

JANUARY 14, 2019

REGULAR SESSION

The LaGrange County Council met in Regular Session on Monday, January 14, 2019, 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, Peter A. Cook, Harold D. Gingerich, Steven E. McKowen, Ryan J. Riegsecker, and Michael G. Strawser; and LaGrange County Auditor, Kathryn Hopper. Mr. Peter Cook brought the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

REORGANIZATION

Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to retain the current officers, with Mr. Peter Cook being the President and Mr. Mike Strawser being the Vice President. Mr. Mike Strawser seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mr. Mike Strawser made a motion to appoint Ms. Diane Cameron to the LaGrange County Library Board. Mr. Harold Gingerich seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT BOARD OF APPEALS APPOINTMENT

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

PARK GRANT

Mr. Mike Metz, Park Director, explained that there is an opportunity for a Land and Water Conservation grant for a trail/boardwalk project at Pine Knob Park. The grant requires a \$75,000 match and land acquisition. Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to proceed with the grant application and take the \$75,000 grant match out of the Rainy Day Fund in 2020 and to look into the land acquisition. Mr. Steve McKowen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

BUDGET ASSIGNMENTS

The following list of Council budget assignments was presented:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Department Head</u>	<u>Ashcraft</u>	<u>Brill</u>	<u>Cook</u>	<u>Gingerich</u>	<u>McKowen</u>	<u>Riegsecker</u>	<u>Strawser</u>
Assessor	Pat Monroe						X	
Auditor	Kathryn Hopper	X						
Building	Jason Boggs							X
Circuit Court	Judge Walz						X	
Clerk	Bonnie Brown					X		
Coroner	Kenneth Myers				X			
Cumulative Bridge	Sarah Farlow	X						
Emergency Management	William Wismer				X			
Extension	John Emerson							X
GIS	Deb Naylor		X					
Health	Alfredo Garcia		X					
Highway, Landfill	Randy VanWagner		X					
Information Technology	Bob Murphy						X	
Maintenance	Gary Mast							X
Parks & Recreation	Mike Metz					X		
Plan Commission	Robbie Miller			X				
Prosecuting Attorney	Greg Kenner				X			
Recorder	Jennifer McBride		X					
Sheriff / E911	Jeff Campos			X				
Soil & Water Conservation	Martin Franke		X					
Superior Court	Judge Bowen-Slaven						X	
Surveyor	Zach Holsinger		X					
Treasurer	Jamesi Lemon	X						
Veteran's Service Officer	Allen Connelly	X						
Weights & Measures	Stephen Scharf			X				
Women, Infants & Children	Michelle Tennant	X						

Mr. Mike Strawser made a motion to approve the assignments. Mr. Steve McKowen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

JANUARY 14, 2019

REGULAR SESSION

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

The following list of Council appointments was presented:

Council on Aging Board	Charles Ashcraft
Economic Development Corporation	Charles Ashcraft
Edit Committee	Charles Ashcraft
	Peter Cook
Emergency Management Agency Advisory Board	Peter Cook
Extension Board	Mike Strawser
Health Board	Charles Ashcraft
Insurance: Liability Insurance & Vehicle	Mike Strawser
Judicial Committee –(includes :Sheriff & both Judges)	Peter Cook
	Mike Strawser
LaGrange County Community Foundation Finance Committee	Charles Ashcraft
Major Moves Committee	Jeff Brill
	Steve McKowen
Northeast Indiana Solid Waste District	Harold Gingerich
Park Board	Steve McKowen
Plan Commission	Peter Cook
Region 3 A	Peter Cook
Sheriff Merit Board	Peter Cook
Soil & Water Conservation	Peter Cook
Tax Abatement Review Committee	Peter Cook
	Steve McKowen
Human Resources / Personnel / Health Insurance	Ryan Riegsecker
	Mike Strawser
	Charles Ashcraft
Personnel Handbook Committee	Ryan Riegsecker
	Harold Gingerich

Mr. Mike Strawser made a motion for the assignments to remain the same. Mr. Jeff Brill seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

COUNTY JUSTICE BUILDING

Mr. Rex Pranger gave an update on the County Justice Building.

JAIL COMMISSARY REPORT

Mr. Jeff Campos, County Sheriff, presented the Jail Commissary report for 2018.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE

The following Amendments to the Salary Ordinance were presented:

AMENDMENT TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2019

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED THAT the following changes be made in the LaGrange County Salary Ordinance for the year 2019:

<u>16-575 VICTIMS CRIME ACT</u>	<u>REQUESTED</u>
Victim's Advocate	Up to \$19.23 / hour
8109-000-01-1005	

Mr. Charles Ashcraft made a motion to approve the amendment to be effective January 21, 2019. Mr. Mike Strawser seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Steve McKowen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2019

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED THAT the following changes be made in the LaGrange County Salary Ordinance for the year 2019:

<u>PARK AND RECREATION</u>	<u>REQUESTED</u>
Maintenance Construction Foreman	Up to \$1,840.00/bi-weekly
1219-000-01-1014	

JANUARY 14, 2019

REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Mike Strawser made a motion to approve the amendment to be effective January 21, 2019. Mr. Steve McKowen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Mike Strawser made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Harold Gingerich seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Jason Boggs, Building Commissioner, presented the 2018 report.

LOCAL INCOME TAX

The 2019 Local Income Tax distribution was discussed. In 2017 the County Council passed a Resolution allowing a portion of the Local Income Tax – Public Safety to be distributed to the Townships, allocated by population, for 2018. The Council needed to pass the resolution annually to allow this to happen. Following discussion, the Council agreed that the allocation could be doubled for 2020 and that they would adopt a resolution in August 2019 to allow this to happen.

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS

Mr. Peter Cook read the following 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 2019.

	<u>DECREASE</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>
<u>COUNTY GENERAL - ASSESSOR</u>		
1000-009-02-2010 Registration Supplies	1,143.12	
1000-009-04-4010 Equipment		1,143.12

Mr. Charles Ashcraft made a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Steve McKowen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LEGAL CLAIMS

Mr. Charles Ashcraft presented the legal claims in the amount of \$13,425.00 for November 2018 from Beers, Mallers, Backs & Salin. Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to approve. Mr. Charles Ashcraft seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to approve the December 10, 2018 regular session minutes. Mr. Mike Strawser 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. Ryan Riegsecker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Charles F. Ashcraft

Jeffrey L. Brill

Peter A. Cook

Harold D. Gingerich

Steven E. McKowen

Ryan J. Riegsecker

Michael G. Strawser

ATTEST:

Kathryn Hopper
LaGrange County Auditor