

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 1, 2020

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, June 1, 2020 at 1:00 PM in the Commissioners' Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Don Amber, Vice Chairman Thomas Western and Commissioner George Schruppf. Others in attendance were Attorney Matt Shipman, Commissioner's Assistant Jennifer Shinabery, Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Chief Deputy Auditor Tiffany Forrester, Scott Wagner from the Health Department, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, County Assessor Kim Erdly, Kennedy St. George from the EDC, Community Development Director for the City Chip Hill, Mayor Ryan Daniel and EDC President Dale Buuck.

Chairman Amber opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF THE BID OPENING FOR THE ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT/CYCLICAL REASSESSMENT BIDS: Commissioner Amber stated that they received one bid from the Nexus Group. Commissioner Schruppf made a motion to table the bid opening until the next Commissioner meeting, seconded by Western and was tabled with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY: Attorney Shipman stated that he is still working on the land contract at Armstrong Park.

IN THE MATTER OF THE WELL EXEMPTION: Scott Wagner from the Health Department was present to request the approval of a well exemption. The contractor will still be able to service the well with the exemption. Commissioner Schruppf made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Western and carried with a 3/0 vote. Scott stated that the point of sale ordinance also needs tabled until the next meeting. Commissioner Western made a motion to table the ordinance, seconded by Schruppf and tabled with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ACQUIRING AN EASEMENT FOR WHITLEY COUNTY SCHOOL CAMPUS: Chip Hill, Community Development Director for Columbia City, was present to request an easement from the Commissioners on the Whitley County Highway property. The easement would be to put in a sidewalk going to the school campus. Commissioner Schruppf stated that he would be in favor of it as long as the City provided the County with a hold harmless agreement. Commissioner Western and Amber were in agreement.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SOUTH WHITLEY LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER RE-APPOINTMENT: South Whitley Library Director Vicki Builta made the recommendation that the Commissioners re-appoint Heidi Hull for her second term on the board. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Heidi Hull to the library board, seconded by Schruppf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester informed the Commissioners that there will be a reduction of the highway tax but the cash balance in the highway fund is enough to cover the reduction in revenue. With this information, Brandon is going to continue with 2020 road plan which covers 76.9 centerline miles of road. He stated that the Highway Department has begun getting ready to complete the road plan. In regard to their WA Jones single axle truck order, Brandon is hoping they will receive the trucks sometime in July.

IN THE MATTER OF RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMITS: Three right-of-way permits were presented to the Commissioners for approval. The first permit request was from Nipsco to provide service to 6236 E 1000 S. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Schruppf and passed with a 3/0 vote. The second request was from Tri Star Businesses to provide residents of Northland Estates with sewer service for failing sewer and septic systems. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Schruppf and carried with a 3/0 vote. The last request was from BSM Groups for Indiana Fiber Network to place new IFN hand holes on 4703 East Park Drive. Commissioner Schruppf made a motion to approve, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES AND CLAIMS: Chairman Amber stated that he has reviewed all payroll and accounts payable claims. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Schruppf and carried with a 3/0 vote. The claim distributions from May 18, 2020 through June 1, 2020 were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, seconded by Schruppf and carried with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioners also reviewed the May 18, 2020 regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Schruppf made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Western and passed with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS: Commissioner's Assistant Jennifer Shinabery presented one request to use County facilities to the Commissioners. The request is from the Columbia City Elks Lodge for Flag

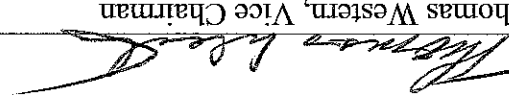
Day. The event will take place on June 13th at noon and will last an hour. Commissioner Western made a motion to approve, seconded by Schrumptf and passed with a 3/0 vote.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Amber adjourned the meeting at 1:50 PM.

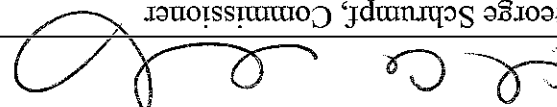
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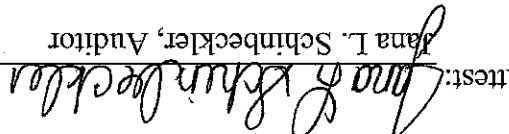
Don Amber, Chairman



Thomas Western, Vice Chairman



George Schrumptf, Commissioner



Attest: Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor