

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL
February 5, 2013

The Whitley County Council met in a regular session on Tuesday February 5, 2013 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Vice Chairman Kim Wheeler, Jim Bayman, Glen LaRue, Bill Overdeer and Paula Reimers. Chairman Tom Western and John Barrett were absent. Also in attendance were Auditor Jen McGuire, Pam Smith, George Schrumpf, Michael Barton, Brandon Forrester, Mark Hodges, Marc Gatton, Ron Glassley, Dave Sewell, Loren Kravig, Don Wood, Cindy Riemersma, Scott Brown, Tim Longenbaugh, Alan Tio, Paula Worden, Nancy Prickett, Brett Myers and Otto Boschet.

Vice Chairman Wheeler brought the meeting to order.

IN THE MATTER OF 80/20 ABATEMENT: Alan Tio from Economic Development addressed the Council for the fifth expansion at 80/20. Don Wood, President of 80/20, spoke in regards to the existing business that was purchased over 16 years ago in the Park 30 Industrial Park and that they employee over 350 employees and a large number of the employees are Whitley County residents. The new expansion will increase Real Estate \$5.5 million and Personal Property \$3.5 for upgrades. After discussion Overdeer made a motion to approve the Resolution #2013-02 for a ten year Abatement on both Real Estate and Personal Property for the 80/20 expansion, seconded by LaRue and carried with a 5/0 vote by Council.

IN THE MATTER OF COURTHOUSE SECURITY UPGRADES: Sheriff Hodges requested four vendors for the security upgrades at the Courthouse, two quotes came back and have been reviewed by Ron Glassley, Security, the first was Williams Electronics for \$10,000 and Cottage Watchman Security Systems for \$10,872.45. Glassley recommends going with Williams Electronics since most of the current equipment was installed by Williams and the County badges will work with the existing system and a log of entries will be available. After discussion a motion to allow the upgrades for security out of Cum Cap to Williams Electronics was made by Bayman, seconded by La Rue and carried with a 5/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF 2012 COMMISSARY REPORT: Sheriff Hodges provided the Commissary transactions for July 1, 2012 through year end December 31, 2012. Hodges reported being able to expense some items out of Commissary instead of using County appropriations. Items to expense include training and conferences, office supplies, computer equipment, IT services, shooting range and patrol car equipment. The ending Commissary balance was \$35,796.87. The funds will be used for some upgrading in the squad training room for defensive tactics and some mats for the flooring.

IN THE MATTER OF 2013 SHERIFF CAR PURCHASES: Chief Deputy Marc Gatton reported to the Council that he has researched the police tested automobiles for 2012 and that the Dodge Charger still leads in 20 of the 28 categories and will purchase two Dodge Chargers for the squad car fleet. The pricing and fuel mileage were strong points for the purchase. The cost of each vehicle is \$23,307.25 and they will be staying with the white color for one and one color is undetermined at this time. Both will be equipped with the new GPS devices. There is already an appropriations funded from Cum Cap for this purchase in 2013.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Michael Barton, Highway Supervisor, presented an estimate from SDS Communications for phone upgrades at the Highway office and garage in the amount of \$2,766.37. The Council instructed Barton to use current appropriations from Highway Fund to cover the cost and come back to them, this motion was made by Bayman, seconded by Reimers and carried with a 5/0 vote by Council. Barton stated that it has been a light Winter and in that always brings the question of calling in the drivers out for off hours. Some residence wonder why they are out on the roads and other wonder why are not out ?? Always a question in the different locations throughout the County based on the snow fall and winds. At this time all the drivers are being paid overtime and not comp for their hours worked. Barton will work on getting advertisements and specifications out for the bids for the purchase of the new truck from 2013 CEDIT funding.

IN THE MATTER OF DRUG FREE INDIANA 2013: Nancy Prickett did a presentation to the County Council on the expenditures for the Drug Free Program in Whitley County. She gave a hand out showing the different groups, Whitko HS SADD, Whitley County Literacy Council, Columbia City HS SADD, Churubusco SADD and Troy Center that received funding. The total amount distributed for 2013 will be \$38,238.80 throughout Whitley County. The Drug Free Board determines the distribution of funds and the funds generated for this program come from drug and alcohol related court cost from Whitley County.

IN THE MATTER OF PLANNING & BUILDING: Dave Sewell gave an overview of the 2012 Planning and Building department. They showed a 20% increase in permits. New construction overall was down but additions and improvements throughout the County were up. Dave reported the fuel consumption was down in the new fuel efficient car purchased for inspections. The Council “Thanked” him for the update but would like to see some comparison from previous years in the next report to show fluctuation from year to year in the department.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS: Paula Worden presented the Council with bids she compiled to complete the work on replacing the roof at the Community Correction building on Plaza Drive. After comparing the bids they want to go with Schwartz Construction for a bid of \$26,898.80 to completely remove the existing roof and replace. The shingles being used are graded for 30 years and if we commit to the project we can save \$8.00 a bundle for the shingles at Morches. A motion by Overdeer to go ahead with the project to be paid out of CEDIT, seconded by Reimers and carried with a 4/1 vote with LaRue voting against the decision. Paula also gave a report of the clients currently housed at Community Corrections. The Troy Center currently has 20 students and they are looking at getting a State Grant to help with some of the funding.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT: Commissioner Chairman Schrumpf gave a quick report from the Commissioners meeting

- Humane Shelter Agreement language being changed not to include any incorporated areas in Whitley County for the pick up of animals
- Cedarbridge Contract for 100 beds for Probation
- Accurate Assessment amendment for New Construction and Trending Contract with State changes
- Sheriff Hodges – Security updates at Courthouse
- Snow Removal Contract – Yount for jail parking lot
- Deputy Gatton – 2013 Car purchases for Sheriff Department
- Advanced Imaging quarterly report of savings on printing

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE BOARD: The Council was presented a request for Ted Linn to be appointed to the Whitley County Alcoholic Board for 2013. A motion by Reimers to honor the request, seconded by Bayman and carried with a 5/0 vote from Council to sign the Certificate.

IN THE MATTER OF RE-ESTABLISHING CUMULATIVE FUNDS: Brandon Forrester presented the Council with a ten year Bridge replacement worksheet showing the forecasted cost necessary to complete two bridges a year. Also presented was the current Cum Bridge Fund and with the net assessed values what would be receipted in for the 2013 tax collection. After reviewing all the information the Council tabled the issue until next meeting to review the information and see how they want to proceed in Re-establishing the Cum Bridge Fund with an increase or using other revenues to complete the replacement of bridges. Auditor McGuire furnished the same information on the Cum Cap Fund outside the max tax levy and gave the current fund amount and what appropriations were budgeted for the 2013 year. There will need to be cuts in the appropriations for 2013 or the fund will be overspent. The Council will look at Re-establishing the Cum Capital fund for 2014 based on what amount they want to budget for future years. Both funds will be reviewed in the next Council meeting in March.

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

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Thomas Western, Chairman

Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman

Jim Bayman

Glen LaRue

John Barrett

William N. Overdeer

Paula G. Reimers

Attest:

Jennifer McGuire, Auditor