

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL
February 8, 2011

The Whitley County Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 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, Thomas E. Western, and Paula Reimers. William Overdeer was absent. Also in attendance were Auditor Jen McGuire, Coordinator Amy Crickmore, Gene Rohrer Veteran's Officer, Alan Tio EDC, Otto Boschert Jr, Phil Smith - Post & Mail, Michael Barton - Highway, Tom Rethlake Commissioner, Don Amber Commissioner, Matt & Hallie Grant – Sailrite, Caroline Dennis, Jackie Hake - WC Transit, Zach Kessie – Fire Barriers LLC, Joan Hull, Greg Hockemeyer and Nancy Prickett – Drug Free Indiana and Cindy Barnett – Purdue Extension. Chairman Wheeler called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

IN THE MATTER OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: Prior minutes from the January 3, 2011 meeting were approved by LaRue and seconded by Bayman and carried with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF DRUG FREE INDIANA: Nancy Prickett and Greg Hockemeyer came before the Council to explain the distribution of grant monies from the Drug Free Indiana program. Nancy explained why some of the different groups were funded completely and why some were only given partial request if it did not meet requirements of prevention, education or treatment for drug free related matters in Whitley County.

IN THE MATTER OF EXTENSION OFFICE REQUEST: Cindy Barnett was present to let the Council know that they had someone retiring from the office, requesting guidance in hiring a new person and what the wages would be at during the overlap of training. A request for Amendment to Salary Ordinance was presented to the Council and discussed. Bayman made a motion to accept Amendment for Request seconded by Western and approved with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF VA OFFICER: Request for Amendment to Salary Ordinance for the Veterans Service Officer. Gene Roher moved to the Government Center for the 2011 year after budgets were approved for the year. He will not be using his travel, mileage and phone items budgeted for his department. After review of other salaries from surrounding counties the Council wanted to increase Mr. Roher's salary for the year and review it again in 2012. A motion was made to make the changes to salary by Western seconded by Barrett and carried with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER WHITLEY COUNTY TRANSIT: Jackie Hake from the Whitley County Council on Aging and Aged, Inc came before the Council for 2011 CEDIT monies approval. Approval had been given by the Commissioners to allow \$10,000 for the 2011 year. After reviewing the stats from the previous year and talking of the benefits the transit has provided for the County, LaRue made a motion to approve the CEDIT disbursement, seconded by Barrett and carried with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF SALARY CHANGE IN CLERKS OFFICE: Debbie Beers Clerk of Court for Whitley County came before the Council to address the changes in her office since the election. She told the Council she has reviewed the changes with County Coordinator Amy Crickmore to bring everyone's salary she will be need to do a transfer of funds for the change of duties in her department. A motion for approval of the Salary Ordinance was made by Bayman, seconded by LaRue and carried with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF FIRE BARRIERS LLC: Alan Tio and Zach Kessie came before the Council to give an update of the new business and request the second installment of \$25,000 of the revolving loan fund. The new company has met its projected first year job creation goals and has been current on payments of the initial revolving loan. After discussion of the business a motion was made by Western and seconded by Bayman to proceed with the release of the second \$25,000 installment at this time and carried with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF SAILRITE ENTERPRISES, INC: Alan Tio and Matt & Hallie Grant came before the Council to let them know the Sailrite Enterprise will be moving back to Whitley County. The EDC Investment Board had reviewed the proposed CEDIT incentive of \$75,000 to support the relocation and expansion of Sailrite to move into the former Kilgore Manufacturing building that has been vacant. The incentive will be in a three –phase award 1. Once the company purchases the building 2. once the company relocates current employees to the facility 3. once the company hires five (5) additional employees to add to the base number of employees retained. Each incentive will be in the amount of \$25,000. A motion was given by Reimers to allow the incentive monies, seconded by Barrett carried with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF HIGHWAY: Michael Barton Highway Engineer came before the Council to give a brief update on any damages from the Blizzard and what expenses and problems that occurs because of the bad weather.

IN THE MATTER OF COMMISSIONER REPORT: Commissioner Chairman Tom Rethlake report on the following items discussed in the February 7 , 2011 meeting.

- Michael Mawhorter replaced Dr Richey on the Health Department Board
- Tim Denihan was chosen to the Board of Zoning and Appeals for 2011
- \$10,000 CEDIT granted to Whitley County Transit
- Plumbing issues arising from the bids at Courthouse because of the type of structure under neath the Courthouse
- February 25, 2011 State of County/City Luncheon
- IDEM cleanup at the Highway Department almost complete
- April is County Government Month wants field trips for local schools to let them be more aware of the County Government
- Change in the Holiday Schedule by added additional day December 26, 2011
- Review of Policy Manual for Emergency compensation for the County workers who have to report to work.
- Buggy Plates Ordinance final determination and will be reviewed for 2012

IN THE MATTER OF MICROAGE INVOICE: Auditor McGuire presented a bill for the November 18, 2010 power outage and the reimbursement from insurance had paid their portion leaving a balance of over \$3,000 still due the Council wants our insurance company to review the charges and let us know why so much of the bill was not paid.

IN OTHER MATTERS: The Council needs to make a Re-appointment to the Board of Zoning and Appeals no one had any names of individuals interested at this time was tabled until the March 8, 2011 meeting. Otto Boschet spoke briefly on the House Bill wanting to make changes to the Franchise Fees and how it would affect the Counties revenues from that fee. Council member Reimers let the Council know that consultant fees for the Comprehensive Plan B for Planning and Building was being paid out of EDC monies.

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

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Kim Wheeler, Chairman

John Barrett, Vice Chairman

James Bayman

Glen LaRue

Thomas E. Western

William N. Overdeer

Paula G. Reimers

Attest:

Jennifer McGuire, Auditor