

AUGUST 9, 2021

REGULAR SESSION

The LaGrange County Council met in Regular Session on Monday, August 9, 2021 at their meeting room, County Office Building, 114 W. Michigan Street, LaGrange, Indiana 46761, at 8:30 a.m., with the following present: Council Members, Charles F. Ashcraft, Jeffrey L. Brill, Harold D. Gingerich, Steven E. McKowen, Ryan J. Riegsecker, Michael G. Strawser and James R. Young; and LaGrange County Auditor, Kathryn Hopper. Mr. Mike Strawser brought the meeting to order and lead the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2022 PROPOSED BUDGETS

The following proposed 2021 budgets were presented to the Council:

Parks and Recreation, Parks Nonreverting – Dr. John Egli

Superior Court, Probation, Jury Pay, Superior Court User Fees – Judge Lisa Bowen-Slaven

Circuit Court, Adult & Juvenile Probation, Home Detention, Jury Pay, Circuit Court User Fees –

Judge Bill Walz

Highway, Cumulative Bridge, Local Road & Street, Landfill – Ben Parish

ARC – Debra Seman

Sheriff – Jeff Campos

Emergency Management – Bill Morr

Clerk, Election, Voter Registration, Clerk's Records Perpetuation, Clerk's IV-D – Susan Howe

Surveyor, Drainage Board, Section Corner Perpetuation – Zachary Holsinger

Plan Commission – Robbie Miller

Soil & Water Conservation District – Martin Franke

Building, Contractor Registration – Jason Boggs

Assessor – Pat Monroe

Health, Local Health Maintenance, Immunization Donation – Dr. Alfredo Garcia

Information Technology, GIS – Dave Warren

Commissioners, Cumulative Capital Development, Major Moves, Riverboat, Rainy Day Fund, Lambright

Property, Rogers Trust, Duff Trust, 2022 Salary Recommendations, Gifts to Animal Shelter – Terry Martin

Veteran's Service – Allen Connelly

Treasurer – Jamesi Lemon

Recorder, Recorder's Records Perpetuation, County Identification Security – Sheila Getz

EDIT, Public Defender Board – Charles Ashcraft

Prosecutor; Prosecutor IV-D, Infraction Deferral, Pretrial Diversion, Prosecutor IV-D Incentive – Travis Glick

Extension – Crystal Leu

Coroner – Kenneth Myers

Courthouse Maintenance – Gary Mast

Council – Mike Strawser

Auditor, Non Motor Vehicle, Ineligible Deduction Fund, Plat Book, User Fee – Kathy Hopper

LOCAL INCOME TAX – TOWNSHIPS

Mr. Mike Strawser presented the following Resolution allowing for a distribution of Local Income Tax for public safety to be allocated to the LaGrange County Townships:

COUNTY OF LAGRANGE
RESOLUTION NO. 2021-08-09

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A RESOLUTION OF THE LAGRANGE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS TO LAGRANGE COUNTY TOWNSHIPS PURSUANT TO INDIANA CODE § 6-3.6-6-8.

WHEREAS, the LaGrange County Council (the "Council") is the adopting body of a local income tax established in LaGrange County, Indiana (the "County");

WHEREAS, pursuant to Indiana Code ("IC") § 6-3.6-6-2, the Council may impose a tax rate of up to 2.5% on the adjusted gross income of local taxpayers in the County (as stipulated, the "expenditure rate");

WHEREAS, pursuant to County Ordinance 2017-03-03, the Council increased the expenditure rate from 1.25% to 1.5% and allocated 100% of the increase to public safety uses;

WHEREAS, the County has One Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$100,000.00) available and allocated from expenditure rate tax revenue generated during 2021 for distribution for public safety uses;

WHEREAS, pursuant to IC § 6-3.6-6-8(c), a fire department, volunteer fire department, or emergency medical services provider that provides fire protection or emergency medical services within the County that is operated by or serves a township within the County may apply to the Council for a distribution of the tax revenue generated from the expenditure rate;

WHEREAS, each of the eleven townships within the County have affirmed that either they, or a fire department within their respective jurisdictions, provide fire protection;

WHEREAS, each of the eleven townships within the County have made application for expenditure rate tax revenues on or before July 1, 2021; *and*

WHEREAS, the applications have been reviewed by the Council and duly considered at a public meeting of the Council.

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

SECTION I

- A. The Council finds that the above recitals are true and correct and hereby incorporates the recitals into this ordinance in their entirety.
- B. The Council hereby adopts the following distribution formula for the One Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (100,000.00) allocated from expenditure rate tax revenue:
 1. The allocated amount shall be divided into two halves.
 2. The first half of the amount shall be divided evenly among each eligible township.
 3. The second half of the amount allocated shall be divided proportionately among each eligible township based on the most recent federal decennial census population data provided by the United States Census Bureau, less any population of incorporated towns located therein.

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- C. The Council hereby determines that each township that applied to the Council for expenditure rate tax revenues has done so in a timely manner and is eligible and entitled for a full distribution share under the formula provided in Subsection (B).
- D. Applying the formula provided in Subsection (B), the Council finds as follows:
 - 1. Bloomfield Township is entitled to a distribution in the amount of \$8,964.66;
 - 2. Clay Township is entitled to a distribution in the amount of \$9,763.78;
 - 3. Clearspring Township is entitled to a distribution in the amount of \$10,029.12;
 - 4. Eden Township is entitled to a distribution in the amount of \$10,325.49;
 - 5. Greenfield Township is entitled to a distribution in the amount of \$6,525.40;
 - 6. Johnson Township is entitled to a distribution in the amount of \$9,081.03;
 - 7. Lima Township is entitled to a distribution in the amount of \$8,435.53;
 - 8. Milford Township is entitled to a distribution in the amount of \$8,995.69;
 - 9. Newbury Township did not apply;
 - 10. Springfield Township is entitled to a distribution in the amount of \$6,374.89; *and*
 - 11. Van Buren Township is entitled to a distribution in the amount of \$9,881.71.
- E. The projected distributions in the respective amounts provided in Subsection (D) are hereby approved, to be distributed in the following calendar year.
- F. Each township that accepts a distribution pursuant to this ordinance shall use the money only for fire protection and/or emergency medical services.
- G. The Auditor and Treasurer are hereby authorized to take all necessary action and sign all necessary documents to effect the distribution.
- H. The Auditor is hereby authorized to provide a copy of this resolution to the Department of Local Government Finance not more than fifteen (15) days after this ordinance's adoption.

SECTION II

- A. References.
 - 1. Except where a specific version or edition is given, reference to another section of this ordinance or to another law, document, fund, program, department, commission, or public office, shall extend and apply to the same, as may be subsequently amended, elected, revised, recodified, renamed, or renumbered from time to time.
 - 2. Reference in this ordinance to a public servant, department, commission, committee, board, or fund, 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 the) LaGrange County (Indiana)."
 - 3. Should a provision of this ordinance require an act to be done which, by law, an agent or deputy as well may do as the principal, the requirement is satisfied by the performance of the act by an authorized agent or deputy.
- B. Severability. 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. Should any section or part thereof of this ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole, or any other portion thereof other than that portion so

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declared to be invalid, and for this purpose the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

C. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Mr. Jim Young made a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Jeff Brill seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Charles Ashcraft seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS

Mr. Peter Cook read the following Resolution to Transfer Funds:

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the following increases and decreases be made in order to meet the expenses of the units of government for the year 2021.

	<u>DECREASE</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – SHERIFF</u>		
1000-005-01-1008 Corporal	10,000.00	
1000-005-01-1380 Code Enforcement Officer	18,380.60	
1000-005-01-1381 Code Enforcement Officer – Full Time		28,380.60
 <u>LIT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u>		
1112-000-01-1522 Health Insurance	148,181.59	
1112-000-04-1021 2021 Community Crossing Match		146,207.23
1112-000-04-4016 Annex remodel 2 nd floor		1,974.36
 <u>RAINY DAY</u>		
1186-000-04-4015 Capital Outlays	3,970.15	
1186-000-04-4031 Flagpole - Courthouse		3,970.15

Mr. Steven McKowen made a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Ryan Riegsecker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Mike Strawser presented the following Ordinance of Additional Appropriations:

ORDINANCE OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than was appropriated in the annual budget, now THEREFORE:

Sec 1: Be it ordained by the LaGrange County Council, LaGrange, Indiana, that for the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated and ordered set apart out of the several funds herein named for the purposes herein specified, subject to the laws governing the same.

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	REQUESTED AMOUNT
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – CORONER</u>	
1000-007-03-3005 Pathology	14,000.00
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – DRAINAGE BOARD</u>	
1000-026-04-4501 Mertens – Adams Lake Project	6,155.00
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – COMMISSIONERS</u>	
1000-030-03-3001 CARES Act Reimbursement Funding	607.83
<u>IDENTIFICATION SECURITY</u>	
1160-000-03-3200 Laredo Maintenance Agreement	14,000.00
<u>SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE</u>	
1200-000-03-3017 Circuit Court Public Defender expense	15,000.00
<u>GAL / CASA</u>	
1213-000-05-5001 State Disbursement	47.00
<u>21.019/93.323 COVID TESTING</u>	
8124 000-01-1001 PT Immunization Data Entry Asst	40,320.00
8124-000-03-3001 Vantage Point Consulting	50,000.00
<u>10.557 WIC NSA</u>	
8101 WIC 2020-2021 Grant	46,000.00
<u>10.557 WIC NSA</u>	
8102 WIC 2021-2022 Grant	46,000.00
<u>15.662 CEDAR LAKE FEND WETLAND</u>	
8303-000-03-3001 Blue Heron Ministries	12,630.00
<u>14.228 – OCRA – EDC 1st</u>	
8401-000-05-5001 Grant Distribution	4,539.00
<u>93.563 COUNTY IV-D INCENTIVE</u>	5,200.00
8895-000-03-3001 Cost Allocation Plan	
<u>93.563 PROS IV-D INCENTIVE</u>	4,930.90
8897-000-03-3001 Cost Allocation Plan	
<u>COUNCIL ON AGING TRANSPORTATION GRANT</u>	
9125-000-05-5001 Grant Distribution	227,592.00
<u>COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS 2021 DRUG CT</u>	
9160-000-05-5001 Grant Carry over	32,873.15
<u>COMMUNITY CROSSINGS GRANT</u>	
9165-000-04-4011 Bridge 73	393,586.30
9165-000-04-4012 Bridge 75	150,752.04

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Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Mr. Ryan Riegsecker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Jeff Brill seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LEGAL CLAIMS

Mr. Harold Gingerich presented the June 2021 legal claims in the amount of \$13,635 from Beers, Mallers, Backs & Salin and \$1,637.50 from Barnes & Thornburg. Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to approve. Mr. Jim Young seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Mr. Ryan Riegsecker made a motion to approve the July 13, 2020 regular session minutes. Mr. Mike Strawser seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF PROPERTY TAX LEVY LIMITS

The County Council reviewed the 2022 estimated property tax levy limits and the estimated reductions due to circuit breakers for each taxing district in LaGrange County. Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion that all taxing units stay within their maximum levy limits for the budget year 2022 as set by the Department of Local Government Finance. Mr. Steven McKowen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to come before the Board at this time, Mr. Steve McKowen 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

Charles F. Ashcraft


Jeffrey L. Brill


Harold D. Gingerich


Steven E. McKowen


Ryan J. Riegsecker


Michael G. Strawser


James R. Young

ATTEST:


Kathryn Hopper
LaGrange County Auditor