

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

June 2, 2015

The Whitley County Council met in regular session at 8:00 am on Tuesday, June 2, 2015 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Tom Western, Jim Bayman, Bill Overdeer, Glen LaRue, John Barrett, and Paula Reimers. Absent was Vice Chairman Kim Wheeler. Also in attendance were Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Commissioner Tom Rethlake, George Schrumpf, Highway Director Michael Barton, Alan Tio and John Stafford from Indiana Regional Partnership, Mark Parker from the Post and Mail, Jason Meyer from Passages, Cindy Barnett and John Woodmansee from Purdue Extension, County Engineer Brandon Forrester, GIS Coordinator Dan Weigold, Jarod Shrock from the EDC, Kathy Heuer, Bill Etzler from ERI, and Christie Carnahan Whitton from the Peabody Public Library.

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE REGIONAL CITIES PROJECT: Alan Tio and John Stafford presented the Whitley County Development Authority Ordinance to the Council. They have worked with County Attorney Dan Sigler and he has approved the ordinance. The purpose of this ordinance is for the Whitley County Council to establish the Northeast Indiana Regional Development Authority with the other surrounding Indiana Counties. Whitley County shall be a member of this development authority until June 30, 2023. The ordinance may be amended or repealed at any time subject to laws and regulations. After discussion, Council member Bayman made a motion to approve Whitley County Development Authority Ordinance 2015-08, seconded by Barrett, and passed with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY UPDATE: GIS Coordinator Dan Weigold gave an update on the aerial photography for the County. Due to weather conditions, the company was able to fly this spring but the photos were with the leaves on the trees. They have given us this aerial photography for free and they will plan to fly in May of 2016.

IN THE MATTER OF THE AG AND NATURAL RESOURCES: John Woodmansee, who is in charge of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Program at the Extension office, gave an update to the Commissioners. There have been many new activities that he has started over the last year and a half such as weekly news articles, client inquiries and farm visits, on-site research, etc. John also spoke about the Master Gardener program in the County, a volunteer program, which had a total of 2,578 volunteer hours in 2014. He stated that they also educate the local farmers on several different aspects such as crop disease management, weed problems, seeding rates, etc.

IN THE MATTER OF THE YEARLY REPORT FROM PASSAGES: Jason Meyer, Passages President and CEO, gave the Commissioners the 2014 yearly report for Passages. Passages celebrated 60 years of service for Whitley County in 2014. Jason stated that there are several different programs that Passages is starting which includes a summer youth enrichment program. Whitley Crossings Neighborhood Corporation has 65 housing units between Clugston on the Square, Heritage Homes, and Whitley Meadows. Passages also works with the Whitley County Transit to get their clients from place to place during the day. With employing over 140 people and having a \$5.6 million budget with over \$4 million being paid to the staff, the Commissioners thanked Jason for all he has done for the community.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Highway Director Michael Barton requested a transfer from the Council. He also reported that the highway department is leasing a milling machine for the roads. The milling machine costs approximately \$16,000 for one month.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES: The minutes from the May 5, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Council member Barrett made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Reimers, and passed with a 5/0 vote with LaRue abstaining.

IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

1110.17200.000.0000	Retirement PERF	\$65,910
1110.36000.000.0000	Police Pension	\$183,034
1216.39004.000.0102	Ineligible HS Fund	\$3,000
1112.42030.000.0433	Managed Print Svcs	\$14,200
1112.42010.000.0433	WCEDC Admin Expenses	\$742
1112.42030.000.0433	SBEI Growth Ventures	\$15,000

A motion to approve the additional appropriation for Retirement PERF and Police Pension was made by Bayman, seconded by Barrett, and passed with a 6/0 vote. Council member Reimers made a motion to approve the additional appropriation for the Ineligible HS fund, seconded by Barrett, and passed with a

6/0 vote. Overdeer made a motion to approve the CEDIT (1112) additional appropriations, seconded by LaRue, and passed with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF APPROPRIATION REDUCTIONS:

1186.17300.000.0000	Group Insurance	\$29,040
1186.59000.000.0000	Misc. Expense	\$100,000

Council member Reimers made a motion to approve the appropriation reductions for Group Insurance and Misc. Expense, seconded by Barrett, and passed with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFERS:

1176.23001.000.0201	Bituminous	1176.35600.000.0201	Contractual Services	\$20,000
1110.35007.000.0000	Employee Disability	1110.17200.000.0000	Retirement PERF	\$4,090
1110.31001.000.0000	Consultant/Engineering	1110.30009.000.0000	Legal Services	\$60,000
1110.35007.000.0000	Employee Disability	1110.33005.000.0000	Worker's Comp Ins	\$3,910
1112.42021.000.0433	Purchase Hwy Truck	1112.42028.000.0433	YMCA	\$25,000
1112.42023.000.0433	CC Building Repair	1112.42029.000.0433	Managed Print Svcs	\$53,000
1112.42024.000.0433	Jail Control Brd	1112.42030.000.0433	SBEI Growth	\$10,000
1112.42025.000.0433	Video Sentencing Equip	1112.42031.000.0433	Admin Expenses	\$25,000

Council member Overdeer made a motion to approve the highway department transfer from Bituminous to Contractual Services, seconded by Reimers, and passed with a 6/0 vote. Bayman made a motion to approve the transfer from Employee Disability to Retirement PERF, seconded by Barrett, and carried with a 6/0 vote. Barrett made a motion to approve the transfers from Consultant/Engineering to Legal Services and Employee Disability to Worker's Comp Ins, seconded by Bayman, and passed with a 6/0 vote. Reimers made a motion to approve the CEDIT (1112) transfers, seconded by Barrett, and passed with a 6/0 vote.

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

- Commissioner Rethlake stated that the Commissioners would like to change the Cumulative Bridge fund rate. All of the appropriate paperwork is ready to be advertised and they would like to increase the rate by \$0.02 which would have the rate as \$0.05339. This would give the Cumulative Bridge fund an approximate \$280,000 additional. After discussion, the Council gave their consensus to increase the rate by \$0.02.
- Commissioner Rethlake reported the new X-ray machine is working great in the Courthouse. He also stated that the Community Corrections budget has been approved and the Whitley County Community Corrections is in the top three facilities in the State.
- He reported that the EMA director has resigned at this time and there are no plans for a replacement.
- Commissioner Schrupf is looking into the County's insurance and he met with Phillips Financial who is our current provider and they stated that there will approximately be a 3.28% increase for medical coverage. He is also looking into liability insurance for the County and checking how much it would cost through other companies.
- In regard to budgets, the Commissioners presented the Council with the average monthly usage and cost for each department for print management services. They are requesting rather than the Commissioners pay for the print services, the departments add this cost into their budgets for 2016. The Council agreed that it would be recommended to follow through with this for 2016.
- Commissioner Rethlake presented the first draft of the 2016 CEDIT plan to the Council. The Commissioners have not made a decision yet but the draft includes cutting \$10,000 from the Humane Shelter project and \$10,000 from Council on Aging.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: The 2015/2016 Compliance Forms were reviewed and discussed. The 2015 budget calendar was distributed for meeting dates, publications, and hearings. There was one change made to the calendar which was the "All day Department Head meetings with Council" which changed from July 21st to July 14th. The lift for file management should be here within the next week and it cost \$16,000 which was paid for with a combination of the Prosecutor's, Clerk's, and the rest from the Inheritance Tax fund.

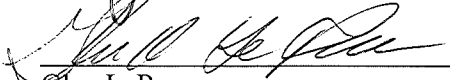
There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

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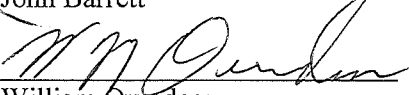

Thomas Western, Chairman

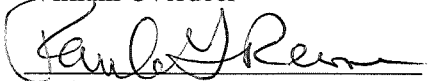
Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman


Jim Bayman

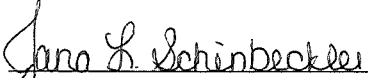

Glen LaRue


John Barrett


William Overdeer


Paula G. Reimers

Attest:


Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor

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