

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL
AUGUST 3, 2010

The Whitley County Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 3, 2010 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 N. Overdeer and James E. Banks. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Auditor Linda Gerig, County Coordinator Amy Crickmore, David Koenig, Alan Tio, Jeff Mize, David Reickhart, Gene Heckman, Mark Gatton, Sheriff Mark Hodges, Elaine Beaty, Dennis Dougherty, Cheryl McDevitt, Recorder Rosemary Brown, Assessor Angela Adams, Larry McKown, Chad Burch, Patton Cox, Highway Director Michael Barton, J. Adams, Michael Schrader, James Argerbright 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 July 7, 2010 were approved as presented. The minutes of July 28 were approved with a motion from Western and seconded by Barrett. The vote was 3/1 with those eligible to vote. Overdeer and Banks abstained due to being absent from the meeting. James Bayman voted No and stated the meeting was in violation of the Indiana Open Door Law.

IN THE MATTER OF DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PROGRAM: Elaine Beaty of McCready and Keene, Inc., was present to introduce an additional retirement program for sheriff department employees. The new program is referred to as DROP (deferred retirement option plan). The "DROP frozen benefit" refers to a monthly pension benefit calculated under the provisions of a retirement plan based on salary and years of service on the date the employee enters the DROP. The new retirement option must be designed to be cost neutral to the county. The sheriff and the Merit Board have both approved the new plan.

IN THE MATTER OF INMATE HEALTH CARE PLAN: Dennis Dougherty of Health Professionals, Ltd. was present with the 2011 proposal to continue medical services to jail inmates. The current contract includes a No-Cap on all off-site inmate medical expenses. These plans are being phased out and being replaced with a CAP for all off-site medical expenses. The new contract reduces per diem from \$1.89 to \$.63/inmate. The off-site cap of \$12,000 with unexpended monies returned at the end of the contract period and a reduction in the contract amount of 21.4% or \$27,569 is being offered in the new contract. The renewal agreement will be forwarded to county attorney Dan Sigler for review. The matter will be continued until September 8, 2010.

IN THE MATTER OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA (ERA): Alan Tio was present to explain that by designating the entire county as an ERA, the process for tax abatement application could happen sooner. Currently, tax abatement requests from outside an ERA must go before the Redevelopment Commission. With the designation of the entire county, abatement requests would go directly to county council. Resolution No. 2010-19, A Declaratory Resolution Designating Certain Real Estate Within Whitley County As An Economic Revitalization Area (ERA) Pursuant to I.C. 6-1.1012.1 Et Seq. was introduced. After further discussion, Bayman moved, seconded by Banks, to approve Resolution No. 2010-19. The motion carried 7/0. (See Resolution No. 2010-19 on file in the auditor's office).

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER RESOLUTION: The following requests were made for transfers within department budgets:

TRANSFER RESOLUTION

Whereas, certain emergencies have developed since the adoption of the existing annual budget, so that it is necessary to transfer funds that were appropriated to the annual budget; now, therefore to meet such emergencies: Section 1. Be it resolved by the County Council of Whitley County, Indiana, that for the expenses of said Whitley County, sums of money are hereby transferred as follows:

<u>Transfer From</u>	<u>Transfer To</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
County General	County General	\$10,000	-7-	-0-	-0-
Postage	Unemployment		Motion: Bayman	Second: Barrett	
Health/Immunization Clinic	Health/Imm Clinic	\$1,975.35	-7-	-0-	-0-
			Motion: Western	Second: Overdeer	

This resolution adopted on this 3rd day of August, 2010.

Whitley County Council

Kim Wheeler – signed
John Barrett – signed
James Bayman – signed
Glen LaRue – signed

Thomas Western – signed
William Overdeer – signed
James E. Banks – signed
Attest: Linda J. Gerig, Auditor - signed

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Highway Director Michael Barton discussed road matters and summer work completion.

IN THE MATTER OF HEALTH INSURANCE UPDATE: Chad Burch and Patton Cox were present to discuss the current health care plan and the issues with changing the membership by dropping certain classifications of participates.

IN THE MATTER OF BOARD APPOINTMENT: The South Whitley Library Board submitted a request to fill a vacated position on that board. After discussion, Bayman moved, seconded by Banks, to appoint Robert Koontz to a term of four years ending July 3, 2013. The motion carried 3/0.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORT: Michael Schrader reported that the County has been awarded the Association of Indiana Counties' Achievement Award for the new website. The award will be presented September 29 during the Association of Indiana Counties Conference. The windows at the courthouse have been completed. The next project in the planning stages is to replace the sewer pipe under the courthouse. A Recovery Zone was created within Whitley County. Whitley County Transit will be receiving \$159,000 for their transit program in 2011.

The councilmen would like to commend Steve Myers and Gerald Bills for their recent national awards for Jailer and Jail Chaplain of the Year awards.

The council members remained in session for a budget workshop on the proposed 2011 budget.

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

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Kim Wheeler, Chairman

John Barrett, Vice Chairman

James Bayman

Glen LaRue

Thomas E. Western

William N. Overdeer

James E. Banks

Attest: _____
Linda J. Gerig, Auditor