

## WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

January 14, 2014

The Whitley County Council met in a postponed session on Tuesday January 14, 2014 due to the Winter Storm last week in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Tom Western, Kim Wheeler, Jim Bayman, Bill Overdeer, John Barrett, Glen LaRue and Paula Reimers. Also in attendance were Auditor Jen McGuire, Commissioner George Schrumpf, Sheriff Mark Hodges, Deputy Marc Gatton, Christie Barkley – Post & Mail, Alan Tio-EDC Mike McDonald and Todd Kucers-Advanced Imaging.

Chairman Western called the meeting to order and pledged the flag.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE 2014 OFFICERS:** The first order of business was to elect the 2014 Officers for the County Council. A motion by Bayman to keep the current officers again for 2014, seconded by LaRue and carried with a 6/0 vote with Western abstaining. The officers will be Chairman Tom Western and Vice Chair Kim Wheeler.

**IN THE MATTER OF POLICE RETIREMENT PLAN:** Information was reported to the County Council by member Overdeer that the current Whitley County Police Retirement Plan was reviewed by Umbaugh & Associates and the financials determined it could sustain the change of allowing the amendment to the Pension that vests the elected Sheriff after eight years but keeps the vesting time for deputies remaining the current 10 years. After discussion a motion by Overdeer to allow the amendment, seconded by Barrett but again allowing only the "elected official" to change from ten to eight years for vesting. Further discussion on how the Sheriff Merit Board is set up and if a Council or Commissioner should be on the board, how the State IC code mandates the board, terms of the members and an internal choice by each elected Sheriff. Reimers also noted that she would like to see no more changes be made to the plan. Chairman Western called for a vote and the amendment carried with a 7/0 vote. Council further discussed the Sheriff's contract being reviewed for the upcoming election. Auditor McGuire will copy the current Contract for all the Commissioners and Council members to review and County attorney Sigler.

**IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF CARS 2014:** Chief Deputy Marc Gatton came before the Council to request the appropriation for the 2014 purchase of vehicles at the Sheriff's department go from the standard two cars to three cars and a SUV for the year. The Sheriff will pay for the additional equipment being required out of Garage appropriations and Commissary and the additional funding will be \$26,960 for a total request of \$92,960 coming from the Cumulative Capital Fund. The new vehicles will be three Dodge Chargers with V6's and one Utility Police Ford Explorer. Discussion on the cars being replaced, saving on the mpg for the new vehicles, cost savings for repairs and overall safety for the deputies driving was discussed by the Council. Commissioner Schrumpf gave the Council a "favorable" recommendation from the Commissioners for the request of 4 new vehicles to be purchased. Barrett made a motion to allow the purchase and additional funding request, seconded by Overdeer and carried with a 4/3 vote with LaRue, Bayman and Wheeler casting the nay votes.

**IN THE MATTER OF REVOLVING LOAN FUNDING:** Alan Tio, EDC, reported to the Council that there is currently three Revolving Loan Fund programs to support job creation, investment startup and growth-stage businesses in Whitley County. One funding is the CEDIT funded program for low-interest loans up to \$50,000, the second is USDA Rural Development program loans up to \$10,000 and the third is a "new" option assigned to the EDC by Region III-A. The loans for all three programs are reviewed by the EDC Investment Board. In 2014 the EDC proposes to establish an additional set of RLF guidelines for loans that will require a higher-level of information and analysis before the approval. The new guidelines will make the loans more consistence per Council member Reimers based on the information gathered. The Investment Board members are David Smith, George Schrumpf, Steve Barcus, Dew Wellborn and Brian More.

**COMMISSIONERS REPORT:** Commissioner Schrumpf gave a report from the Commissioners meeting

- A Joint Resolution between the Council & Commissioners showing the impact to all taxing Districts in Whitley County with the Elimination of Personal Property by the State. A motion by Reimers to allow the Resolution, seconded by LaRue and a vote of 7/0. Commissioner Schrumpf will review with Attorney Sigler and prepare before signing by both groups.
- Update from Advanced Imaging after implementing the printing contract with the County. Any additional cost above the Contracted services by Departments for printing or servicing a printer, copier or fax outside of the Contract will be charged to the Department. The amounts will be tracked in the 2013 and 2014

years and then budgeted for in 2015. Check with the Clerk's office for the upcoming Election year and the extra amount of printing. Other issues were to standardize the printing, eliminate devices, centralize or minimize color printing and train users. A handout from Advanced showed the cost saving since the contract started.

**IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES:** The Minutes from the December 3, 2013 meeting were reviewed. A motion by Overdeer to approve, seconded by Bayman, with Reimers calling for discussion before the vote. She wants to review the Profit & Loss Statements from the Humane Society for final approval of the CEDIT funding. Motion carried with a 7/0 vote and Auditor McGuire will copy the report to Council members.

**REQUEST FOR TRANSFERS:** For 2013 a Request to Transfer from #25000 Medical to #39008 in the Jail department #132 for the amount of \$3,200 for year end, a motion by LaRue, seconded by Reimers and carried with a 7/0 vote. A Request to Transfer in the amount of \$12,700 to cover the PERF payment for 2013 from Quarterly reporting to every payroll, a motion by Overdeer to allow, seconded by Bayman and carried with a 7/0 vote. Auditor McGuire noted the appropriation was adjusted in the 2014 budget for the change. The last Request for Transfer is for 2014 in the amount of \$186.00 from #35600 Contracted Services to #11605 Overtime in the Soil & Water Department to cover the Comp Time payout for year end, a motion by Barrett, seconded by Overdeer and carried with a 7/0 vote.

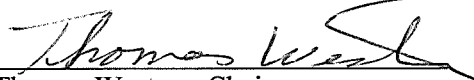
**IN THE MATTER OF 2014 BOARD ASSIGNMENTS:** The Council members reviewed the Board assignments from 2013 and noted a change of Paula Reimers on the EDC Board replacing Kim Wheeler. Reimers made a motion to let stand all the other assignments for 2014, seconded by Barrett and carried with a 7/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF INSURANCE PAYMENTS:** Auditor McGuire requested that the payment of the Dental and Vision bills be changed from prepaying with deductions from the employee checks to the County paying the bills and then reimbursing the funds from the deductions. After discussion a motion to allow this change was made by Reimers, seconded by Barrett and carried with a 7/0 vote.

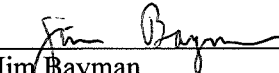
**IN OTHER BUSINESS:** Council members signed the annual Nepotism Policy for 2014. Auditor McGuire reported on the Year End balances of Funds for the County. Handouts on the current LOIT rates were handed out with discussion of comparing to other Counties our size, for review only at this time. Council members also completed any Conflict of Interest forms required by the State.

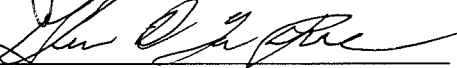
There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned.


**WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL**

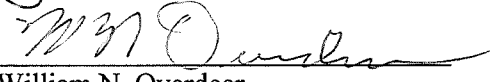
  
Thomas Western, Chairman

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Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman

  
Jim Bayman

  
Glen LaRue

  
John Barrett

  
William N. Overdeer

  
Paula G. Reimers

Attest:

  
Jennifer McGuire, Auditor