

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

January 7, 2020

The Whitley County Council met in regular session at 8:00 am on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 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, Thomas Warner, Timothy Kumfer, John Barrett and William Overdeer. Others in attendance were Commissioner George Schrumpf, Commissioner Don Amber, Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Chief Deputy Auditor Tiffany Forrester, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, Planning Director Nathan Bilger, Sheriff Gatton, Jason Spencer and Janelle Schmitt from the Sheriff's Department, Paula Worden from Community Corrections, County Assessor Kim Erdly, Kelley Sheiss, Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library, County Treasurer Laurell Schroeder, Chief Deputy Treasurer Kay Gatton, Commissioner's Assistant Jennifer Shinabery and EMA Director Amy Biggs.

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Councilman Wheeler nominated Councilman Banks as the Chairman, Councilman Kumfer seconded the nomination. Councilman Overdeer made a motion for Councilman Banks to be the Council Chairman, seconded by Barrett and passed with a 6/0 vote with Banks abstaining. Councilman Warner made a motion for Councilman Wheeler to be Vice Chairman, seconded by Barrett and carried with a 6/0 vote with Wheeler abstaining.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADDITIONAL CAR MONEY & NEW DISPATCH POSITION: Sheriff Gatton was present to request additional funds in Cumulative Capital Development for Sheriff vehicles. The Council appropriated \$75,000 for 2020 and Sheriff Gatton stated that the cost of Chargers has went up and he will need \$90,000 for 2020. The additional appropriation will be advertised and considered for approval at the next Council meeting. Sheriff Gatton and Janelle Schmitt were also present to request an additional dispatcher. The base salary for the position is \$45,035 plus benefits and the additional position is needed due to the amount of PTO time the current employees have and they need coverage. Janelle would like to have at least three employees on second shift because it is their busiest shift and right now they only have two working second shift. The additional appropriation for the additional dispatcher and the salary ordinance amendment will be considered for approval at the February Council meeting as well.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST: County Prosecutor DJ Sigler was present to request an additional appropriation for the Prosecutor Incentive fund. The Prosecutor Incentive fund is money that the County receives to collect back child support. He would like to allocate these funds to allow Community Corrections to provide job training services to their residents.

Prosecutor Incentive:

8897.30000.000.0209	Professional Services	\$7,200
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Councilman Hodges made a motion to approve the additional appropriation request, seconded by Barrett and passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADDITIONAL PART TIME POSITION: County Treasurer Laurell Schroeder was present to request an additional part time person in the Treasurer's Office. This is due to her Chief Deputy having nine weeks of PTO this year and Laurell also will be out for a surgery. The new part time person would work 20 hours per week, so Laurell would need an additional \$13,500 for their wages in her budget. Councilman Overdeer made a motion to approve the additional part time person and for the \$13,500 to come out of County General, seconded by Barrett and passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE: County Assessor Kim Erdly was present to inform the Council of what her responsibility as the Assessor is and her office. The handouts she gave to Council informed them of the State deadlines that the Assessor's Office is required to meet. She also stressed how important the Assessor's Office is to the entire budget process and the County's ability to collect tax dollars.

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHIEF DEPUTY SALARIES: Auditor Schinbeckler asked for clarification from the Council on the Chief Deputy salaries. The Chief Deputies were given the \$1,200 cost of living increase but wanted to clarify whether they received the 85% of the Elected Officials salary as well per the Waggoner Irwin Scheele report. Councilman Hodges made a motion to approve the Chief Deputies salaries as 85% of the Elected Officials salaries with the \$1,200 cost of living increase, seconded by Warner and carried with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE FOR ACCOUNTS: Auditor Schinbeckler presented account name changes in the financial system for the salary ordinance to match the job descriptions that Waggoner Irwin Scheele provided to the County. The amendments need approved by the Council and placed with the salary ordinance. Councilman Kumfer made a motion to approve the account name changes for the salary ordinance, seconded by Wheeler and passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR COST OF LIVING INCREASE:

Paula Worden from Community Corrections informed the Council that she will not be able to fund the external midpoint difference and the \$1,200 cost of living increase out of her grant funds. She is asking that the Council appropriate the increase elsewhere to allow her employees to still receive the increases. Councilman Hodges made a motion for the increases for Community Corrections to be paid out of County General, seconded by Kumfer and passed with a 7/0 vote.

County General:

Fund: 1000 \$143,171.00

Public Safety:

Fund: 1170 \$30,000.00

Motor Vehicle Highway:

Fund: 1176 \$1,200.00

E911:

Fund: 1222 \$7,200.00

Highway:

Fund: 4176 \$6,000.00

Councilman Hodges made a motion to approve the additional appropriations for the cost of living increases, seconded by Wheeler and passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ENCUMBRANCE REQUESTS: Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester presented encumbrance requests to the Council.

Cumulative Bridge:

1135.39600.000.0203 Bridge Replacement \$705,750.00

Councilman Hodges made a motion to approve the encumbrance for the Cumulative Bridge fund, seconded by Barrett and passed with a 7/0 vote.

Local Road & Street:

1169.41001.000.0217 Equipment \$236,587.22

Councilman Hodges made a motion to approve the encumbrance for the Local Road & Street fund, seconded by Warner and passed with a 7/0 vote.

Highway:

4176.27100.000.0201 Sodium Chloride \$4,277.50

Councilman Barrett made a motion to approve the encumbrance for the Highway fund, seconded by Overdeer and carried with a 7/0 vote.

Emergency Management Director Amy Biggs presented four encumbrance requests to the Council.

County General:

1000.21000.000.0146 Operating Supplies \$6,664.63

1000.37000.000.0146 Equip & Program Maint \$4,086.97

1000.37004.000.0146 Equip Repair & Maint \$1,950.03

Councilman Overdeer made a motion to approve the encumbrance requests for County General, seconded by Hodges and passed with a 7/0 vote.

Laura Weigold from the Health Department presented an encumbrance request to Council.

Health:

1159.37004.000.0214 Equip Repair & Maint \$2,512.11

Councilman Kumfer made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Wheeler and carried with a 7/0 vote.

Cindy Barnett turned in an encumbrance request to Council for approval.

County General:

1000.33003.000.0123 Travel & Mileage \$698.82

Councilman Hodges made a motion to approve the encumbrance request for the Extension Office, seconded by Kumfer and carried with a 7/0 vote.

Planning Director Nathan Bilger presented an encumbrance request to Council for approval.

County General:

1000.30000.000.0124 Professional Services \$7,316.10

Councilman Warner made a motion to approve the encumbrance request, seconded by Wheeler and carried with a 7/0 vote.

Commissioner Amber presented an encumbrance request to Council for approval.

County General:

1000.36004.000.130 Building Maintenance \$131,401.76

Councilman Barrett made a motion to approve the encumbrance request, seconded by Overdeer and passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2019 BOARD APPOINTMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS: The Council reviewed the board appointments and assignments for 2020. Councilman Barrett made a motion to leave all board appointments and assignments the same for 2020, seconded by Hodges and passed with a 7/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Commissioner Amber gave a report from the Commissioner meeting:

- The Commissioners passed an ordinance for River Road restricting truck traffic.
- They approved a plat for Oak Creek Section 3 Secondary Plat.
- In regard to the landfill, there will be approximately \$10,000 in expenses that the Indiana Department of Environmental Management is making mandatory for the County.

IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES: The Council reviewed the December 3, 2019 regular meeting minutes. There was one correction under, "In the Matter of the 2020 salary ordinance". It reads a 70 vote and it should read a 7/0 vote. Councilman Overdeer made a motion to approve the minutes with this correction, seconded by Kumfer and passed with a 7/0 vote. The Council reviewed the special meeting minutes from December 23, 2019. Councilman Barrett made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Wheeler and carried with a 7/0 vote.


IN OTHER BUSINESS: Councilman Kumfer stated that he and Thor attended a meeting at the Community Foundation that was geared towards reducing recidivism.

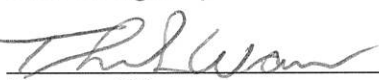
There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Hodges adjourned the meeting at 9:55 AM.

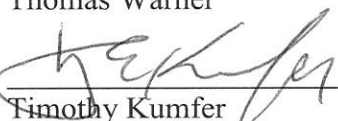
WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL


Chad Banks, Chairman

Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman


Thor Hodges

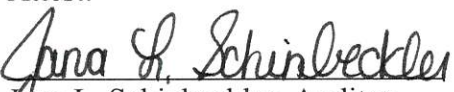

Thomas Warner


Timothy Kumfer

John Barrett


William Overdeer

Attest:


Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor

