

**WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 8, 2010**

The Whitley County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, September 8, 2010 due to the observance of Labor Day on September 6. 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, William Overdeer and James E. Banks. Thomas Western was absent. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Auditor Linda Gerig, Alan Tio, Matt Boyd, Cheryl McDevitt, David Sewell, Sheriff Mark Hodges, Dennis Dougherty, Jorell Tucker, County Assessor Angela Adams, County Recorder Rosemary Brown, 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 August 3, 2010 were approved as presented.

The regular meeting of the Whitley County Council was recessed to hold a Public Hearing.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA (ERA): As advertised, a public hearing was held for confirmation of a Declaratory Resolution signed August 3, 2010 by county council. The real property affected is described as follows:

1. All properties that currently or are subsequently zoned under the following classification of the Whitley County Zoning Ordinance:

- Agricultural Production- AGP
- General Commercial- GC
- Industrial Park/Manufacturing- IPM
- Intensive Use-IN
- Wind Energy Conversion Systems- WECS (proposed)

2. All properties that are currently or subsequently zoned under the following classifications of the Columbia City Zoning Ordinance, South Whitley Zoning Ordinance and Churubusco Zoning Ordinance (outside of corporate boundary limits and inside extra-territorial land use control:

- General Business- GB
- Light Industrial- I-1
- Heavy Industrial- I-2

There being no public comment on the matter, the public hearing was closed and the regular council meeting was reconvened.

Resolution No. 2010-20, A Confirmatory Resolution Designating Certain Real Estate Within Whitley County, Indiana As An Economic Revitalization Area (ERA) Pursuant To I.C. 6-1.1-12.1 Et Seq., was introduced. After discussion of the matter, Banks moved, seconded by Bayman, to approve Resolution No. 2010-20. The motion carried 6/0.

Chairman Wheeler recessed the regular council meeting to hold a public hearing as advertised on the 2011 estimated budget for the Solid Waste District.

IN THE MATTER OF 2011 SOLID WASTE DISTRICT BUDGET: Pursuant to Indiana Code 6-1.1-17-20(d) and proper advertising, the 2011 Solid Waste District Budget was presented for review and adoption by County Council. The proposed budget is in the amount of \$822,355 and at this time there is no anticipated increase in the surcharge amount of \$41.00. There being no public comment on the matter, the public hearing was closed and the county council meeting reconvened. Discussion was held on the matter with Overdeer moving to approve the proposed budget. The motion was seconded by Barrett and passed with five voting in favor and one abstention. Glen LaRue serves as a member on the Solid Waste Board.

IN THE MATTER OF TAX ABATEMENT AMENDMENT: Alan Tio and Dave Koenig were present to discuss a request for amendment to Greatbatch Medical's original request for tax abatement. Greatbatch had originally requested \$1,400,000 abatement for manufacturing equipment, but will be adding more machinery than planned and would like to amend the abatement to \$3,900,000. All other specifications listed for the original abatement request remain the same. Resolution No. 2010-21 was introduced approving the requested amendment. Overdeer moved, seconded by LaRue, to approve Resolution No. 2010-21 and the requested amendment. The motion carried 6/0.

IN THE MATTER OF POLICE RETIREMENT PLAN: Sheriff Mark Hodges was present to continue discussion from August 3, 2010 on the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP). 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. After further discussion of the matter, Bayman moved, seconded by Barrett, to approve the additional benefit to the Police Retirement Plan. The motion carried 6/0.

IN THE MATTER OF CATASTROPHIC INMATE MEDICAL INSURANCE QUOTES: Sheriff Mark Hodges was present with three quotes for catastrophic inmate medical insurance. Dennis Dougherty of Health Professionals, Ltd. was also present to explain his quote. Health Professionals, Ltd currently has the contract for medical services at the jail and this would be a new component to that coverage. Discussion was held on all proposals and it was recommended by council members to the commissioners to accept the proposal from Health Professionals, Ltd. The cost, \$129,193 which is the current cost, would not change to add this coverage. The proposal includes the premium associated with stop-loss insurance for off site services. After \$75,000 has been expended on services set out (first \$14,500 HPL, next \$60,500 County), insurance pays bills up to \$1,000,000. This recommendation will be made to the County Commissioners.

IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST: Auditor Linda Gerig presented a request for additional appropriations of cum cap funds.

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>
Cum Cap Dev	\$150,000	\$150,000	-6-	-0-	-0-

Motion: Barrett Second: Overdeer

This ordinance adopted on this 8th day of September, 2010.

Whitley County Council

Kim Wheeler – signed

Glen LaRue – signed

John Barrett – signed

William Overdeer – signed

James Bayman – signed

James Banks – signed

Attest: Linda J. Gerig - signed

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORT: Michael Schrader reported on the Commissioner’s meeting held September 7, 2010. An appointment was made to the South Whitley Board of Zoning Appeals. Attorney Dan Sigler will be finalizing a K-2 Ordinance. The door computer at the jail needs repaired. Quotes were received and funding will be from county general funds. The 2011 Holiday Schedule was approved.

IN THE MATTER OF IT REQUESTS: Quotes were presented for the third quarter IT requests totaling \$5,887. Discussion has been held over the last few months regarding the need for a new SQL server. A quote presented for the server, software and labor totaled \$10,562. Bayman moved, seconded by LaRue, to approve up to \$16,500 from cum cap funds. The motion carried 6/0.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY HIGHWAY REPORT: Supervisor Michael Barton was present to explain the wrap-up of summer road work. Barton stated that 190 miles of road repairs have been completed in the last 2 years. Thirty-five miles remain to be double sealed in the spring of 2011. A traffic count was done on Wolf Road pursuant to a complaint of high speeds made by David and Barbara Dunfee of 328 S. Wolf Road at the August 2, 2010 meeting. Barton stated that County Road 275 North has been made a three-way stop. Two additional “stop ahead signs” have been placed approaching the intersection informing drivers of the need to stop.

IN THE MATTER OF 2011 BUDGET WORKSHOP: The rest of the meeting was used to review the 2011 proposed budget. A recommendation was made by James Bayman to have department heads notify council as soon as full-time openings occur in their department. The department heads are being requested to come before council and explain the need to fill the vacancy.

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

Absent

Thomas E. Western

William N. Overdeer

James E. Banks

Attest:_____
Linda J. Gerig, Auditor