

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

August 6, 2009

The Whitley County Council met Thursday, August 6 in the Commissioner’s Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. In attendance were Chairman Thomas Western, Vice Chairman Kim Wheeler, James Bayman, Glen LaRue, John Barrett, William Overdeer and James Banks. Also in attendance were Alan Tio, Dave Koenig, Roy Ousley, Auditor Linda Gerig and TJ Hemlinger. Chairman Western called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

IN THE MATTER OF TAX ABATEMENT REQUEST: David Koenig of Region III-A and Roy Ousley were present to discuss tax abatement for Coupled Products, LLC, located at 2651 S 600 East. The company manufactures brake and power steering lines for automotive and industrial applications. The company wishes to transfer machinery and equipment and acquire new equipment to consolidate their brake and power steering lines. The company is closing the plant in Sandusky, Ohio and the Whitley County location will be the only US location. The start date for the transfer is planned for August 10, 2009 and be completed by February 28, 2011. The company has 34 employees and plans to add an additional 88 by February 2010. There is anticipation that 77 of the 88 new jobs will be filled by current furloughed employees with the balance being new jobs and skill requirements. The estimated cost and value of the proposed project is \$26,000,000. Resolution No. 2009-09 was introduced, recommending the deduction from assessed valuation for personal property improvements for a period not to exceed ten (10) years. A completion date was specified as February 28, 2011. Banks moved, seconded by Wheeler, to approve Resolution No. 2009-09 granting the ten-year abatement. The motion passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF 2010 PROPOSED BUDGET: Council members discussed possible methods of reducing the proposed budget for 2010. Money allocated in department budgets for accumulated sick pay will be funded by Rainy Day funds on an as needed basis and removed from department budgets. There will be no salary increases for 2010. Appropriation requests for travel and mileage will be removed from department budgets and appropriated in the County Council budget. Requests for use of the funds are to be made on an as needed basis. The requests may be made to the chairman or vice chairman if needed before the next scheduled council meeting. Council members would like each department to provide actual amounts appropriated on computer maintenance agreements for software. Departments will be asked to make an effort to reduce their budgets by at least 20%. These requests are being made to those departments funded from county general funds. Council members will meet again with departments within the county general fund on August 20, 2009.

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

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

Thomas Western, Chairman

John Barrett

Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman

William Overdeer

James Bayman

James Banks

Glen LaRue

Attest:

Linda J. Gerig, Auditor