

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 7, 2021

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, September 7, 2021, at 1:00 PM in the Commissioner's Meeting Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chair George Schrupf, Vice Chair Theresa Green and Commissioner Chad Banks. Others in attendance were Coordinator/Human Resources Director Jennifer Shinabery, Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer, Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Community Corrections Director Paula Worden, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library, Recorder Rosemary Brown, Treasurer Kay Gatton, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, Sheriff Gatton, Janelle Schmitt and Jason Spencer from the Sheriff's Department and Chris Sosebee from Weigand Construction.

Chairman Schrupf opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Shipman informed the Commissioners that the Redevelopment Commission closed on the Sotera bonds for the Sotera Project last week.

WIC BUDGET DISCUSSION: Dr. Burkett from the Health Department was present to request WIC funding from October 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021, due to the State no longer funding part of the hours for the breastfeeding coordinator. Dr. Burkett stated that the wages would be paid from grant funds through the Health Department. The funding would also be needed for all of 2022. The WIC Director is in the process of being refactored, so she may require a higher salary base if WIS refactors her position as a PAT II. To cover the salary for the breastfeeding coordinator for 2022, it would be \$12,480 total. The increase for the Director and the breastfeeding coordinator for 2022 would again, be paid for with grant funds through the Health Department. Commissioner Banks made a motion for a favorable pass to Council, seconded by Green and carried with a 3/0 vote.

2022 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING DATES: Community Corrections Director Paula Worden presented the 2022 meeting schedule for the Community Corrections Advisory Board to the Commissioners for approval. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the Community Corrections Advisory Board schedule for 2022, seconded by Banks and passed with a 3/0 vote.

PLAT APPROVAL, RESOLUTION TO RENAME A PORTION OF STATE ROAD 205 AND REZONING REQUEST: Planning Director Nathan Bilger presented the Wagoner Subdivision plat to the Commissioners for approval. The Plan Commission has already approved the plat. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the Wagoner Subdivision plat, seconded by Banks and carried with a 3/0 vote. Nathan then presented an ordinance to rezone a property located on the east side of State Road 5 and a quarter of a mile north of US 30 for TAPS Salvage & Sails, Inc. The ordinance is to rezone the property from "AG" Agricultural District to "IPM" Industrial Park/Manufacturing District. The Plan Commission has given a favorable recommendation for this rezoning request. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-07, seconded by Banks and carried with a 3/0 vote. The next request from Nathan was to rename a portion of State Road 205 due to complaints of mislocated addresses. The Plan Commission determined that it would be in the better interest of any affected property owners to retain the numbering and instead rename a portion of East State Road 205 to West Whitley Street, thereby creating consistency with the Town address numbering system. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve renaming the portion of State Road 205 per Resolution 2021-08 and for it to be effective October 1, 2021, seconded by Green and passed with a 3/0 vote.

POLLUTION LIABILITY APPLICATION: The Commissioners reviewed the pollution liability application renewal. This is the application for the landfill and the recycle center. Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer stated that this is just a renewal for the year, and nothing has changed on the application. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve and allow the Chair to sign, seconded by Banks and carried with a 3/0 vote.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester informed the Commissioners that the bridge inspection contract has been approved by Attorney Shipman and has been sent to the Indiana Department of Transportation for approval. Brandon stated that the Highway Department finished up the chip seal season on September 1st and they were able to complete 62 miles of road. Brandon informed the Commissioners that he also received a letter from the State stating that the County may not be in compliance with ADA requirements, and we may affect our funding for federal grants and the Community Crossings grants.

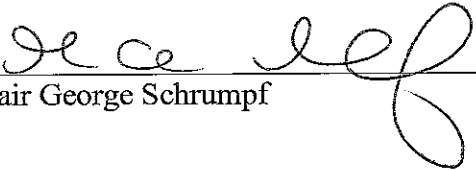
JAIL PROJECT DISCUSSION: Commissioner Banks informed the public that a group from Whitley County toured the Adams County jail. They had a consensus on the jail about the design of the jail and how it would really fit Whitley County's needs. The Commissioners stated that they need to choose an owner's representative for the jail and then they will be ready to pick an architecture firm to begin the design and plans.

MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The claim distributions from August 16, 2021, through September 7, 2021, were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Banks made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, seconded by Green and carried with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Banks and carried with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioners reviewed the August 16, 2021, regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Banks and passed with a 3/0 vote.

OTHER BUSINESS: Commissioner Green informed the Commissioners that she and the Auditor are still working on the compliance report for the ARPA funds. There was an issue with the website on the State's end that we are waiting to hear back that it is fixed so we can submit the compliance report.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Schrumpf adjourned the meeting at 1:30 PM.

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Chair George Schrumpf

Vice Chair Theresa Green


Commissioner Chad Banks

Attest: 
Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor