

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

November 3, 2015

The Whitley County Council met in regular session at 8:00 am on Tuesday, November 3, 2015 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Tom Western, Vice Chairman Kim Wheeler, Jim Bayman, Glen LaRue, Bill Overdeer, John Barrett, and Paula Reimers. Also in attendance were Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Commissioner Don Amber, Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library, and Highway Director Michael Barton.

Chairman Western called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFERS:

Maintenance Department:

1000.36004.000.0131 Bldg. Maintenance 1000.11700.000.0131 Part-Time \$12,000

The part time person in the maintenance department has worked over what was budgeted this year. Therefore, this transfer from building maintenance to part time was presented. Council member Bayman made a motion to approve the transfer, seconded by Overdeer, and passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:

Sheriff's Department:

1000.11100.000.0105 Elected Official \$20,681.30

In regard to the additional appropriation for the Sheriff's department for \$20,681.30, Council member Reimers made a motion to table the request until the next meeting, seconded by LaRue, and passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES: The minutes from the October 6, 2015 meeting and the October 27, 2015 special meeting were reviewed. Council member Overdeer made a motion to approve both of the minutes, seconded by Barrett, and passed with a 6/0 vote with LaRue abstaining.


COMMISSIONERS REPORT: Commissioner Amber gave a report from the Commissioners meeting:

- Commissioner Amber informed the Council that they did speak about longevity for the Commissioners for 2017. They have not made any decisions at this time and tabled the matter until their next meeting.
- Commissioner Amber spoke about the parking lot on Van Buren Street. The City of Columbia City is not interested in the parking lot and the County still uses it occasionally for overflow parking when there is a hearing in the courts. Billy Reffit came to the Commissioners and he would like to lease ten spaces. They are in the process of coming up with an agreement for the ten spaces.
- Commissioner Amber reported that they have hired a new Planning and Building Director. The new Director is Nathan Bilger and he starts on November 30, 2015.

IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS: Maintenance Supervisor Mark Sturtevant requested to replace two heat pumps each year at the Courthouse. The cost to replace two heat pumps is \$14,600 and the Commissioners had a favorable pass to the Council. After discussion, Council member LaRue made the motion to replace two heat pumps each year, seconded by Reimers, and carried with a 7/0 vote. Highway Director Michael Barton gave the Council an update on the Highway department. Auditor Jana Schinbeckler presented the new tax abatements process, in writing, to the Council. The new process includes a \$250.00 filing fee when a business applies for a new abatement. Council member Bayman made a motion to approve the new abatement process and the filing fee, seconded by Barrett, and passed with a 7/0 vote.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 AM.

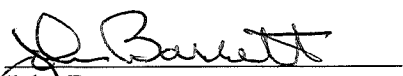
WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL


Thomas Western, Chairman


Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman



Jim Bayman

Glen LaRue


John Barrett


William Overdeer

Paula G. Reimers

Attest:

Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor