

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

January 4, 2017

The Whitley County Council met in regular session at 8:00 am on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Vice Chairman Jim Bayman, Thor Hodges, Glen LaRue, Bill Overdeer, John Barrett and Chad Banks. Absent was Chairman Kim Wheeler. Others in attendance were Commissioner Tom Western, Commissioner George Schrupf, Sheriff Gatton and Sean Martin from the Sheriff's Department, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester and Linda Thomson from the Post and Mail.

Vice Chairman Bayman called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2017 ELECTION OF OFFICERS: In regard to the election of officers for the Whitley County Council for 2017, Council member Overdeer nominated John Barrett for Chairman, seconded by Council member Hodges and passed with a 6/0 vote. Council member Bayman nominated Bill Overdeer for Vice Chairman, seconded by LaRue and passed with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: County Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester stated that the Highway is in need of a new chip spreader. The Commissioners have given a favorable pass to Council to purchase the chip spreader. Brandon did look at a used one but it was not in good shape and after much research came to the conclusion that it was best to purchase new. The highway has \$200,000 budgeted in 2017 for equipment. The new chip spreader would cost \$260,000 and the additional \$60,000 would either need to be an additional appropriation or a transfer. The new chip spreader would allow the Highway Department to make one pass on a road rather than two passes. Brandon is advertising the specifications for the chip spreader and has asked the Commissioners to award the bids at their first meeting in February. In the past year the Highway Department was able to single seal 40 miles and double seal 22 miles. Brandon estimates that with the new chip spreader, they will approximately be able to seal 100 miles within the next year. Brandon is in the process of making an asset management plan for the Highway Department and he will give an update when it is complete. He would also like to purchase a skid loader for berming the roads. The Commissioners also gave a favorable pass to Council to purchase the skid loader. Council member LaRue made a motion to allow Brandon to purchase the new chip spreader and the new skid loader, seconded by Overdeer and passed with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFERS FOR 2016:

Planning:

1000.30000.000.0124	Professional Svcs	1000.20000.000.0124	Supplies	\$300.00
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Veteran Service Officer:

1000.33003.000.0127	Travel & Mileage	1000.11306.000.0131	Part Time	\$20.00
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In regard to the Planning and Building transfer request, Council member Bayman made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Banks and carried with a 6/0 vote. The Veterans Service Officer request had a motion to be approved by Bayman, seconded by Banks and passed with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES: The minutes from the December 6, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Council member LaRue made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Overdeer and passed with a 4/0 vote with Hodges and Banks abstaining.

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

- Commissioner Schrupf informed the Council of an issue with the Coesse sewer that was installed last year. Mr. Downing came to Scott Wagner in the Health Department stating that he had flooding in his basement and he never had the problem before the sewer system was installed. They found that Crosby Excavating cut the line to complete the connection so that has caused backup in his basement. There are three bills that Mr. Downing has turned into Scott. The three bills are from Redman Plumbing and Heating, Premier Earth, Inc. and Roto Rooter Plumbing and Drain Service for a total of \$548.71. The Commissioners approved paying the \$548.71 but they are going to try to get reimbursed by the contractor who was overseeing the project.

IN THE MATTER OF REVIEW FOR COMMITTEES: The Council reviewed their Committee and Board assignments. Thor Hodges is on the Community Corrections Advisory Board and the Personnel Committee. Jim Bayman will serve on the EDC Committee and the Joint Advisory Board. Bill Overdeer

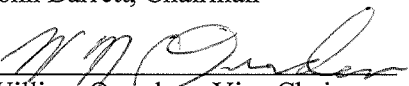
will be on the EDC Committee, Region 3 Development and the Redevelopment Commission. Chad Banks will serve on the EDC Committee, the Planning Commission and the EDC Board. Kim Wheeler will serve on the EMS Oversight Committee, the Joint Advisory Board and the Personnel Committee. Glen LaRue will serve on the Emergency Management Board, the Senior Citizen Center Board and the Solid Waste Board. John Barrett will serve on the Personnel Committee and the LEPC Local Emergency Planning Commission. Auditor Jana Schinbeckler will be the Council's representative on the Parcel Committee. Council member LaRue made a motion to approve the Committee and Board assignments, seconded by Hodges and passed with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS: Sheriff Gatton presented a quote for a new generator fuel tank that the jail uses. Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) ran two tests that the generator did not pass. Commissioner Schrupf received a letter from IDEM stating that it failed both tests. Sheriff Gatton has contacted several vendors and only one provided him a quote. The quote is to put in a new 1,000 gallon double walled tank, reattach the attachments and reseal the parking lot is \$46,163.00. This will be the cost as long as the soil is not contaminated. The issue with the generator is an anode rod that is not working properly and the number reading is below what IDEM requires. The other option was an impressed current system and there is no guarantee that it would work. The County has 30 days to respond to IDEM of what steps the County is taking to correct the situation. The new tank must be installed further away from the building than the current tank. IDEM will be present when the job is being completed to monitor the project. Council member Overdeer made a motion to approve replacing the tank and for it to be paid out of Cumulative Capital Development, LaRue seconded the motion with discussion. The Council members asked Sheriff Gatton to ask a local contractor to see if they would dig up the current tank. After discussion, the motion passed with a 6/0 vote. Auditor Jana Schinbeckler presented the Interlocal Agreement between Whitley County and Whitley County Solid Waste to the Council. The agreement is the same as the past but the charges for the administrative expenses due to the County from Solid Waste has changed. Rather than being a flat fee of \$12,000.00 it will now be \$2.00 per household in the County. The Commissioners and the Solid Waste Board have already approved the agreement. Council member Bayman made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Overdeer and passed with a 6/0 vote.

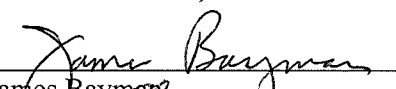
There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 AM.

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

John Barrett, Chairman




William Overdeer, Vice Chairman



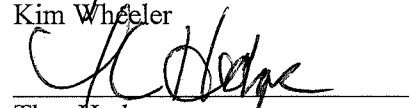
James Bayman



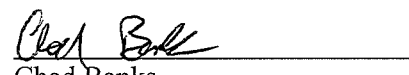
Glen LaRue



Kim Wheeler




Thor Hodges



Chad Banks

Attest:



Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor