

**WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 8, 2010**

The Whitley County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, September 8, 2010 due to the observance of Labor Day on September 6. The meeting was held in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman John Barrett, James Bayman, Glen LaRue, William Overdeer and James E. Banks. Thomas Western was absent. Also in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Auditor Linda Gerig, Alan Tio, Matt Boyd, Cheryl McDevitt, David Sewell, Sheriff Mark Hodges, Dennis Dougherty, Jorell Tucker, County Assessor Angela Adams, County Recorder Rosemary Brown, Highway Supervisor Michael Barton and Post and Mail reporter Chris Meyers. Chairman Wheeler called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

IN THE MATTER OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: The minutes of August 3, 2010 were approved as presented.

The regular meeting of the Whitley County Council was recessed to hold a Public Hearing.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA (ERA): As advertised, a public hearing was held for confirmation of a Declaratory Resolution signed August 3, 2010 by county council. The real property affected is described as follows:

1. All properties that currently or are subsequently zoned under the following classification of the Whitley County Zoning Ordinance:

- Agricultural Production- AGP
- General Commercial- GC
- Industrial Park/Manufacturing- IPM
- Intensive Use-IN
- Wind Energy Conversion Systems- WECS (proposed)

2. All properties that are currently or subsequently zoned under the following classifications of the Columbia City Zoning Ordinance, South Whitley Zoning Ordinance and Churubusco Zoning Ordinance (outside of corporate boundary limits and inside extra-territorial land use control:

- General Business- GB
- Light Industrial- I-1
- Heavy Industrial- I-2

There being no public comment on the matter, the public hearing was closed and the regular council meeting was reconvened.

Resolution No. 2010-20, A Confirmatory Resolution Designating Certain Real Estate Within Whitley County, Indiana As An Economic Revitalization Area (ERA) Pursuant To I.C. 6-1.1-12.1 Et Seq., was introduced. After discussion of the matter, Banks moved, seconded by Bayman, to approve Resolution No. 2010-20. The motion carried 6/0.

Chairman Wheeler recessed the regular council meeting to hold a public hearing as advertised on the 2011 estimated budget for the Solid Waste District.

IN THE MATTER OF 2011 SOLID WASTE DISTRICT BUDGET: Pursuant to Indiana Code 6-1.1-17-20(d) and proper advertising, the 2011 Solid Waste District Budget was presented for review and adoption by County Council. The proposed budget is in the amount of \$822,355 and at this time there is no anticipated increase in the surcharge amount of \$41.00. There being no public comment on the matter, the public hearing was closed and the county council meeting reconvened. Discussion was held on the matter with Overdeer moving to approve the proposed budget. The motion was seconded by Barrett and passed with five voting in favor and one abstention. Glen LaRue serves as a member on the Solid Waste Board.

IN THE MATTER OF TAX ABATEMENT AMENDMENT: Alan Tio and Dave Koenig were present to discuss a request for amendment to Greatbatch Medical's original request for tax abatement. Greatbatch had originally requested \$1,400,000 abatement for manufacturing equipment, but will be adding more machinery than planned and would like to amend the abatement to \$3,900,000. All other specifications listed for the original abatement request remain the same. Resolution No. 2010-21 was introduced approving the requested amendment. Overdeer moved, seconded by LaRue, to approve Resolution No. 2010-21 and the requested amendment. The motion carried 6/0.

IN THE MATTER OF POLICE RETIREMENT PLAN: Sheriff Mark Hodges was present to continue discussion from August 3, 2010 on the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP). The "DROP frozen benefit" refers to a monthly pension benefit calculated under the provisions of a retirement plan based on salary and years of service on the date the employee enters the DROP.

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Kim Wheeler, Chairman

John Barrett, Vice Chairman

James Bayman

Glen LaRue

Absent

Thomas E. Western

William N. Overdeer

James E. Banks

Attest: _____
Linda J. Gerig, Auditor