

DECEMBER 11, 2023

REGULAR SESSION

The LaGrange County Council met in Regular Session on Monday, December 11, 2023 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, Jeffrey L. Brill, Jeffrey A. Campos, Harold D. Gingerich, Steven E. McKowen, Michael G. Strawser and James R. Young; and LaGrange County Auditor, Kathryn Hopper. Mr. Ryan J. Riegsecker was absent. Mr. Mike Strawser brought the meeting to order and led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT WAGES

Mrs. Jenny Landez, Human Resources Director, explained that one of the purposes of the Health First Indiana Grant is to increase the wages of Health Department employees. She distributed a report issued by the Indiana Local Health Department Workforce that contains wage information on County Health Departments. Mr. Jim Young made a motion to table the matter until the January 2024 meeting. Mr. Steven McKowen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE

Mrs. Jenny Landez, Human Resources Director, explained that one of the requirements of the Health First Indiana is to have an Emergency Preparedness Backup person. The Health Department nurse has agreed to fulfill those duties. The following Amendment to the Salary Ordinance were presented:

AMENDMENT TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2024

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED THAT the following changes be made in the LaGrange County Salary Ordinance for the year 2024:

	<u>REQUESTED</u>
<u>HEALTH FIRST INDIANA</u>	
1161-000-01-1006 Emergency Preparedness Backup	Up to \$ 224.94/ Biweekly
• Subject to grant funding and approval	
Effective 01/01/2024	

Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to approve the amendments. Mr. Jeff Campos seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Jeff Campos seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER UNENCUMBERED FUNDS TO THE "RAINY DAY FUND" PURSUANT TO INDIANA CODE 36-1-8-5.1.

Mrs. Kathryn Hopper, County Auditor, explained that the Council has the option of transferring unencumbered funds to the Rainy Day Fund at the end of the year. She presented the following Resolution for consideration:

**COUNTY OF LAGRANGE
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-12-11**

**A RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER UNENCUMBERED FUNDS TO THE "RAINY DAY FUND"
PURSUANT TO INDIANA CODE 36-1-8-5.1.**

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WHEREAS, Indiana Code 36-1-8-5.1 permits an Indiana county to establish a Rainy Day Fund to receive transfers of unused and unencumbered funds under said Indiana Code; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said statute, an Indiana County Council shall make a finding that the proposed use of the Rainy Day Funds is consistent with the intent of the fund before making an appropriation therefrom; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said statute, in any fiscal year an Indiana county may not transfer more than fifteen percent (15%) of its total budget for that fiscal year to the Rainy Day Fund; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said statute, the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance may not reduce the actual or maximum permissible levy of an Indiana county as a result of a balance in the Rainy Day Fund;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF LAGRANGE COUNTY, INDIANA, AS FOLLOWS:

Therefore, effective this date, the LaGrange County Council approves the transfer of \$750,000.00 of unused and unencumbered funds from 2023 in the County General Fund to the "Rainy Day Fund".

The "Rainy Day Fund" shall be subject to the same appropriation process as other funds that receive tax money. The LaGrange County Council hereby intends to utilize its decision-making power regarding fiscal affairs and set priorities for all allocation and expenditure of the "Rainy Day Fund" as deemed necessary to best serve the residents of LaGrange County.

Adopted and Resolved this 11th day of December, 2023.

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

TRANSFER RESOLUTION

Mr. Jeff Brill made a motion to approve the end of year transfer Resolution. Mr. Steven McKowen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Jeff Campos seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LOCAL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to appoint Donita Brill to the Local Alcoholic Beverage Board. Mr. Jim Young seconded the motion and it carried with Jeff Brill and Steven McKowen abstaining.

PARK BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mr. Steven McKowen made a motion to appoint Dr. John Egli to the LaGrange County Park Board. Mr. Jeff Campos seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LAGRANGE COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Steve McKowen made a motion to appoint Mr. Charles Ashcraft, Mr. Mark Leu, and Mr. Jim Young to the LaGrange County Redevelopment Commission. Mr. Harold Gingerich seconded the motion and it carried with Jim Young abstaining.

PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT BOARD OF APPEALS APPOINTMENT

Mr. Jim Young made a motion to appoint Mr. Joe Billman to the LaGrange County Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals. Mr. Steven McKowen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

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

ORDINANCE OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

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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.

	<u>REQUESTED AMOUNT</u>
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – COUNCIL</u>	
1000-033-03-3012 Travel / Mileage	700.00
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – WEIGHTS & MEASURE</u>	
1000-028-03-3012 Travel / Mileage	500.00
<u>10.557 WIC NSA 2022-2023</u>	
8101-000-03-3012 Travel Clinic Operations	92,312.59
<u>10.557 WIC NSA 2023-2024</u>	
8102-000-01-1002 Competent Professional Authority	25,000.00
<u>10.557 WIC PC 2022/2023</u>	
8103-000-01-1020 Peer Counselor	10,865.39
<u>IMMUNIZATION & VACC FOR CHILDREN</u>	
8119-000-03-3050 Equipment Repair / Maintenance	25,000.00
<u>93.074 PUBLIC HEALTH</u>	
8120-000-03-3002 Vantage Point Consulting	20,000.00
<u>93.069 IMMUNIZATION GRANT 23-24</u>	
8122-02-2011 POD Supplies	18,406.06
<u>93.268 IMMUNIZATION GRANT 23-24</u>	
8123-000-01-1003 School Liaison	30,000.00
<u>93.268 IMMUNIZATION & VACCINE FOR CHILDREN</u>	
8127-000-05-5001 Return of Unspent Grant Funds	7.10
<u>97.042 EMA 2022 BALLISTIC HELMETS</u>	
8202-000-02-2000 Helmets & Masks	18,794.87
<u>LAND & WATER CONSERVATION GRANT</u>	
8302-000-05-5001 Transfer Out	400.00
<u>CEDAR LAKE FEN WETLAND</u>	
8303-000-03-3001 Blue Heron Ministries	7,296.25
<u>BRIDGE 49</u>	
8700-000-03-3001 Professional Services	152,000.00
<u>93.563 COUNTY IV-D INCENTIVE</u>	
8895-000-03-3001 Cost Allocation Plan	5,200.00
<u>COUNCIL ON AGING TRANSPORTATION GRANT</u>	
9125-000-05-5001 Grant Distribution	913,488.00

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COMMUNITY CROSSING GRANT

9165-000-05-5001 Transfer Grant Match Back

9,752.49

Mr. Steven McKowen made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Mr. Jeff Campos seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Jeff Campos seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS

Mr. Mike Strawser read the following Resolution to Transfer Funds:

	<u>DECREASE</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – SHERIFF</u>		
1000-005-01-1316 Transport	27,000.00	
1000-005-01-1510 Extra Hours / OT		27,000.00
1000-005-01-1008 Corporal	8,000.00	
1000-005-03-3010 Telephone		8,000.00
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – SURVEYOR</u>		
1000-006-01-1002 Deputy Surveyor	160.00	
1000-006-01-1038 Plan Commission		160.00
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – CORONER</u>		
1000-007-03-3006 Lab, Toxicology, X-ray	250.00	
1000-007-03-3005 Pathology	1,000.00	
1000-007-01-1015 Deputy Calls		1,250.00
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – ASSESSOR</u>		
1000-009-02-2010 Office supplies	1,274.29	
1000-009-04-4010 Office Equipment		1,274.29
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – EXTENSION</u>		
1000-023-01-1006 Secretary	883.50	
1000-023-01-1007 Summer Assistant		883.50
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – COMMISSIONER</u>		
1000-030-01-1521 PERF	2,594.07	
1000-030-01-1515 Bonus Inflation adjustment		1,200.00
1000-030-03-3021 Legal Advertising		1,000.00
1000-030-03-3079 Membership & Dues		394.07
1000-030-01-1521 PERF	15,200.00	
1000-030-01-1520 FICA		12,000.00
1000-030-03-3001 Professional Services		3,200.00
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – COMMUNICATIONS</u>		
1000-038-01-1001 Director	7,000.00	
1000-038-01-1007 Asst. IDACs Coordinator		7,000.00
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – PUBLIC DEFENDER</u>		
1000-039-03-3201 Superior Court PD Expense	340.00	

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1000-039-01-1310 Board Member		340.00
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COUNTY GENERAL – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

1000-041-02-2012 Training Materials	955.87	
1000-041-04-4010 Office Equipment		955.87

1176 MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY

1176-002-01-1207 Equipment Operator- Level 1	24,000.00	
1176-002-01-1205 Truck Drivers		24,000.00

1179 PARK NON-REVERTING

1179-000-04-4011 Picnic Tables/Grills	33.30	
1179-000-04-4010 Equipment		33.30

1189 RECORDER’S PERPETUATION

1189-000-01-1003 Deputy	500.00	
1189-000-01-1301 Hourly Clerical		500.00

1206 LOCAL HEALTH DEPT TRUST

1206-000-02-2011 General Supplies	120.00	
1206-000-01-1525 Medicare		120.00

1219 PARKS & RECREATION

1219-000-01-1004 Interpreter / Naturalist	7,000.00	
1219-000-01-1017 Maintenance Tech 3	5,000.00	
1219-000-01-1030 Seasonal staff	3,000.00	
1219-000-01-1522 Health Insurance	14,000.00	
1219-000-02-2020 Gas, Oil, Lubricants	1,200.00	
1219-000-04-4051 Vehicles		28,000.00
1219-000-04-4063 Equipment		2,200.00

4701 SELF INSURANCE

4701-000-05-5001 Monthly Distributions	1,051,863.08	
<u>4702 SELF INSURANCE CLEARING</u>		
4702-000-9900		1,051,863.08

4951 LAMBRIGHT PROPERTY

4951-000-02-2023 Veteran Hunt Supplies	3,873.00	
4951-000-03-3040 Utilities		100.00
4951-000-04-4017 Veteran’s Hunt Equipment		3,773.00

9164 COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS 2023-PROBATION

9164-000-01-1001 Probation Officer	12,020.00	
9164-000-01-1520 FICA		3,060.00
9164-000-01-1521 PERF		5,620.00
9164-000-01-1525 Medicare		740.00
9164-000-01-1522 Health Insurance		2,600.00

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Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to approve the Resolution to Transfer Funds. Mr. Steven McKowen seconded the motion it carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Mr. Steven McKowen made a motion to approve the November 13, 2023 regular session minutes and the November 13, 2023 joint executive session. Mr. Jim Young seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LEGAL CLAIMS

Mr. Harold Gingerich presented the October 2024 legal claims in the amount of \$20,994.75 from Beers Mallers. Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to approve the legal claims. Mr. Jim Young seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mrs. Tharon Morgan, County Engineer, presented the LaGrange County Transportation Asset Management Plan. Representatives from Butler Fairman and Seufert, Inc., who prepared the plan, were present to explain the plan and answer questions.

ADJOURNMENT


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

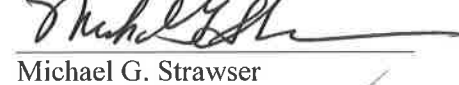

Jeffrey L. Brill



Jeffrey A. Campos


Harold D. Gingerich



Steven E. McKowen


Ryan J. Riegsecker


Michael G. Strawser


James R. Young

ATTEST:


Kathryn Hopper
LaGrange County Auditor