

Kim Wheeler
Kim Wheeler

Thor Hodges
Thor Hodges

John Barrett
John Barrett

Joan Western
Joan Western

Attest:
William Deaton
William Deaton, Auditor

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

June 4, 2024

The Whitley County Council met in regular session at 8:00 am on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chair James Argerbright, Kim Wheeler, Thor Hodges, Nicholas Brewer, Joan Western, John Barrett with Vice Chair Thomas Warner absent. Others in attendance were Commissioner Baysinger, Auditor Tiffany Deakins, Chief Deputy Auditor Tamela Tinscher, Sheriff Jason Spencer, Dale Buuck & Abbey Anthony from the EDC, Highway Director Ryan Getts and Assessor Kim Erdly.

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

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUESTS:

- Highway Director Ryan Getts was present for \$120,689.52 for the purchase and build of two new tractor mowers. Barrett made a motion to approve, seconded by Hodges and passed with a 6/0 vote.
- Assessor Kim Erdly was present to seek an additional to cover the PTO payout from her Chief Deputy Assessor leaving. That amount is \$4,180.00. Hodges made a motion to approve, seconded by Wheeler and passed with a 6/0 vote.
- Auditor Deakins was present to have two additional appropriations approved for the re-classification of two of her staff members that was approved by Council at their May meeting. The total of the two requests total \$2,800. Hodges made a motion to approve, seconded by Barrett and passed with a 6/0 vote.

ANNUAL CF-1 ABATMENT APPROVALS: Dale Buuck with EDC stated that the Auditor and himself reviewed the CF-1s filed for tax abatements. They verified the investment was made, the employment numbers were met, and the wages were in alignment. All but Advanced Materials turned in their CF-1 and tax paperwork. Assessor Erdly stated that Advanced Materials is not in compliance with her office so they would not qualify for the abatement for 2024 pay 2025 taxes. Councilman Hodges made a motion to approve the abatements presented with the Chairman signing, seconded by Wheeler, and passed with a 6/0 vote.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Scott Wagner was present to inform the Council that the Commissioners had signed to be a part of the Health First Indiana from the state for budget year 2025. He explained that the budget would need to be to the state by September 1st. Wagner will also send more information to Council so they can educate themselves for what is to come. Wagner also gave a COVID update, stating that it is mostly showing up with the elderly and they're no longer providing vaccines for infants and children.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

- Commissioner Baysinger let Council know that the only thing to report was what Scott touched on with the Health First.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES: The Council reviewed the May 8, 2024, regular meeting minutes, Councilman Barrett made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Hodges and passed with a 6/0 vote. The Council also reviewed the Executive Session meeting minutes from May 8, 2024. Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve, seconded by Barrett and passed with a 6/0 vote.

As a reminder for the Council the all day budget hearing is set for June 25, 2024 starting at 8:00 am.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chair Argerbright adjourned the meeting at 8:25 AM.

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL
 Chair James Argerbright
 Vice Chair Thomas Warner
 Nicholas Brewer