

**WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL  
NOVEMBER 3, 2009**

The Whitley County Council met in regular session on Tuesday November 3, 2009 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Council members in attendance were Chairman Thomas Western, Vice Chairman Kim Wheeler, James Bayman, Glen LaRue, John Barrett, William Overdeer and James E. Banks. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Auditor Linda Gerig, County Coordinator Amy Crickmore, Highway Supervisor Michael Barton, Derek Wright, Mike Schrader, Sheriff Mark Hodges, Duane Ginder, Marc Gatton and Chris Meyers of the Post and Mail. Chairman Western called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**IN THE MATTER OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** The minutes of October 6 and October 20, 2009 were approved as presented.

**IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY HIGHWAY:** Supervisor Michael Barton was present to update council members on the highway department. Two entry ways have been redone to cut down on cold air. The snow plows are being organized, cleaned and painted. A salt storage shed is being used to keep the stored salt out of the weather elements. Barton continues to work on federal aid for the East County Line Road project and stimulus funds. Interviews will be held to fill the vacant staff position.

**IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFER REQUESTS:** Auditor Linda Gerig presented requests for transfer of funds within the county general budget.

**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>
100-130-53780.00	100-130-51174.00	\$1000.00	-7-	-0-	-0-
100-130-53790.00	100-130-51174.00	\$1700.00	-7-	-0-	-0-
100-130-53230.00	100-130-51174.00	\$1437.00	-7-	-0-	-0-
	Motion: Barrett	Second: Bayman			
100-144-51117.00	100-144-53170.00	\$3000.00	-7-	-0-	-0-
	Motion: Overdeer	Second: LaRue			

This resolution adopted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2009.

**Whitley County Council**

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

**IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:** Auditor Linda Gerig presented the following request for additional appropriations.

**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	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00	-7-	-0-	-0-
	Motion: Bayman	Second: Larue			

This ordinance adopted on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2009.

**Whitley County Council**

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

**IN THE MATTER OF REQUEST FOR SHERIFF VEHICLES:** Sheriff Mark Hodges was present with a request for \$74,000 from Cum Cap Funds to be appropriated in 2010 for three new sheriff vehicles. Hodges would like to purchase two Ford Crown Victorias and one Chevrolet Impala. All purchases will be made from local vendors. Council member Bayman asked if Hodges

would consider solid colored cars rather than the two colors used now. For resale value, it has been discouraging to buyers knowing they have to repaint the cars a solid color before using on the street. Hodges said he had not planned on this, but could look into it. After further discussion, Overdeer moved to approve the request for three cars. The motion was seconded by Banks, with an amendment to the motion for solid colored cars instead of two colors. The amendment was seconded and passed with a 5/2 vote. LaRue and Wheeler cast the No votes. Wheeler then moved to amend the original motion from three cars to two cars and to replace a bad transmission in another car. Wheeler's motion died for lack of a second. Call for the vote on Overdeer's original motion passed 6/1 with Wheeler casting the No vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF ENERGY PROVIDER:** Representatives of Just Energy were present to discuss their Natural Gas Fixed Price Program. The Program allows a customer to purchase natural gas at a fixed price for a period of four to five years. The gas is still delivered through NIPSCO pipe lines, but at the fixed price from Just Energy. During the term of the Agreement, there is a one-time price adjustment option should prices fall. The Agreement being offered Whitley County is a five-year term at a price of \$.79/therm. The Agreement does not cover delivery, transportation and other utility charges.

**IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORT:** Michael Schrader was present to report on the most recent commissioner meeting.

- Borders Energy would also like to make a presentation on fixing natural gas prices.
- EMCOR would like to have a priority list made from their energy study done several months ago.
- The current phone system will need replacement soon due to Embarq being unable to support the system. One quote has been received, but council members would like to see another quote.
- The new door has been installed at the Annex.
- The courthouse dome repair has lead to other issues concerning water damage, rust, etc.

**IN THE MATTER OF FUTURE EMS FUNDING:** Duane Ginder, Director of the EMS, was present for this discussion. Discussion was held on future funding options as the use of CEDIT funds may become impossible. Ginder stated that he has been contacted by residents of Big Lake and Crooked Lake to be included in Whitley County's coverage areas. This could potentially bring in more revenue without extra staffing or expense. Options such as a User Fee or EMS Tax were discussed. Councilman Wheeler is working with Whitley County's representatives to the State Legislature on other possible funding means. Council requested that Ginder research and report back on the number of non-transport runs that are encountered. Wheeler will contact the State Representatives for a possible discussion with council members.

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

## WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

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Thomas Western, Chairman

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John Barrett

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Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman

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William Overdeer

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James Bayman

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James E. Banks

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Glen LaRue

Attest:

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Linda J. Gerig, Auditor