

JANUARY 20, 2026

**REGULAR SESSION**

The LaGrange County Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 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 R. 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. Kevin Myers made a motion to adopt the proposed agenda with flexibility. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LAGRANGE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION - APPOINTMENT**

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, explained that the appointment of Mr. James R. Young for appointment to the LaGrange County Economic Development Commission will be expiring. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to appoint Mr. James R. Young to the LaGrange County Economic Development Commission for the term of February 1, 2026 until February 1, 2030. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**COUNCIL ON AGING – TRANSFER OF VEHICLE TITLES TO INDOT**

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, explained that the Indiana Department of Transportation has a new requirement. They are requesting the transfer of the titles from the Council on Aging vehicles to the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT). Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to transfer the titles to INDOT. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PARK – TRANSFER OF VEHICLE TITLE TO SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Mrs. Kathy Hopper, County Auditor, explained that in March 2025, the Park Department transferred a 2014 John Deere Gator to the Soil and Water Conservation District. The title needs to be transferred at this time. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to transfer the title and to authorize the president to sign the title. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**INSPIRATION MINISTRIES – INDIANA OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND RURAL AFFAIRS GRANT**

Mrs. Kathy Hopper, County Auditor, presented two letters that Inspiration Ministries is requesting be sent for the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (IOCRA) application. The letters are to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to send the letter and to authorize the president to sign the letters. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS IN CERTAIN CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT**

Mrs. Connie Brower, County Treasurer, presented the following Ordinance for consideration:

COUNTY OF LAGRANGE  
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01-20-A  
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE INVESTMENT OF  
PUBLIC FUNDS IN CERTAIN CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

WHEREAS, pursuant to Indiana Code ("IC") 5-13-4-16, an "investing officer" is defined as "the person having authority by law to invest for the political subdivision, or, if there is no law, the person designated by resolution of the fiscal body";

WHEREAS, pursuant to IC 36-1-2-9, the Board of Commissioners of the County of LaGrange ("Commissioners") is the legislative body of LaGrange County, Indiana ("County");

WHEREAS, pursuant to IC 5-13-9-5, a board of county commissioners may, by ordinance, authorize the investing officer to invest in certificates of deposit of depositories that have not been designated by the local board of finance but have been designated by the state board of finance as a depository for state deposits under IC 5-13-9.5; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners desire to authorize the investing officer to invest in certificates of deposit to the fullest extent of applicable law within the parameters of the County's general investment policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF LAGRANGE, INDIANA THAT:

SECTION I – NAME

The name of this ordinance shall be the "2026 CD Investment Ordinance."

SECTION II – RECITALS

The Commissioners hereby incorporate the foregoing recitals, including all defined terms, into this ordinance and find them to be true, accurate, and correct.

SECTION III – DEFINITIONS

- A. General. Whenever used in this ordinance, the following terms shall have those meanings herein ascribed to them unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.
  - 1. "Act" refers to Public Law 19-1987, as codified into the Indiana Code at IC 5-13, and as may have been or may be subsequently amended from time to time.
  - 2. "Board" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Investment Policy.
  - 3. "Depository" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Act.
  - 4. "Investing officer" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Investment Policy.
  - 5. "Investment" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Investment Policy.
  - 6. "Investment Policy" refers to the LaGrange County Investment Policy, as adopted by the Investment Policy Adoption Ordinance.
  - 7. "Public funds" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Investment Policy.
  - 8. "State board of finance" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Act.

- B. Determination. The Commissioners shall have the final authority in determining the meaning of these terms.

SECTION IV – CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

- A. Investment Authority. In accordance with IC 5-13-9-5, the Act, and the Investment Policy, the investing officer is hereby authorized to invest public funds in certificates of deposit of depositories that have not been approved by the Board but have been designated by the state board of finance as a depository for state deposits under IC 5-13-9.5.
- B. Expiration. The authority granted by this ordinance expires on December 31, 2026.

SECTION V – MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Extraneous Claims Barred. This ordinance is intended only to improve the internal management of the County. Notwithstanding anything in this ordinance to the contrary, nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to create any new legal duty, right, or benefit, whether substantive or procedural, enforceable against the County; nor to waive or diminish any protection that may apply to the County or any of its elected or appointed officials, employees, agents, or representatives under any applicable law providing governmental immunity, nor any other right, protection, immunity, defense, or limitation on liability that the County or such related parties is provided by applicable law.
- B. External Review. Nothing in this ordinance shall subject an investment that is otherwise lawful under the Act to additional review by the Indiana State Board of Accounts or by any other external agency.

C. References.

1. Except where a specific version or edition is given, reference to another section of this ordinance or to another law, document, fund, department, board, program, public servant, or public office, shall extend and apply to the same, as may be subsequently amended, revised, recodified, renamed, reappointed, or renumbered from time to time.
2. Reference in this ordinance to a law, document, fund, department, board, program, public servant, or public office, either generally or by title, without reference to another jurisdiction, shall be construed as though it were preceded or followed, as appropriate, by the words "(of) LaGrange County (Indiana)."
3. Should a provision of this ordinance require an act to be done which, by law, an agent or deputy may do instead of the principal, the requirement is satisfied by the performance of the act by an authorized agent or deputy.

D. Conflicts. No part of this ordinance shall be interpreted to conflict with any local, state, or federal laws, and all reasonable efforts should be made to harmonize same.

E. Severability. Should any section or part thereof of this ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the decision shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole, or any other portion thereof, and for this purpose the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

F. Promulgation. The Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary or proper to authenticate, record, publish, promulgate, and/or otherwise make this ordinance effective.

G. Codification. Even if this ordinance has expired, it may be codified as long as its most recent expiration date is conspicuously shown. The Definitions section does not need to be codified where it would be redundant with the Investment Policy Adoption Ordinance.

H. Retroactive Effective Date. This ordinance shall be deemed effective as of, and retroactive to, January 1, 2026.

I. Expiration. This ordinance expires on December 31, 2026.

Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AMENDMENT TO THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE**

Mrs. Robbie Miller, Plan Administrator, presented the following Ordinance for consideration:

LAGRANGE COUNTY, INDIANA  
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01-20-B

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MAPS OF THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE  
LAGRANGE COUNTY, INDIANA FOR THE PURPOSE OF CHANGING THE ZONING  
CLASSIFICATION AND USES ALLOWED ON THE PARTICULAR REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED  
HEREIN

WHEREAS, on August 19, 2024, pursuant to Indiana Code ("IC") 36-7-4-606, the Board of Commissioners of the County of LaGrange ("Commissioners") adopted the Unified Development Ordinance of LaGrange County, Indiana (Ordinance 2024-08-19-A or "UDO");

WHEREAS, the UDO is the zoning ordinance for LaGrange County, Indiana ("County") and incorporates by reference the various zoning maps and classifications of the County;

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WHEREAS, pursuant to IC 36-7-4-602(c)(1)(B), after the zoning ordinance for a jurisdiction has been adopted, a proposal to change the zoning maps with respect to a specified area of the County may be initiated by a petition signed by property owners who own at least 50% of the land involved;

WHEREAS, Yoder, Lyle R & Katie M (collectively, "Landowner") has at least a 50% ownership interest in the real property located at 6200 S 400 W & S 400 W., Topeka, IN 46571 identified as Parcels 44-11-29-200-007.000-005 & 44-11-29-200-014.000-005 in the records of the Office of the County Auditor, and more particularly described as follows:

Situated in the County of LaGrange, State of Indiana, described as follows:

A tract of land located in the Northeast Quarter of Section 29, Township 36 North, Range 09 East, in Clearspring Civil Township, LaGrange County, Indiana. Said tract being an Original Survey prepared by Scott D. Zeigler, PS#LS29600008, dba Hand to the Plow Surveying, LLC; 5678 West-350 South, Albion, Indiana 46701, said survey being represented as Plat of Survey #36-09-29-100-004, said tract of land being part of those tracts of land conveyed Lyle R. and Katie M. Yoder, as described in LaGrange County Document Numbers 00-10-0435, 15120274, and 202105087, and being more particularly described as follows, to-wit:

Commencing at the Northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 29, also being the Northeast corner of said Yoder tract of land (Deed 00-10-0435), said point being marked by a Harrison Marker; thence South 00 degrees 01 minutes 39 seconds East (Grid-Indiana GCS-LaGrange County) (recorded as South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East and South 00 degrees 10 minutes 18 seconds East), along the East line of said Northeast Quarter, for 166.19 feet to a Zeigler Marker Spike, said point also being the Point of Beginning; thence South 89 degrees 19 minutes 22 seconds West, parallel with the North line of said Northeast Quarter, for 94.93 feet to a #5 Zeigler Rebar; thence South 49 degrees 59 minutes 58 seconds West, for 79.63 feet to a #5 Zeigler Rebar; thence South 89 degrees 19 minutes 22 seconds West, parallel with North line of said Northeast Quarter; for 243.87 feet to the West line of said Yoder tract of land, said point of being marked by a #5 Zeiger Rebar; thence South 00 degrees 01 minutes 39 seconds East (recorded as South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East and South 00 degrees 10 minutes 18 seconds East), along the West line of said Yoder tract of land, for 1103.34 feet to the South line of the North half of said Northeast Quarter, also being the South Line of said Yoder Tract of land (Deed 202105087), said point being marked by a #5 Taylor Rebar; thence North 89 degrees 08 minutes 54 seconds East, along aforementioned South line, for 399.85 feet (recorded as North 89 degrees 00 minutes 32 seconds East, for 399.93 feet); thence North 00 degrees 01 minutes 39 seconds West (recorded as North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West and North 00 degrees 10 minutes 18 seconds West), along the East line of said Northeast Quarter, also being the East line of all said Yoder tracts of land, for 1,152.58 feet to the Point of Beginning, said tract containing 10.27 Acres, more or less.

(collectively, the "Real Estate");

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 13.03 and 13.04 of the UDO, Landowner has caused a completed application to be filed with the Zoning Administrator to amend the zoning maps of the UDO such that the Real Estate be reclassified from A-2 to PUD ("Proposal");

WHEREAS, on January 13th, 2026, pursuant to IC 36-7-4-602(c)(4) and -608(b), after having provided legal notice to all interested parties in accordance with IC 36-7-4-604, the LaGrange County Plan Commission ("Plan Commission") conducted a public hearing on the Proposal;

WHEREAS, on January 13th, 2026, pursuant to IC 36-7-4-602(c)(5) and IC 36-7-4-605, a copy of the Proposal, which is hereby incorporated by reference, was certified to the Commissioners with a favorable recommendation;

WHEREAS, on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, pursuant to IC 36-7-4-602(c)(6) and IC 36-7-4-608, the Commissioners considered the Proposal at its regular meeting, after first having given notice under IC 5-14-1.5-5 of its intention to consider the Proposal at the meeting;

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WHEREAS, pursuant to IC 36-7-4-603, in preparing and considering the Proposal, both the Plan Commission and Commissioners have paid reasonable regard to the statutory criteria set forth therein; *and*

WHEREAS, a motion to adopt this ordinance was substantively introduced and seconded by members of the Commissioners constituting a legal quorum present at a public meeting, which was duly called pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 by a notice stating its date, time, place, and purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF LAGRANGE, INDIANA, THAT:

**SECTION I – MAP AMENDMENT**

- A. Recitals. The foregoing recitals, including all defined terms, are hereby incorporated into, and made a part of, this ordinance and found to be true, accurate, and correct.
- B. Proposal. The certified Proposal is hereby approved and adopted.
- C. Rezone. The UDO zoning maps, which are incorporated by reference, are hereby amended, and shall be redrawn as necessary, to show that the Real Estate is rezoned as stated in the Proposal.

**SECTION II – MISCELLANEOUS**

- A. Repeal of Prior Law. All other provisions of ordinances and resolutions previously adopted are hereby repealed to the extent they are inconsistent with or in conflict with this ordinance but only to such extent.
- B. Conflicts. No part of this ordinance shall be interpreted to conflict with any local, state, or federal laws, and all reasonable efforts should be made to harmonize the same.
- C. Severability. Should any section or part thereof of this ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the decision shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole, nor any other portion thereof, and for this purpose the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.
- D. Incorporated Materials. Two (2) copies of all materials incorporated by reference herein shall be on file in the Office of the County Auditor for public inspection.
- E. Promulgation. The County Zoning Administrator and Auditor are hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to take all action necessary or proper to authenticate, record, publish, promulgate, and/or otherwise make this ordinance effective.
- F. Codification. The codifier of ordinances shall omit codification of this ordinance.
- G. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AWARD OF BID FOR LAGRANGE COUNTY ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT**

Mrs. Tharon Morgan, County Engineer, explained that she has reviewed the bids for the resurfacing of approximately 7.45 miles including segments of County Road 200 North, County Road 250 West, and County Road 075 North. Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc was the low bidder in the amount of \$1,997,271.70. She presented an agreement between The Board of Commissioners and Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc. This is a 2026 Community Crossing Matching Grant. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to award the bid to Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc. and to authorize the president to sign the agreement. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**COMMUNITY CROSSING MATCHING GRANT**

Mrs. Tharon Morgan, County Engineer, presented a letter of contractor award and request for the 2026 Community Crossing grant funds to INDOT. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the letter and to authorize the president to sign the letter. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mrs. Morgan presented an agreement between INDOT and LaGrange County for the 2026 Community Crossings Matching Grant. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the letter retroactively to January 14, 2026, and to authorize the president to sign the letter. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**HIGHWAY – REQUEST TO PURCHASE SMALL TIRE CHANGER**

Mr. Aaron Fugate, Highway Supervisor, explained that he requested quotes for a Hunter small tire changer. The lowest quote is from Myers Tire Supply in the amount of \$39,973.30. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the purchase and to authorize the president to sign the proposal. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT – ANNUAL REPORT**

Mr. Jason Boggs, Building Commissioner, presented his annual report for the building department.

**PARK – SURPLUS ITEMS**

Mrs. Mary Franke, Park Director, requested permission to declare a list of items as surplus, including targets, picnic tables, two desks, a trailer, a mower, and a printer. The trailer, mower, and printer will be sold at auction. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PARK – REQUEST TO PURCHASE NEW MOWER**

Mrs. Mary Franke, Park Director, requested permission to purchase a new mower. She presented a quote from County Line Engine for a 2025 Lazer Z X-Series 34.5 HP mower in the amount of \$15,599. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the purchase. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PARK – REQUEST TO PURCHASE NEW TRUCK**

Mrs. Mary Franke, Park Director, requested permission to purchase a new truck. She received two quotes, The lowest quote is from Kelley Chevy, LLC, for a 2026 Chevy Silverado 1500 Crew Cab, in the amount of \$45,376. Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the purchase. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR APPOINTMENT**

Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to appoint Ms. Jennifer Minier as the Information Technology Director, effective January 20, 2026. Mr. Kevin Myers 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.

**DECEMBER 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, presented the financial statement for the month ending December 31, 2025, in the amount of \$54,994,596.06 and investments of \$19,652,340. Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to accept the report. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**MINUTES**

Mr. Kevin Myers made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 29, 2025 regular session and the January 5, 2026 regular session. Mr. Peter Cook seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MEMORANDUM**

Mr. Peter Cook made a motion to approve the memorandum for the January 12, 2026 joint executive session, the January 14, 2026 staff meeting, and the January 14, 2026 executive session. Mr. Kevin Myers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

LaGrange County Treasurer – December 2025 report

Travelers – Notice of change in policy terms, Notice of reduction in coverage

Indiana Department of Environmental Management – Notice of Public Comment, Nishikawa Cooper LLC,

LaGrange County, Part 70 Operating Permit Renewal No.: T087-49873-00031

Indiana Department of Environmental Management – Notice of Approval, Artistic Dreams LLC, 700 E North Village Dr., Shipshewana, IN 46565

**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.

ABSENT

Terry A. Martin

Peter Cook

Peter A. Cook

Kevin R. Myers

Kevin R. Myers

ATTEST:

Kathryn Hopper

Kathryn Hopper  
LaGrange County Auditor

