

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

July 3, 2018

The Whitley County Council met in regular session at 8:00 am on Tuesday, July 3, 2018 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Thor Hodges, Vice Chairman Chad Banks, Kim Wheeler, James Bayman, Glen LaRue, John Barrett and William Overdeer. Others in attendance were Commissioner George Schrumpf, Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, County Coordinator/Human Resource Director Angela Campbell, EDC President Jon Myers, Alan Tio from MKS, Paula Worden and Julie Jensen-Kelley from Community Corrections, Jody Hollenbaugh from the Sheriff's Department, Sierra Lehman from the EDC, Sheriff Gatton, Sean Martin from the Whitley County Jail, County Assessor Kim Erdly, Tim Kumfer, Janelle Schmitt from the Sheriff's Department and State Representative Christopher Judy.

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHANGE IN VENDORS: County Assessor Kim Erdly informed the Council that she would like to switch her vendor from Thomson Reuters to XSoft. She will be asking them at their meeting in August for an additional appropriation to switch vendors. XSoft offers all of the necessities for reassessment rather than having two vendors and their support and maintenance fees are less. Kim stated that it will make cyclical reassessment go much smoother and allow them to operate more efficiently. The Council came to the consensus that they were in support of the change and would address the additional appropriation request at their August meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS UPDATE: Community Corrections Director Paula Worden and Julie Jensen-Kelley gave a Community Corrections update to the Council. The budget Paula presented to them was the budget that was reviewed and approved effective July 1, 2018. There is an additional full time Shift Supervisor that they requested and was approved which includes the salary and benefits. The Council reviewed the salary ordinance amendment for this new Shift Supervisor position. The annual salary for this position will be \$38,497.95 annually and \$1,425.85 bi-weekly. Council member Bayman made a motion to approve the salary ordinance amendment request for the Shift Supervisor for Community Corrections, seconded by LaRue and passed with a 7/0 vote. They did request continued funding through the Department of Corrections for the Veteran Treatment Court and they did not receive this funding but they did receive the funding from the Office of Court Services. Because Community Corrections budget year ends June 30th and a new budget cycle begins July 1st, they presented their budget to Council in January and Council already gave it their approval. Paula did not submit for any increases but she will once Council makes their decision for salary increases. The Council Chairman Hodges stated that she does not need to attend the department head budget meetings.

IN THE MATTER OF THE TAX ABATEMENT REQUEST: EDC President Jon Myers discussed two different projects with the Council that his office has been working on. The first item he submitted to the Council was in regard to a tax abatement for a new Spec building at Rail Connect Business Park. This would be similar to the project when the Redevelopment Commission built the other Spec building. This is a partnership between the Redevelopment Commission and Whitley RC Investments. Jon is requesting that the Council consider a tax abatement on behalf of Whitley RC Investments. The Commission has owned the property for the last eight years and there were issues with the level of the soil and terrain. Whitley RC Investments is willing to have the dirt work done and build the building as long as the Council approves the abatement and there is interest in the building when it is built. The second request Jon had was for the Council to approve a lease agreement that the Redevelopment Commission has entered into. The lease agreement under the Statute states that when the Redevelopment enters into a lease agreement, the Council shall approve it. The Redevelopment Commission will reimburse the developer for some carrying costs, taxes being the main focus. After the building is leased or sold, whoever leases the building or purchases it, they will get the benefit of the tax abatement. Council member Wheeler stated that the Redevelopment Commission did give this project a favorable recommendation. Council member Wheeler made a motion to approve the tax abatement for Whitley RC Investments per Resolution 2018-03 and the lease agreement, seconded by Overdeer and passed with a 7/0 vote. The additional memo that Jon provided to the Council per email in regard to PD Development which is the abatement the Council approved at the June 5th meeting. This is with the company Wright Medical and it is a similar situation, as with Whitley RC Investments, having to do with the lease agreement. In order to have better control over the funds for this project, the Redevelopment Commission will enter into another lease agreement and will help pay for the road and retention pond. Council member Wheeler made a motion to approve the lease agreement between PB Development, LLC and the Redevelopment Commission per Resolution 2018-04 and the revolving loan fund, seconded by Bayman and carried with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST: The Council reviewed additional appropriation requests:

CEDIT:

1112.42014.000.0433	On Site Off Site Improvements	\$250,000.00
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Cumulative Capital Development:

11308.36004.000.0256	Building Maintenance	\$150,000.00
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Public Safety:

1170.13700.000.0179	Jailer (17)	\$30,845.00
1170.13800.000.0179	Jailer (18)	\$30,845.00

In regard to the CEDIT and Cumulative Capital Development additional appropriation requests, these requests were made due to additional projects that have been approved. Council member Banks made a motion to approve the CEDIT additional appropriation request, seconded by Wheeler and passed with a 7/0 vote. The Cumulative Capital Development additional appropriation request was approved by Council member Bayman, seconded by LaRue and carried with a 7/0 vote. In regard to the Public Safety additional appropriation request, this request was made because the positions were approved at a previous Council meeting but the appropriations were not completed. Council member Banks made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Bayman and passed with a 7/0 vote.

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

- Commissioner Schrumpf presented the 2019 CEDIT plan to the Council and asked them to review it and ask any questions they may have. Schrumpf also requested that a truck for Engineering be purchased out of CEDIT this year because the truck they currently use is in poor shape. The Council was in favor/support of purchasing a new truck out of CEDIT for the Engineering Department.
- Commissioner Schrumpf also informed the Council that the City is expanding their dispatch center.
- Commissioner Schrumpf informed the Council that they are invited to the Mayors and Commissioners Conference on the third Wednesday of the month at 3:30 PM at the Northeast Regional Partnership building on the 9th floor.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES: The Council reviewed the June 5, 2018 minutes. Council member LaRue made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Barrett and carried with a 7/0 vote.

IN OTHER BUSINESS: Auditor Jana Schinbeckler presented a salary ordinance amendment to the Council for the raise for the Field Officer in the Probation Department. Council member Barrett made a motion to approve the salary ordinance amendment, seconded by Banks and passed with a 7/0 vote. Council member Barrett stated that he attended the Council State Called meeting and everyone’s biggest known issue was jail overcrowding in almost every County. State Representative Christopher Judy attended the Council meeting and he informed them that the summer committees are starting up and he is open to suggestions and concerns. He is aware that jail overcrowding is a major issue throughout the State. The Council thanked Chris for attending their meeting.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 AM.


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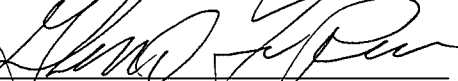
Thor Hodges, Chairman



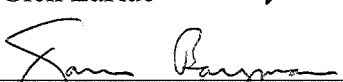
Chad Banks, Vice Chairman



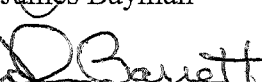
Kim Wheeler



Glen LaRue



James Bayman



John Barrett

William Overdeer

Attest:

Jana L. Schinbeckler
Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor

