

# WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

September 5, 2018

The Whitley County Council met in regular session at 8:00 am on Wednesday, September 5, 2018 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Thor Hodges, Vice Chairman Chad Banks, Kim Wheeler, James Bayman, Glen LaRue, John Barrett and William Overdeer. Others in attendance were Commissioner George Schrupf, Human Resource Director/County Coordinator Angela Campbell, Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Scott Wagner from Health Department, Jorell Tucker from Solid Waste, Mark Sturtevant from the Maintenance Department, Jason Spencer from the Sheriff's Department, County Assessor Kim Erdly, Janelle Schmitt from E911, Sheriff Gatton, EMA Director Amy Biggs, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, Edward Scott from EMA and County Treasurer Laurell Schroeder.

Chairman Thor Hodges called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2019 WHITLEY COUNTY BUDGET AND SOLID WASTE BUDGET:** Scott Wagner from the Health Department is requesting the Public Health Nurse's salary be paid out of the Health tax levy. The grant that they receive which is \$20,000 to \$22,000 per year will no longer be used to pay the Public Health Nurse's salary and those funds will be used as a part time individual for public health education. EMA Director Amy Biggs once again came before the Council to request a full time position. The current funded amount for part time is \$26,690 and she is requesting the position become full time with a salary of \$35,100. The grant that Emergency Management receives will reimburse 50% of three positions. Amy stated that she does not receive PERF or insurance through the County so it is an additional cost savings. There are some volunteers for Emergency Management but she stated they are not able to rely on them on a regular basis. Sheriff Gatton came before the Council to request two additional Confinement Officers and Janelle Schmitt from E911 requested that her Equipment Repair and Maintenance budget be reinstated to \$70,000 because the \$62,000 does not cover her maintenance contracts that she is required to pay. There is a total of \$65,200 committed for contracts at this time for 2019. Mark Sturtevant from the Maintenance Department came before the Council to request them to reinstate the Janitorial Supplies to \$22,000 since they reduced it to \$12,000. Jorell Tucker stated that there was a slight increase in his overall budget for Solid Waste.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT:** In the matter of the Deputy's pay in the Assessor's Office, Council agreed she should have been making the full \$37,379.00 beginning with the 2018 salary ordinance. Beginning with the September 24<sup>th</sup> payroll, her rate will be appropriately increased and she will receive back pay to the beginning of the 2018 salary ordinance. The additional appropriation has already been completed in a previous Council meeting. Council member Bayman made a motion to approve the salary ordinance amendment for the Deputy position in the Assessor's Office, seconded by LaRue and passed with a 7/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF BUDGET DISCUSSION:** The Council discussed the budget change requests that were made by the Health Department, Emergency Management, the Sheriff, E911 and the Maintenance Department. In regard to the Health Department request for the Public Health Nurse's salary to be paid completely out of the Health fund levy which is separate from the General Fund, Council member Barrett made a motion to approve the change, seconded by Hodges and carried with a 7/0 vote. In the matter of the Emergency Management request for a Full Time position and for the line item to be \$35,100 Council member LaRue made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Barrett and passed with a 5/2 vote with Wheeler and Bayman voting against. In regard to the Sheriff Department's request for additional Confinement Officers, Council member Barrett made a motion to approve one additional Confinement Officer, seconded by Overdeer and passed with a 5/2 vote with Bayman and Hodges voting against. The Equipment Repair and Maintenance budget for E911 was discussed and Council member Bayman made a motion to approve the \$70,000 to be appropriated for the line item, seconded by Banks and carried with a 7/0 vote. In the matter of the Maintenance Department budget request, the Council came to the consensus to leave the Janitorial Supplies line item at \$12,000 and coming back before the Council if he needs additional funds.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE LONGEVITY PAY DATE:** Auditor Jana Schinbeckler presented a request to Council for the longevity pay date for 2018 to be paid on Tuesday, November 20, 2018. Council member Barrett made a motion to approve the longevity pay date, seconded by LaRue and carried with a 7/0 vote.

