

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL

June 8, 2021

The Whitley County Council met in session at 8:00 am on Tuesday, June 8, 2021, in the Commissioner's Room located on the first floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Members in attendance were Chair Thor Hodges, Vice Chair Kim Wheeler, Timothy Kumfer, James Argerbright, Joan Western and John Barrett. Absent was Council member Thomas Warner. Other in attendance were Auditor Jana Schinbeckler, Human Resources Director Jennifer Shinabery, Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer, Chief Deputy Auditor Tiffany Deakins, Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester, Juvenile Probation Officer Jennifer Christie, Kurt Carlson, and Mista Lauber from the Bowen Center, Will Gross and Jay Baumgartner from the Bowen Center.

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

BOWEN CENTER UPDATE: Mista Lauber gave the Council a Bowen Center update. She informed them that they have worked in jails, schools, libraries, homes, etc. over the last year. They served 1,966 patients in Whitley County in 2020. Bowen Center also had 34 Department of Child Services cases in Whitley County and each one of those closed successfully. Bowen Center helps with many different matters and they strive to strengthen the community and improve the health and well-being of those who they serve. Mista reported to the Council that the Bowen Center's revenue for Whitley County for 2020 was \$4,300,000.

JDAI TRANSFER RESOLUTION: Jennifer Christie was present to request the approval of three JDAI transfer resolutions.

JDAI A:

8111.30000.000.8211	Professional Services	8111.40000.000.8211	Equipment	\$2,783.67
8111.20000.000.8111	Supplies	8111.20000.000.8111	Supplies	\$1,779.94
8111.30000.000.8111	Professional Services	8111.20000.000.8111	Supplies	\$3,482.64

JDAI B:

8211.30000.000.8211	Professional Services	8111.20000.000.8211	Supplies	\$3,178.44
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Council member Barrett made a motion to approve the transfer requests, seconded by Argerbright and passed with a 6/0 vote.

VERBAL COMMITMENT OF FUNDS TOWARDS LOCAL ROAD AND STREET EQUIPMENT:

Highway Engineer Brandon Forrester requested a verbal commitment from Council to budget funds for him to purchase equipment out of the Local Road and Street fund. Brandon would like to budget for two tandem axle dump trucks for 2022. If the Council gives a verbal agreement for the budget, Brandon will send out bids for the trucks. After discussion, Council gave a verbal commitment to budget for the trucks for purchase.

ADVANCED TIME TIMEKEEPING UPDATE: Auditor Schinbeckler stated that she worked with the County attorney Matt Shipman and he stated that the contract with the Right Stuff requires us to give a 90-day termination notice. The County has paid for their services through the end of the year and the contract does not allow for a refund. Attorney Shipman recommended that we give notice at the end of September/beginning of October to allow us a transition period through the end of the year. Auditor Schinbeckler is requesting that the Council allow the Commissioners to sign the agreement with Advanced Time so the County can get on the schedule for the software installation and the training that is involved. Council member Western stated that this would be a benefit to the County with the cost savings. Council member Kumfer made a motion to approve the Commissioner to sign the agreement, seconded by Barrett and carried with a 6/0 vote.

CF-1 APPROVALS FOR ABATEMENTS: EDC President Dale Buuck stated that he and Auditor Jana Schinbeckler reviewed the CF-1 forms, and they are all in compliance. Council member Barrett made a motion to approve the CF-1 forms pending the Chair's review and allow the Chair to sign, seconded by Wheeler, and passed with a 6/0 vote.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Commissioner Schrumpf gave a report from the Commissioner Meeting:

- Commissioner Schrumpf informed the Council that the Commissioners adopted two resolutions at their meeting on June 8, 2021. The first resolution was in support of the 2nd amendment and the second resolution was a resolution in support of human life.
- The County will be receiving \$6,597,109 over the next two years for the American Rescue Plan Act. The Commissioners adopted an ordinance to establish a fund for the money, but Council will have to appropriate the funds once the plan for the funds is approved. Commissioner Schrumpf recommended that the Commissioners and Council form a committee to create a plan. Council member Kumfer recommended Council member Wheeler, Barrett and Argerbright for the committee. All the Council members agreed to be on the committee.

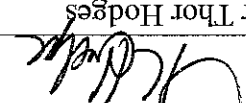
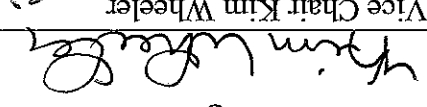
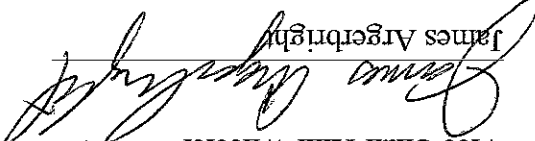
- Commissioner Schrumpt presented the purchase agreement for the Armstrong property. After discussions with bond counsel, they are recommending that the County make a one-time payment of \$350,000 instead of \$300,000. This purchase price is lower than the commercial appraisal the Commissioners received. Council member Argerbright made a motion to approve the purchase agreement and for the purchase price not to exceed \$350,000, seconded by Wheeler and carried with a 5/1 vote with Hodges abstaining.
- The Commissioners approved the \$500 entry fee for the YMCA Corporate Challenge for County employees.

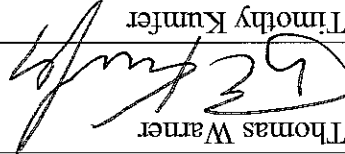
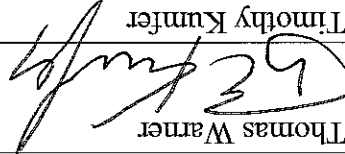
MINUTES: The Council reviewed the May 4, 2021 regular meeting minutes. Council member Barrett made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Kummer and passed with a 6/0 vote.

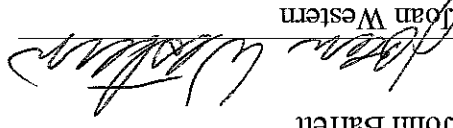
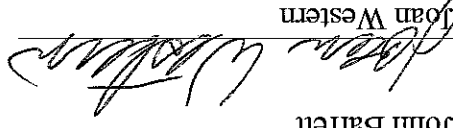
OTHER BUSINESS: Chair Hodges reminded the Council that the budget meeting with department heads is Wednesday, June 16, 2021.

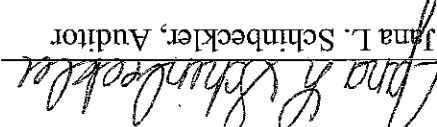
There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chair Hodges adjourned the meeting at 9:00 AM.

WHITLEY COUNTY COUNCIL


 Chair Thor Hodges

 Vice Chair Kim Wheeler

 James Argerbright


 Thomas Warner

 Timothy Kummer


 John Barrett

 Joan Western

Attest:

 Jana L. Schinbeckler, Auditor