

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL
JULY 7, 2010

The Whitley County Council met in regular session on Wednesday July 7, 2010 due to the July 4th holiday being observed on Monday July 5. The meeting was held 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, Thomas E. Western, William Overdeer and James E. Banks. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Auditor Linda Gerig, County Attorney Dan Sigler, County Coordinator Amy Crickmore, Julie Bohling, Randy Barth, Brian More, Brian Emerick, Zach Kessie, Gene Heckman, Frank Kessler, County Engineer Brandon Forrester, Highway Supervisor Michael Barton and Post and Mail reporter Chris Meyers. Chairman Wheeler called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

IN THE MATTER OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: The minutes of June 8, 2010 were approved as presented.

Chairman Wheeler recessed the council meeting in order to hold a public hearing, as advertised, on the Micropulse Revenue Bond.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING: Julie Bohling of Kreig Devault was present to explain the issuance of revenue bonds for providing financing and refinancing of economic development facilities. Micropulse, Inc. is requesting that revenue bonds be issued and sold by the County to provide financing for Micropulse to acquire and install machinery and equipment into its existing manufacturing facility. The Whitley County Economic Development Commission has given preliminary approval at an earlier meeting. The amount of the bonds will not exceed \$10,000,000 and will not be a County obligation or constitute an indebtedness of the Economic Development Commission. After further discussion, Resolution No. 2010-16, A Resolution Of The County Council Of Whitley County, Indiana Providing Preliminary Approval Of The Issuance Of Bonds For The Purpose Of Providing Financing And Refinancing Of Certain Economic Development Facilities, was introduced. The Resolution was approved by all council members present.

There being no further comment, the Public Hearing was closed.

Chairman Wheeler reconvened the meeting of the Whitley County Council.

IN THE MATTER OF TAX ABATEMENT REQUESTS: Micropulse, Inc., is requesting abatement of personal property taxes to support acquisition of new manufacturing equipment to support increased production in the 45,000 square foot expansion completed in 2008. The amount of abatement is \$4,500,000 for the next ten years. The expansion will add an additional 33 employees. Start date is estimated as July 7, 2010 and completion date is projected to be June 30, 2012. Resolution No. 2010-13 was introduced for approval. After further discussion, Bayman moved, seconded by LaRue, to approve the ten year abatement for Micropulse, Inc. The motion carried 7/0. Greatbatch Medical submitted a request for personal property tax abatement to support acquisition of new manufacturing equipment to support the design, development and launch of customers' new products. The ten-year abatement request is in the amount of \$1,400,000 to purchase machinery to provide additional capacity for production and prototype activities. Greatbatch manufactures orthopedic medical devices and instruments. At this time no new employees will be added. The project is estimated to start by August 1, 2010 and be completed by February 28, 2011. Resolution No. 2010-14 was introduced for consideration. After discussion of the matter, Overdeer moved, seconded by Barrett, to approve Resolution No. 2010-14 and grant abatement for the next ten years to Greatbatch Medical. The motion carried 7/0. Coupled Products LLC is requesting an amendment to the abatement on personal property taxes approved by county council in August 2009. The amended abatement applies to used equipment transferred from out-of-state and new equipment acquired to support customers' new product launches. The amended abatement is in the amount of \$12,500,000 with a projected completion date of February 28, 2011. Coupled Products manufactures brake and power steering lines for automotive and industrial application. Resolution No. 2010-15 was introduced granting ten-year abatement for Coupled Products, LLC. After further discussion of the matter, Overdeer moved, seconded by Western, to approve Resolution No. 2010-15 and grant the ten-year abatement to Coupled Products, LLC. The motion carried 7/0.

IN THE MATTER OF REVOLVING LOAN FUND REQUEST: Zach Kessie of Fire Barriers, LLC along with Alan Tio was present to discuss Kessie's request for \$50,000 to support startup costs. Fire Barriers, LLC will provide installation and service for new and existing commercial buildings for firestops. A firestop is a passive fire protection system of various components used to seal openings and joints in fire resistance rated walls and/or floor assemblies based on fire testing and certification listings. The plan is to hire three full-time employees and one part-time employee

in the first year of operation. The EDC Investment Board has reviewed the request would recommend to county council to approve the request. The loan terms include 3% interest, five-year repayment and personal guarantees from Kessie. After further discussion, Bayman moved, seconded by Overdeer, to approve \$25,000 for the first year. The motion passed 6/1 with Banks casting the NO vote.

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Michael Barton was present to update the council members on summer road work being performed.

IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST: The following request was discussed.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE

Whereas, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget; now, therefore: Sec. 1. Be it ordained (resolved) by the Whitley County Council of Whitley County, Indiana that for the expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified, subject to laws governing the same:

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Amt Requested</u>	<u>Amt Approved</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Surveyor Cornerstone	\$1,750	\$1,750	-7-	-0-	-0-
Motion: Bayman		Second: Overdeer			

This ordinance adopted on this 7th day of July, 2010.

Kim Wheeler - signed	Thomas E. Western – signed
John Barrett – signed	William Overdeer – signed
James Bayman – signed	James E. Banks – signed
Glen LaRue – signed	Attest: Linda J. Gerig, Auditor

IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF REPLACEMENT VEHICLE: Sheriff Mark Hodges and Deputy Marc Gatton were present to discuss the purchase of a sheriff vehicle. Three vehicles have been totaled this year and insurance money received from those will cover the purchase of one new vehicle. A quote for a 2010 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor was presented in the amount of \$24,225. The purchase of the vehicle was approved.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORT: Michael Schrader was present to report that the Economic Development Corporation will be joining the county’s health insurance plan and will be responsible for paying their premiums. A Public Hearing was held regarding an OCRA Planning Grant Feasibility Study. The county’s share of the cost is \$1500. The county’s handbook will be updated to include the new law regarding fire arms on county property. The window replacement of the courthouse windows is proceeding. Michael Barton is looking into possible grant money for recycled roads. Representatives of the county’ health insurance carriers were present with a plan update and informed the commissioners of a 4.9% increase in 2011 premiums.

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

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Kim Wheeler, Chairman

Thomas E. Western

John Barrett, Vice Chairman

William Overdeer

James Bayman

James E. Banks

Attest:

Glen LaRue

Linda J. Gerig, Auditor