

## WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

October 2, 2012

The Whitley County Council met in a regular session on Tuesday October 2, 2012 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman John Barrett, Vice Chairman Jim Bayman, Kim Wheeler, Glen LaRue, Bill Overdeer, Paula Reimers and Tom Western. Also in attendance were Auditor Jen McGuire, Coordinator Pam Smith, Don Amber, Otto Boschet Jr, David Addison, Sheriff Hodges, Howard Williams, Lisa Scroggins, Frank Krause, George Schrumpf, Paula Worden and Amy Motter.

Chairman Barrett called the meeting to Order, suspended the regular meeting to approve the Resolution #2012-13 Whitley County Solid Waste District Budget for 2013. Chairman Barrett read that the 2013 budget would be \$813,400 for the Solid Waste District. After no comment from the public, Bayman made a motion to approve the Resolution #2012-13, seconded by LaRue and carried with a 7/0 vote by Council. Next was the approval for the Whitley County Budget for 2013 Ordinance #2012-14 showing the sum of \$19,449,739, tax rate of .4717 and a total property tax levy of \$5,560,691, after discussion a motion by Western to approve the Ordinance, seconded by Overdeer and carried with a 7/0 vote by Council. Chairman Barrett resumed the regular Council meeting.

**IN THE MATTER OF INMATE HEALTHCARE:** Sheriff Hodges reported to the Council that after reviewing vendors to cover the Inmate Healthcare he has chosen to go with QCC – Quality Correction Care out of Muncie Indiana. They are currently working with 11 other counties throughout the State and come highly recommended. The cost for the coverage is still under the appropriated funds for the 2013 budget and will remain the same cost until the end of Sheriff Hodges term December 31, 2014. Dr. Frank Krause and Lisa Scroggins from QCC were on hand to field any questions from the Council. The Contract is now being negotiated with Sheriff Hodges attorney Howard Williams and the County attorney Dan Sigler. The Commissioner's will look at approving the Contract at their October 15, 2012 meeting and put the contract in effect for November 1, 2012.

**IN THE MATTER OF EXTENSION OFFICE:** David Addison came before the Council to question why the additional third person was not approved for the Extension office. After discussion that no new positions were allowed throughout the County with the extra Healthcare cost Countywide that was going to put a pinch on the finances for the 2013 budget, David just wanted to express his concern that some of the programs were not fully implemented because of the staffing concerns at the Extension office.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION:** Amy Motter and Paula Worden came before the Council with a request for Additional Appropriation in Institutional Care. The appropriation is actually in the Commissioners department budget so the approved the increase in their meeting yesterday. After discussion that there was over \$47,000 back billed from previous years in 2012 and there has also been an increase in the number of clients requiring Institutional Care a motion to allow the Additional \$60,000 was made by Western, seconded by Reimers and carried with a 7/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER MINUTES:** Minutes Council meeting September 5, 2012 were reviewed, a motion to approve as submitted was made by LaRue, seconded by Reimers and carried for approval with a 7/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF LEVY FREEZE OPTIONS FOR 2013:** On August 31 2012 the DLGF certified the "levy freeze" income tax rates. These are the rates that would need to be imposed to fully fund operating levy growth with income tax instead of property tax. The new law requires that the County Council adopt the Department certified rate for years 1 and 2 only. After discussion the Council felt like they wanted more information before making a decision regarding the choices they had. Auditor McGuire will contact the State and Umbaugh Associated to get more information to present to the Council.

**COMMISSIONERS REPORT:** Commissioner Chairman Don Amber gave a quick report from the Commissioners meeting

- Whitley County is implementing a Notification System
- GIS Data will be Fee Schedule based for cost of purchase
- EMA Grant tabled until approved by EMA Board

- 7 nominees for the Appointment to the Plan Commission by the Commissioners
- Voting sites for the November 6, 2012 General Election were approved
- Next Commissioners meeting will be held at Churubusco High School Auditorium

**IN OTHER BUSINESS:** Denny Fenker reported that the Heating system upgrades in the Courthouse will be finished up on Monday October 8, 2012 when the building is closed down for Columbus Day. CEDIT expenditures need brought before County Council for approval, working on plan to present without holding up payment since they meet once a month. Project to breakdown the process between approval of actual Plan for CEDIT and then the payment of claims.

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

**WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL**

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John Barrett, Chairman

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James Bayman, Vice Chairman

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Kim Wheeler

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Glen LaRue

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Thomas E. Western

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William N. Overdeer

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Paula G. Reimers

Attest:

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Jennifer McGuire, Auditor