

# WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

August 4, 2020

The Whitley County Council met in regular session at 8:00 am on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chairman Chad Banks, Vice Chair Kim Wheeler, Thomas Warner, Timothy Kumfer, Thor Hodges, William Overdeer and John Barrett. Others in attendance were Commissioners Amber and Schruppf, Chief Deputy Auditor Tiffany Forrester, James Argerbright, Doug Fahl, Prosecutor DJ Sigler, Whitley County Treasurer Laurell Schroeder, Whitley County Recorder Rosemary Brown, Becky Salaway from Council on Aging, Tim Summers, Dale Buuck from Whitley County EDC, Jeff Mize from Ag Plus and Mary Hartman from the Peabody Public Library.

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST:** Prosecutor DJ Sigler was present to seek approval from Council to pay a performance bonus for IV-D out of his Incentive Funds. DJ was present at the July Council meeting and Council requested that he bring back Salary Ordinance amendments for the August meeting. This would be something that would be re-evaluated every year and does not change their pay. Councilman Barrett made a motion to approve the additional with a second by Kumfer, passing with a 6/0 vote with Councilman Hodges abstaining.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUEST:** Judge Fahl was present to ask for an additional appropriation as a budget fix request. He had not asked for this request on his 2020 budget and forgot until he needed to pay out a mediator, which these funds are used for. He is asking for \$5,000 to put in his Alternative Dispute Resolution fund. Councilman Overdeer made a motion to approve the additional appropriation request, with a second by Hodges passing with a 7/0 vote.

**IN THE MATTER OF AG PLUS ABATEMENT REQUEST:** Dale Buuck from Whitley County Economic Development was present with Jeff Mize from AG Plus asking for a real and personal 10 year tax abatement. This request for a new building to be added to hold inventory. A motion was made by Councilman Wheeler to approve Resolution number 2020-05. Second by Councilman Overdeer passing with a 6/0 vote with Councilman Warner abstaining.

Dale was also present to discuss a couple of CF -1's that had not been approved/signed by Council yet, one being Gator Cases. Dale had Troy from Gator Cases in so that he can update the Council on the inconsistencies in numbers on the CF 1. Troy explained that their business has been hit hard with the COVID situation, and they hope that their numbers will increase over time. Dale also spoke on behalf of Advanced Materials and Coupled Products. Council gave Councilman Banks permission to sign Gator Cases and Advanced Materials CF-1'S. They found that Coupled Products was not in compliance and are not signing that CF-1.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT:** Mary Hartman from the Peabody Library was present to have Council select a new board of trustee's appointment. There were 6 qualified applicants that she presented to the Council. Council decided to do a vote by paper to see if they could get a majority agreement that way. 5 votes were for Carmen Jagger so she has been selected for the board.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** Commissioner Amber wanted to start his report with Becky Salaway from the Council on Aging with a request that she had. Her funding for 2021 was cut by \$11,000 and is seeking approval to have Commissioners up their appropriation from \$40,000 to \$51,000 for the 2021 budget. Councilman Overdeer made a motion to approve the increase in the CEDIT budget with a second by Wheeler, passing with a 7/0 vote. There was some discussion about funding Community Corrections 2021 budget out of the Jail Tax, upon review only 20% of that fund can be used for operations. After some discussion Council has requested that the rest of the funds will come out of County General.


**IN THE MATTER OF MINUTES:** The Council reviewed the July 7, 2020 regular meeting minutes. Councilman Hodges made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Wheeler and carried with a 7/0 vote.

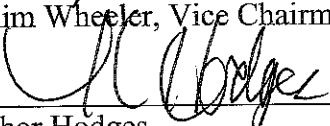
**IN THE MATTER OF OTHER BUSINESS:** Whitley County Treasurer Laurell Schroeder wanted to ask the Council to make a decision on the tax software that she and Auditor Schinbeckler had requested to use starting 2021. After some discussion the Council has agreed that this should come out of the 2020 budget out of the General Fund. Councilman Barrett made a motion to approve the tax software change to be paid out of the 2020 budget, second by Kumfer passing with a 6/0 vote.


There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chairman Banks adjourned the meeting at 9:50 AM.

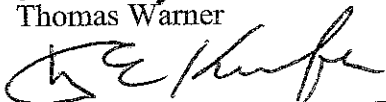
WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

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Chad Banks, Chairman

  
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Kim Wheeler, Vice Chairman

  
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Thor Hodges

  
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Thomas Warner

  
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Timothy Kumfer

  
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John Barrett

  
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William Overdeer

Attest:

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Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor