

WHITLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 15, 2022

The Whitley County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, August 15, 2022, at 1:00 PM in the Commissioners' Room located on the 1st floor of the Whitley County Government Center. Commissioners in attendance were Chair Chad Banks, Vice Chair Theresa Baysinger and Commissioner Schrumpf. Others in attendance were Attorney Matt Shipman, Auditor Tiffany Deakins, Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer, Chief Deputy Auditor Tamela Tincher, Planning and Building Director Nathan Bilger, Councilman James Argerbright, Treasurer Kay Gatton, Scott Wagner, Communications Director Janelle Schmitt, Ronda Salge, Mary Colcord, Thomas Western and Rob Schuman.

Chair Banks opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Shipman stated that he had nothing to report other than agenda items.

IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE APPROVALS & RO UNIT: Scott Wagner from the Health Department was present to seek approval for two ordinance amendments that pertained to the food establishment Ordinance 2019-12. The first approval was for Ordinance 2022-15 that updated the fee schedule for prior Ordinance 2019-12. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve, with a second by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote. The second request was for Ordinance 2022-16 which is also an amendment for Ordinance 2019-12 changing the verbiage relating to needing a new permit for a new owner. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve Ordinance 2022-16, with a second by Baysinger, and passed with a 3/0 vote. Scott was also seeking approval to add a reverse osmosis unit to the Government Center like maintenance has already done with the Highway Department. Commissioner's Assistant Cami Hippenhammer had e-mail confirmation from all but one department head that stated this would benefit their office if it was installed. Scott also stated that this would help with offices that are paying Culligan and other vendors for water delivery. The system should work just fine for the number of employees that are in the building so a corporate unit would not be necessary. The Health Department has a grant that will cover the initial costs of installing the unit and the filters that would be necessary for upkeep. Maintenance can change the filters when needed, Scott has already spoke with Maintenance Director Mark Sturtevant about this. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve the request, with a second by Baysinger, and carried with a 3/0 vote.

PLAT APPROVALS: Planning Director Nathan Bilger was present to present two plats for Commissioner approval. The first being Proegler Estates a 2-lot plat in Jefferson Township. It was reviewed and approved in the July Plan Commission meeting. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve, with a second by Schrumpf, and carried with a 3/0 vote. The second plat was also approved in the July Plan Commission meeting. Douglas Western Subdivision is off of State Road 5 North in Larwill and would be adding acreage to allow for all buildings and home to be on a 1 lot plat. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve the plat with a second by Baysinger and carried with a 3/0 vote.

IN THE MATTER OF AMERICAN LEGAL CODE: Auditor Tiffany Deakins spoke on behalf of needing approval from the Commissioners to move forward with having American Legal update the County's Code of Ordinances book. This should be completed annually and for several years it was missed, 2021 was the first year since 2014 that the book had been updated. Deakins would like to make sure that we are up to date and would like to move forward with this annually again. The expense has been paid from the Commissioner budget previously and she would like this to continue to be paid that way. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the request with a second by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote, stating that the also be paid from the Commissioners budget.

FACILITIES REQUESTS: Commissioner Banks presented a facility request for Sharon Geiger to allow for her antiques pop-up market to be on the Courthouse lawn every Saturday morning alongside the Farmer's Market. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the request with a second by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

MINUTES AND CLAIMS: The claim distributions from August 2, 2022, through August 15, 2022, were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Baysinger checked the accounts payable, and payroll claims and noted that there were no concerns. Baysinger made a motion to approve the payroll claims, seconded by Schrumpf and passed with a 3/0 vote. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the accounts payable claims, with a second by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote. The Commissioners reviewed two sets of regular meeting minutes from July 18 and August 1, 2022. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion to approve the July 18th minutes, with a second by Banks and passed with a 2/0 vote with Schrumpf abstaining. Commissioner Schrumpf made a motion to approve the August 1, 2022, meeting minutes with a second by Baysinger and carried with a 2/0 vote, with Banks abstaining.

Scott Wagner from the Health Department wanted to give an update on questions that the Health Department has been receiving pertaining to the Monkey Pox vaccine. The vaccine is normally only given to people with symptoms or who have Monkey Pox. If anyone has any questions, please call the Health Department and they can answer those.

Attorney Shipman stated that a new Interlocal Agreement with the Solid Waste District will be coming to the Commissioners at their next meeting, some changes were made pertaining to the Treasurer's office and fees. Commissioner Banks stated that another change will need to take place probably in January as the Commissioners would like to increase the rent from \$6,000/year to \$7,500/year.

Commissioner Schrumpf wanted to let Commissioners know that he was approached about getting the GPS system that is on the top of the Government Center fixed as it is utilized by our Engineering office for drains, and it is not working presently. The cost to fix this would be \$7,500. Commissioner Baysinger made a motion for a favorable pass to have the Engineering Office go before Council and ask for an additional appropriation to cover these costs. Seconded by Schrumpf and carried with a 3/0 vote.

Commissioner Baysinger stated that she would like to start the conversation for the possibility of having at least one meeting per month be in the evening so that if public that works during the day would like to attend, they have that option. Baysinger stated that she knows it is not what the department heads would like, however she would like to discuss the option.

There being no further business and no further questions or comments from the public, Chair Banks adjourned the meeting at 1:35 PM.

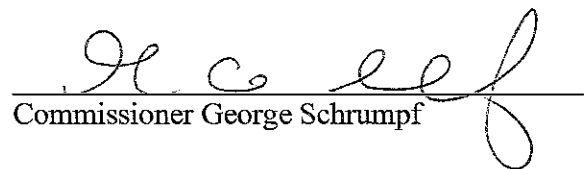
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Chair Chad Banks



Vice Chair Theresa Baysinger



Commissioner George Schrumpf

Attest: 

Tiffany Deakins, Auditor