

**SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**

**REGULAR SESSION**

The LaGrange County Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, in their meeting room, County Office Building, 114 W. Michigan Street, LaGrange, Indiana, 46761, at 8:30 a.m., with the following present: Commissioners, Mr. Terry A. Martin, Mr. Peter A. Cook and Mr. Kevin Myers and LaGrange County Auditor, Kathryn Hopper. Mr. Terry Martin, President, called the meeting to order and led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to adopt the proposed agenda with flexibility. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**NUISANCE HEARING – 7180 N 1145 W, SHIPSEWANA, INDIANA**

Mr. Eric Schoenherr, Code Enforcement Officer, reported that the property located at 7180 N 1145 W, Shipshewana, Indiana, owned by Casa Ricca Investments, LLC. Mr. Schoenherr explained that the property is located at Stone Lake and explained that there are overgrown trees and bushes, tall grass, and an abandoned vehicle on the property. An order was issued on July 31, 2024. He is requesting that fines be implemented at \$100 per week beginning on July 31, 2024 and continue until the nuisance is abated. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to amend the order, implement the fines retroactive to July 31, 2024, and authorize the president to sign the order outside of a public meeting. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**COMPOST FACILITY**

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, explained that he has received notice from the Attorney General that an individual has filed a complaint with the County Building Department, regarding the failure to provide a compost facility in the community. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion authorizing Mr. Bachman to respond to the Attorney General and to authorize the president to sign and documents if needed. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ARPA SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT – ARC OPPORTUNITIES INC.**

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, presented an ARPA Subrecipient Agreement with ARC Opportunities Inc. The Agreement is in the amount of \$73,068 for the grant match for the purchase of a new van and two vehicles. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the agreement and to authorize the president to sign the agreement. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ARPA SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT – LAGRANGE COUNTY CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU, LTD.**

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, presented an ARPA Subrecipient Agreement with the LaGrange County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Ltd. The Agreement is in the amount of \$33,000 for the National Travel Center to complete the trail and render a Byway plan and application ready to be considered by INDOT. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the agreement and to authorize the president to sign the agreement. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DIRECTOR**

Mrs. Sherri Johnston, LaGrange County Economic Development Corporation Chief Executive Officer, reported that the Comprehensive Plan Director resigned last month. She is proposing that the position be taken over by the Economic Development Corporation (EDC). The contract would be revised to be with the EDC. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the program to be taken over by the Economic Development Corporation. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried with Mr. Terry Martin abstaining.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – PURCHASE OF PLOTTER FOR GIS**

Mr. Marc Peterson, Information Technology Director, requested permission to purchase a plotter for the GIS Department. The cost is \$7,700 for a Canon Image GP 4600S. This will replace the present plotter. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the purchase. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MAINTENANCE – PAVING OF PARKING LOT**

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Mr. Gary Mast, Maintenance Director, presented quotes to pave the parking lot adjacent to the County Office Building. The lowest quote is from API Construction Corp., in the amount of \$14,200. The work would be completed in the spring of 2025. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the quote. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PARK – REQUEST FOR SIDING AT MAPLEWOOD NATURE CENTER**

Mrs. Mark Franke, Park Director, explained that she has received quotes for siding at Maplewood Nature Center. The lowest quote for the siding is \$7,195.61. She is requesting ARPA funds for this project. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to give a positive recommendation to the County Council for the funding for siding at Maplewood. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY – REQUEST TO APPLY FOR A GRANT**

Mr. Bill Morr, Emergency Management Agency Director, requested permission to apply for a Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant. The grant is for \$6,000 and will be used to a full-scale exercise with Steuben County. Steuben County is also applying for a grant of \$6,000. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the grant application. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VOUCHERS**

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, presented the Accounts Payable Vouchers. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the vouchers. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MINUTES**


Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2024 regular session meeting and the August 26, 2024 joint session meeting and executive session. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MEMORANDUM**

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the memorandum for the August 28, 2024 staff meeting. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

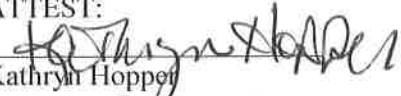
There being nothing further to come before the Board at this time, Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to adjourn and meet on any subsequent day necessary to carry on the business of the Board. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

  
Terry A. Martin

  
Peter A. Cook

  
Kevin R. Myers

ATTEST:

  
Kathryn Hopper  
LaGrange County Auditor