

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

November 5, 2019

The Whitley County Council met in regular session at 8:00 am on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 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, Thomas Warner, Timothy Kumfer, John Barrett and William Overdeer. Others in attendance were Commissioner George Schrupf, Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Chief Deputy Auditor Tiffany Forrester, Vicki Builta from the South Whitley Community Public Library, County Recorder Rosemary Brown, Jason Spencer from the Sheriff's Department, Sean Martin from the Sheriff's Department, Paula Worden from Community Corrections, County Assessor Kim Erdly, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, County Treasurer Laurell Schroeder, Maintenance Director Mark Sturtevant, Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library, Scott Wagner from the Health Department and Tim Summers from the Maintenance Department.

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST: Vicki Builta from the South Whitley Community Public Library was present to request approval for an additional appropriation for the library for their current expansion project.

Chairman Hodges closed the Council meeting at this time and opened the public hearing for the additional appropriation. There being no comment from the public, Chairman Hodges closed the public hearing and reconvened the Council meeting.

The additional appropriation total for the library was \$385,125.00 for the Rainy Day fund, \$16,253.00 for the Library Improvement Reserve fund and \$300,000.00 for the Construction fund. Council member Overdeer made a motion to approve the additional appropriation requests for the South Whitley Community Public Library, seconded by Banks and passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COST OF LIVING INCREASE DISCUSSION: Several Council members presented different ideas about a cost of living increase for County employees. After much discussion on what should be considered, Councilman Barrett made a motion for a \$1,200 increase for all full time employees, seconded by Wheeler and passed with a 5/2 vote with Kumfer and Overdeer voting against.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARIES: County Assessor Kim Erdly stated concerns that she has regarding internal pay equality. Kim stated what Councilman Kumfer presented would be acceptable by the elected officials. Councilman Kumfer made a motion for the Assessor, Auditor, Clerk, Treasurer, Recorder, Sheriff and Commissioners to receive an increase of \$3,270.00. Councilman Kumfer's motion died for lack of a second. Chairman Hodges allowed Councilman Kumfer to make the motion again. Councilman Kumfer made a motion for the Assessor, Auditor, Clerk, Treasurer, Recorder, Sheriff and Commissioners to receive \$3,270.00 and for their Chief Deputies to receive 85% of the Elected Officials salaries. The Council members would not be included for this increase. The motion died for lack of a second.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSIONERS REPORT: Commissioner Schrupf gave a report from the Commissioners meeting.

- Commissioner Schrupf presented a request to Council for two body scanners. One body scanner would be at Community Corrections and the other would be at the Jail. Schrupf stated that they have been concerned about the safety and security at Community Corrections so they put the funds in their 2020 CEDIT budget to pay for one body scanner. Commissioner Schrupf is requesting that the Council consider funding a body scanner for the Jail in 2020. If the County purchases two units rather than one, it will save around \$40,000 to \$50,000 and the total cost for both is \$278,000. Schrupf stated that the company will need a commitment by the end of the year. The County will begin receiving the Jail Local Income Tax in January as well which could fund the body scanner for the Jail. Councilman Barrett made a motion to purchase the two units, one from CEDIT and the other from the Jail Income Tax, seconded by Overdeer and passed with a 7/0 vote.
- In regard to the Personnel Committee, Commissioner Schrupf stated that they reviewed an IT Support employee for the County. They gave a favorable recommendation to the Council to approve the position and to send it to Waggoner Irwin Scheele to be factored. The position would be supervised by the Commissioners and would work with Preferred IT. Schrupf stated that the salary would be approximately \$39,400.00. Councilman Kumfer made a motion to approve the IT position, seconded by Wheeler and carried with a 7/0 vote. Councilman Overdeer made a motion to approve the funds to

pay for the position to be factored by Waggoner Irwin Scheele, seconded by Banks and passed with a 7/0 vote.

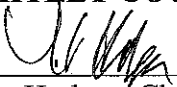
- Commissioner Schrupf stated that he received a report from SES Environmental for the 2019 methane, groundwater monitoring and inspection for the landfill. The landfill needs a gas monitor point and vent installations, which SES Environmental proposed that they can do for an estimated \$10,380.00.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES: The Council reviewed the October 8, 2019 regular meeting minutes. Councilman Wheeler made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Banks and passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: County Coordinator/HR Director Ed Robbins informed the Council that the GIS Coordinator position needs to be sent back to Waggoner Irwin Scheele. This is due to the job description for the GIS Coordinator being written as a supervisory role when it is not. The Personnel Committee did recommend that the Council send this back to Waggoner Irwin Scheele to be refactored. Councilman Warner made a motion for the GIS Coordinator position to be sent back to WIS and refactored, seconded by Barrett and passed with a 7/0 vote.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Hodges adjourned the meeting at 9:05 AM.

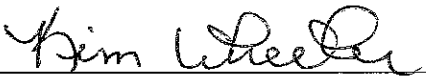
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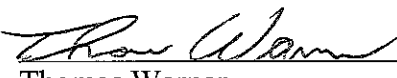
Thor Hodges, Chairman



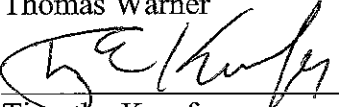
Chad Banks, Vice Chairman



Kim Wheeler



Thomas Warner



Timothy Kumfer

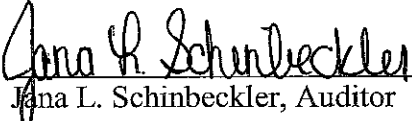


John Barrett



William Overdeer

Attest:



Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor