with 3/0 vote to deny the request. Commissioner Rethlake mentioned the article about the swimming pool that the City is building. Mark Parker from the Post and Mail stated that he spoke with Mayor Daniel and the Regional Cities money is designed to be a capstone. The State is wanting the funds for the project before the community makes their final presentation. The project was originally a 50/50 match and now it is an 80/20 match. Commissioner Schrupf stated that he would like to recognize Jessica Hockemeyer because she was inducted into the IVRA, which is the Indiana Voter Registration Association Hall of Fame, for her outstanding work and helping to promote the IVRA. She was nominated for this award by her peers. Commissioner Amber stated that they need a proclamation for Jessica. Commissioner Schrupf would like approval from the Commissioners for a favorable pass to Council to appropriate \$5,000 to the US 30 Coalition. It would enable them to long term plan for the US 30 project designating US 30 into a freeway. Commissioner Amber made a motion for a favorable pass to Council, seconded by Rethlake and passed with a 3/0 vote. Schrupf made the recommendation for the time management system to be budgeted in CEDIT for 2017. The initial cost is \$42,100 for setup and the annual cost is \$27,600. The first year is a \$67,400 cost to the County and every year after that will be \$27,000. Commissioner Amber made a motion for a favorable pass to Council to approve time management and to sign the contract, seconded by Rethlake and carried with a 3/0 vote.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schrupf adjourned the meeting at 2:20 PM.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George Schrupf, Chairman

Attest: Jana Schinbeckler
Jana Schinbeckler, County Auditor

Tom Rehlake
Tom Rehlake

Don Amber
Don Amber, Vice Chairman

