

**WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**September 20, 2011**

The Whitley County Council met in a special session on Tuesday September 20, 2011 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 John Barrett, James Bayman, Glen LaRue Tom Western, William Overdeer and Paula Reimers. Also in attendance were Auditor Jen McGuire, Coordinator Amy Crickmore, Attorney Dan Sigler, Otto Boschet Jr, Robert Bishir Jr, Cindy Barnett, Michael Barton, Sheriff Hodges and Terrie Bishir.

Chairman Wheeler called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**IN THE MATTER OF LIBRARY APPOINTMENT:** Vice Chairman John Barrett brought to the Council a request to make an appointment to the Churubusco Library board from the Council. Ava Lillmars was the appointment and passed with an approval from Council with a 7/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER MINUTES:** Minutes from the August meeting was reviewed two changes in regards to the County calendar be noted as the 2012 County Holiday calendar the other correction is the use of the word "ordinance" in regards to the Wind Energy meeting. A motion to approve the Minutes with the above changes was made by Bayman, seconded by Barrett and carried for approval with a 6/0 vote with LaRue abstaining.

**IN THE MATTER SHERIFF CONTRACT:** County Attorney Dan Sigler came before the Council to discuss the Contract between Sheriff Hodges and the County. The Contract actually should have been redone for the start of the Sheriff's second term in office. After reviewing all the factors meal monies, tax warrants, insurance and wages Attorney Sigler will rewrite the Contract adding the different provisions and present it for approval at the next Council meeting. Both Commissioner Chairman Tom Rethlake and Council Chairman Kim Wheeler will have to sign for approval.

**IN THE MATTER EXTENSION OFFICE 2012 BUDGET:** Cindy Barnett, director from the Extension office came to ask for an additional 1% increase to match the State on Contractual Services for an annual increase of \$400 to that line item. It was taken under advisement and will be factored into the 2012 budget for the Extension office's budget.

**IN THE MATTER OF CHANGES FOR 2012 BUDGET:** Reviewed the Commissioner's budget in regards to the line item for Soil and Water District and how it differs from the other departments. Pay out the accumulated time for sick for Nadean Lamle at current wage and start accrual at zero for the beginning of the year. An additional appropriation for Surveyor's office in the travel/mileage line item to reimburse the fuel station for the rest of the year and recoup the charges for prior expenses will be presented at the October Council meeting for approval.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY CARS:** Commissioner Amber had passed out a handout of the expense of getting more fuel efficient cars for the Health and Building departments instead of using the retired Sheriff's cars. Bayman made a motion to allow the purchase of the vehicles for both departments be determined by the Commissioner's funded out of Cum Capital for the 2012 budget and to look at a on a 10 year project, seconded by Overdeer and carried for approval with a 7/0 vote. Rotate the usage of the cars in Health between the low mileage personnel and the nurse. The Sheriff will keep the current cars for longer since not going to be used in other departments. All the current reused cars next to be looked at between the remaining departments to keep the best of the cars and the others will be scrapped or sold at County auction. Community Corrections and the Probation departments can submit a proposal if they wish to have more fuel efficient cars but will have to reimburse the Cum Cap fund with their budgets. Bayman wants to look at the take home vehicles for the County employees.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY INCREASES:** After discussion on what each percent of increase was going to cost the County and the Council discussed the six people who are currently over base for the job they perform. A motion to approve a 2% increase was made by Bayman, after not getting seconded the motion died. Further discussion of the current amount of Comp Time banked by employees and where the County General stood a motion for an overall 3% increase excepting the employees above base only receiving a \$300 increase to even out the pay was made by Barrett, seconded by Overdeer and carried for approval with a 4/3 vote. Councilmen Wheeler, Bayman and LaRue casting the nay votes against the increase percentage for the County employees.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMP TIME:** A report was passed out from County Coordinator Amy Crickmore showing the current banked time for County employees. After discussion a motion was made by Reimers to use the comp time or be paid the comp time before last pay of the 2011 payroll year before the new wages are implemented, this motion was seconded by LaRue and carried with a 7/0 vote. Amy will get with the department heads and try to get this implemented and cleaned up before the end of the year.

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

**WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL**

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Kim Wheeler, Chairman

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John Barrett, Vice Chairman

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James Bayman

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Glen LaRue

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Thomas E. Western

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William N. Overdeer

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Paula G. Reimers

Attest:

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Jennifer McGuire, Auditor