

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL
May 9, 2012

The Whitley County Council met in a regular session on Wednesday May 9, 2012 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman John Barrett, Vice Chairman Jim Bayman, Kim Wheeler, Glen LaRue, Bill Overdeer, Paula Reimers and Tom Western. Also in attendance were Auditor Jen McGuire, Coordinator Amy Crickmore, George Schrupf, Brianne Eichman, Rita Sauders, April Whetstone, Jacob Bartlett, Stanley Crum and Alan Tio

Chairman Barrett called the meeting to Order.

IN THE MATTER MINUTES: Minutes from the regular Council meeting April 3 , 2012 were reviewed, a motion to approve as submitted was made by Reimers, seconded by LaRue and carried for approval with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER REVOLVING LOAN FUND: An application recently came before the EDC Investment Board from Neptune's Keep for a new facility in Whitley County. The company plans to occupy a building located at 414 E North St in Larwill owned by Reiff Construction. The loan will be used for initial set of Shrimp ponds, hire a lab tech and marketing. After discussion a motion to approve the \$50,000 Revolving Loan was made by Wheeler, seconded by Overdeer and approved with a 7/0 vote by Council.

IN THE MATTER OF ELECTED OFFICIAL TRAINING: April Whetstone, County Recorder, came before the Council to discuss a new Fund established by the State Board of Accounts to help with the cost of training for elected officials that is going to be mandated. The income for the Fund is approximately \$200 a month and collected through the Recorders office collections. At this time Whetstone just wants to appropriate the existing amount of \$2264.00 and it will be looked at again at 2013 Budget time for future expenditures. After discussion a motion to allow the Request for Additional Appropriations for Fund #1217 Elected Official Training was made by Bayman, seconded by Wheeler and passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER ASSESSOR'S OFFICE: Rita Sauders, Deputy Assessor, came before the Council with a request for salary changes due to the changes in the Assessor's office. The increases would allow Chief Deputy the Assessor pay and the Assessor Deputy the Chief Deputy pay at 95% until the Republican party hold a Caucus to replace the Assessor. After discussion of assessment changes by the State and the need for another person in the office to help with the work load, a motion to allow a one time increase of \$750 was approved by Council for the Chief Deputy with the extra responsibilities being required by her, and a look at the refactoring of the entire personnel for job duties with the changes will be needed for the Assessor's office. A motion to allow the payroll change was made by Reimers, seconded by LaRue and voted with a 5/2 vote with Wheeler and Bayman casting the nays.

IN THE MATTER REPAIRS TO THE BUILDINGS: Denny Fenker and Mark Sturtevant presented the Council with improvement that need to be done to existing locations throughout the County owned buildings. First on the list was the replacement of the boilers and chillers at the main Courthouse. The quote from Havel was \$166, 313 and the quote from Current Mechanical was \$171,248 after discussion a motion to allow the purchase from Havel was made by Reimers, seconded by Western and carried with a 7/0 vote to proceed with the purchase and pay for the bill from CEDIT funding part from 2012 appropriations and the rest in 2013. Next was a request for roof repairs to the Museum, keeping with the current structure era the cost to replace was quoted at \$7, 622 from Smith Roofing and \$25,833 from Leffers Construction. After discussion a motion to pay for the repairs out of Cum Cap came from Reimers, seconded by LaRue and voted for approval with a 7/0 vote by Council. Last on the repairs request was to the Extension office building to fix a leak to the roof, after reviewing the quotes, \$16,615 Leffers Construction, \$7810 Fort Wayne Roofing and \$5,023 from T & L Construction a motion to allow the work be done by T & L Construction and pay for out of Cum Cap was made by Bayman, seconded by Overdeer and passed with a 7/0 vote.

OTHER BUSINESS: Chairman Barrett gave a huge “Thanks” to Debbie Beers and her Election staff for the great job for the Primary Election and how smoothly things ran. Auditor McGuire gave a Location Ledger for all expensed items out of the Rainy Day Funds. Distribution of the Circuit Breaker Summary for all the taxing districts was dispersed for 2012. CF-1 Compliance forms for the 2013 County Council tax abatements will be reviewed in the next meeting. A Conflict of Interest form needs filed for any elected official that the County does business with before the July 1, 2012 date for the changes.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT: Commissioner Amber gave the Commissioner’s report,

- New “No Smoking” signs will have to be placed on all County buildings to meet new State law effective July 1, 2012 paid by the Health Department funds
- New appointment of Grace Lotter to the Health Board
- Upgrade by SDS for coverage in the Government Center basement
- Group Health insurance review for a Third Party Provider
- Vision Insurance for 2013
- Thank you to Commissioner Rethlake and the County Government Month events
- Representative from Bowen Center to explain 2013 Budget request
- County Auction will be June 9, 2012

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

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

John Barrett, Chairman

James Bayman, Vice Chairman

Kim Wheeler

Glen LaRue

Thomas E. Western

William N. Overdeer

Paula G. Reimers

Attest:

Jennifer McGuire, Auditor