

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

June 7, 2016

The Whitley County Council met in regular session at 8:00 am on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 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 Jim Bayman, Tom Western, Glen LaRue, Bill Overdeer, John Barrett and Paula Reimers. Also in attendance were Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator Pam Smith, Chief Probation Officer Amy Motter, Community Corrections Director Paula Worden, Scott Wagner from the Health Department, Andrew Doyle from Spillman Technologies, Lucas Gramman from the EDC, EMA Director Amy Biggs, Treasurer Laurell Hodges, Leslee Derbeck from STAR Insurance, Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library, John Woodmansee from the Extension Office and Janelle Schmitt, Scott Schmitt, Billy Maddox, Robert Hendry, Jody Hollenbaugh, Jason Spencer and Sheriff Gatton from the Sheriff's Department.

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

IN THE MATTER OF AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST: Judge Heuer reported to the Council that the court is now involved with Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) and they will be receiving \$5,000 in grant funding for this program. They have been encouraged to have a member of the Council as part of the committee for this program. The Council decided that John Barrett is going to be the participant. Judge Heuer is asking the Council to appropriate the \$5,000 into the Circuit Court budget to spend the grant funds. Council member Bayman made a motion to approve the appropriation for the \$5,000, seconded by LaRue and passed with a 7/0 vote. In regard to Title IV-D incentive money, the Clerk and the Courts are required to have a time study done periodically to see how much time each employee is spending on IV-D cases. Originally, the Juvenile Court Admin's time was 56%/44% Title IV-D and after the time study was completed, it was found that it is now 70%/30%. With this new study, more money needs to be paid out of County General than the incentive fund. Judge Heuer is requesting an additional appropriation in County General and an appropriation reduction in the Incentive fund of \$6,015.62. Council member Barrett made a motion to approve both, seconded by Reimers and passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT SALARIES: Sheriff Gatton presented a request to Council to change paying the three Jailers in Public Safety LOIT to County General. This will be offset by moving a portion of the specialties compensation, holiday pay, vacation buyout and court compensation from County General to Public Safety LOIT. Council member Western made a motion to approve this request, seconded by Overdeer and passed with a 7/0 vote. A packet was handed out to the Council comparing salaries of the Whitley County Sheriff's Department and Jail to surrounding Counties or Counties with the same population. The Jailer turnover rate at the Sheriff's Department is 53% which includes part time and full time. County Coordinator Pam Smith completes exit interviews with employees who are leaving. The number one reason why most of the employees are leaving is due to wages. Sheriff Gatton stated that it takes around \$2,740 to replace an employee which includes training, equipment and a uniform. He is requesting an increase in the salaries of the Deputies and Jailers in hopes to lower turnover and improve employee morale. The additional money needed to cover the Public Safety proposed wage increases for the rest of the year is \$29,052 and for County General it is \$21,145. Sheriff Gatton stated that he needs his employees to have this raise and to have a competitive wage to be able to compete with other Counties our size. Commissioner Schrumpf informed the Council that the Commissioners gave a favorable pass. After review, Council member Barrett made a motion to adopt the increase in the wages, seconded by Overdeer and passed with a 7/0 vote. In regard to the salary increases, salary ordinance amendments need approved for each position. Council member Bayman made a motion to approve all of the salary ordinance amendments, seconded by Overdeer and passed with a 7/0 vote.

and the Sheriff appropriation reduction requests had a motion to be approved by Council member Barrett, seconded by Overdeer and carried with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT REQUESTS: County Coordinator Pam Smith presented two salary ordinance amendments to the Council. The first amendment request was for the Prosecutor's Office. The Victim Assistance Project Coordinator was refactored by the Personnel Committee due to a change in duties to the position. The salary is changing from \$35,527 to \$40,059. Council member Western made a motion to approve the Prosecutor's salary ordinance amendment request, seconded by Barrett and passed with a 6/0 vote. The second request was from the Highway Department for the interim Foreman. Pam is requesting the Council compensate him for the time he was Foreman from April 24, 2016 to May 17, 2016. Council member Barrett made a motion to approve the request, seconded by LaRue and passed with a 6/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES: The minutes from the May 4, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Council member Western made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by LaRue and passed with a 6/0 vote.

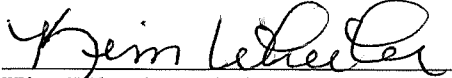
COMMISSIONERS REPORT: Commissioner Schrumpf gave a report from the Commissioners meeting:

- Commissioner Schrumpf stated that the 2016/2017 CEDIT plan will be presented to the Council at their next meeting.
- In regard to a Highway Department update, the 22 miles of milled roads are scheduled to be worked on. The work is beginning on June 13, 2016 and going by quadrants throughout the County. By July 8, 2016 the double sealing of the milled roads should be complete.
- The Department of Labor has changed the law for any exempt employee, which is anyone who does not receive overtime, must make \$47,476 annually. If they make less, they must now be paid overtime and are no longer considered an exempt status. As of December 1, 2016 all of the exempt employees who make under the \$47,476 must be increased to be at this wage or above. There will be an increase in County General, the Health Department and Community Corrections. There will need to be salary ordinance amendments completed for each of these departments and approved through the Council. Elected Officials and the Jail Matron are not a part of this because they are not covered under the FLSA ruling.
- Commissioner Schrumpf made a request to the Council to pay from the medical trust fund \$100,000 this year towards the medical loan the County has. The Commissioners made a favorable pass to Council in regard to this matter. Council member Western made a motion to approve the request, seconded by LaRue and passed with a 6/0 vote.
- In regard to BCS Management for the countywide sewer district, in order to get the project started it will take \$30,000 from the County.
- The Commissioners made a favorable pass to Council for a time management system. The system would cost the County \$66,200 in the first year for the initial setup. Council suggested that the Commissioners include it in their budget request for 2017.
- The Commissioners have reviewed the medical insurance and made a favorable pass to Council for the new proposed plan. The proposed plan would remove the Commissioners, Council, EDC, Solid Waste and WIC from the plan. It would be a cost savings to the County of around \$200,000 and the employee's portion that they would pay would not be increased. Council member Barret made a motion to make these changes for the medical insurance, seconded by LaRue and passed with a 6/0 vote.

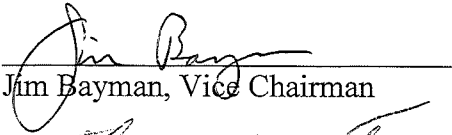
IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS: Auditor Schinbeckler presented the 2016/2017 abatements to the Council. The abatements have been reviewed and are all in compliance. Council member Western made a motion to approve the 2016/2017 abatements, seconded by Bayman and passed with a 6/0 vote. The department head meetings is on July 12, 2016 for the 2017 budget. EMA Director Amy Biggs gave an update to the Council in regard to the five incidents that have occurred in the County within a few weeks.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 AM.

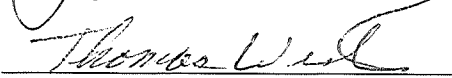
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Kim Wheeler, Chairman



Jim Bayman, Vice Chairman



Thomas Western



Glen LaRue

John Barrett



William Overdeer

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Attest:

Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor

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