

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL
October 8, 2013

The Whitley County Council met in a regular session on Tuesday October 8, 2013 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Tom Western, Kim Wheeler, Jim Bayman, Glen LaRue, Bill Overdeer, John Barrett and Paula Reimers. Also in attendance were Auditor Jen McGuire, George Schrumpf, Alan Tio, Loren Kravig, Jerry Freed, Jeff Settano, Mike Barnhill, Brian More, Jorell Tucker, Sheriff Mark Hodges, Jason Myer, Michael Barton and Mary Hartman.

Chairman Western brought the meeting to orders, suspended the regular meeting to approve the Ordinance #2013-19 to adopt the Whitley County Solid Waste Management budget for 2014 in the amount of \$805,750 with a motion made by Bayman, seconded by Overdeer and carried with a 7/0 vote. Next was the approval for Ordinance #2013 for the Whitley County Budget, after discussion of the appropriations for the new position in the Maintenance Department and the staffing of either the use of Part-Time or Full-time personnel in the Jail for 2014 a motion to approve the budget was made by Overdeer, seconded by Barrett and carried with a 4/3 vote with Wheeler, Bayman and Reimers casting the nay votes. At this time the regular scheduled Council meeting reconvened.

IN THE MATTER OF GATOR CASES: Alan Tio, from EDC, came before the County Council with a new Resolution for an abatement of Personal Property tax for a new company Gator Cases that will be relocated from Chattanooga, TN to the old Essex plant located on 600 E. The new business will create over 100 new jobs to Whitley County and bring in new Personal Property valued at \$1,523,000 for its manufacturing, logistic and IT equipment. Jerry Freed spoke on behalf of Gator Cases and explained its operations to the Council. After noting a favorable recommendation from the Redevelopment Board, a motion to approve Resolution #2013-17 from Overdeer for the ten year abatement on Personal Property, seconded by Reimers and carried with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF MICROPULSE: Brian More explained to the Council a new investment project that will consist of two phases over a four year span. Phase one will consist of an equipment investment in the amount of \$4,750,000 that will fill the remaining portion of the new facility built in 2008 and the remaining cost will be in IT equipment for this Personal Property abatement for this first phase. The abatement will create 100 plus jobs for CNC and manufacturing after completed. After discussion on the amendment for the prior abatement, a motion to allow the ten year abatement was made by Bayman, seconded by LaRue and carried with a 7/0 vote by Council.

IN THE MATTER OF PASSAGES: Jason Myers, new President and CEO, came before the County Council to introduce himself and "thank" the Council for their contribution to the new Creative Learning Center that opened on September 26, 2013. Mr. Myers invited the Council to the Lunch and Learn sponsored by Whitley County Chamber this Friday at the new location or stop by anytime to take a tour of the new facility.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES: The minutes from the September 4, 2013 meeting were reviewed, the actual Minutes were approved but the signature page needs revised to show the new Chairman and Vice Chairman after the 2013 change. A motion to approve was made by Bayman, seconded by Overdeer and carried with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY: Michael Barton gave the County Council an update of the progress of the Summer projects completed by the Highway. After discussion of Highway budget and the increase of distribution from the State with the MVH funding an Additional Appropriation was review by the Council to increase the 2013 Budget in the amount of \$216,000. A motion to allow the Additional was made by Bayman, seconded by Barrett and carried with a 7/0 vote. Also reviewed was a Request to Transfer Funds within a Department Budget #41100 Garage Supplies to #35600 Cont. Services in the amount of \$2500 and #40000 Capital Improvements to Sodium Chloride in the amount of \$4500 a motion to allow these transfers was made by Overdeer, seconded by LaRue and carried with a 7/0 vote. See attachments.

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

- Flu shots for 2013 will be allowed for all Full and Part-time employees
- Humane Society requested \$25,000 for the 2014 budget from the County CEDIT program from Mark Espich
- County entered into a Contract for EAP (Employee Assistance Program) with the Bowen Center for a lower cost per visit \$60.00
- The County's Tri Lakes Park will be deeded to Thorncreek Township after the proper paperwork is prepared for the State and a new usable well is in service. The County,

Thorncreek and the Tri-Lakes Property Owners Association will split the cost to replace the contaminated well.

- In 2015 Whitley County will be involved in the MS4 Designation for Waste Water and suggestions from Soil and Water is to contract with John Goates for the mandated expense that the City currently is contracted with.

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IN THE MATTER OF JAIL STAFFING: Discussion of the appropriation for the new positions within the Jail for 2014 was discussed. The current appropriation is for four new part-time positions. To meet the scheduling conflicts and mandate the satellite locations in the Jail the Sheriff would like to request two Full-time employees and keep the current two Part-time positions already filled. After discussion a motion by Overdeer to keep the two current Part-time employees and hire two new Full-time employees for the Jail, seconded by Barrett and carried with a 5/2 vote with Bayman and LaRue casting the nay votes.

IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF AND JAIL TRANSFERS: Two Requests for Transfer of Funds within a Departments Budget came in from the Sheriff’s Department #105 and the Jail #132. These appropriation transfers will clean up the negative appropriations but not increase the overall department budgets for the 2013 year. After reviewing the transfers for the Sheriff’s department a motion to allow was made by Bayman, seconded by Barrett and carried with a 7/0 vote. After reviewing the changes need in the Jail department a motion to allow the transfers was made by Barrett, seconded by Overdeer and carried with a 7/0 vote by Council. See attachment for changes in the appropriations.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES: The minutes from the regular Council meeting on August 6, 2013 were reviewed for approval. A motion by Barrett to approve as presented, seconded by LaRue and carried with a 6/0 vote by County Council with Overdeer absent from the vote.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: Review of the Comp Time spreadsheet and the amount needed for any necessary funding at the end of the year 2013. A notice from the Clerk Treasurer from South Whitley for his Non-Binding Review Worksheet was noted. Approval for the re-establishment of the Cumulative Capital Fund was approved by the DLGF for 2013 pay 2014 levying the tax in the amount of \$.0300 per hundred. Whitley County received an award at the Association of Indiana Counties for the Land Record Accuracy.

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