

**FEBRUARY 13, 2017**

**REGULAR SESSION**

The LaGrange County Council met in Regular Session on Monday, February 13, 2017 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 and Michael G. Strawser, and LaGrange County Auditor, Kay M. Myers. Mr. George R. Bachman was absent. Mr. Peter Cook, President, called the meeting to order and lead the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**HIGHWAY**

Mr. Randy VanWagner, Highway Superintendent, reported that he would like to purchase a new gradall excavator for the Highway Department, for \$373,538.00 out of the LOIT Special Distribution Fund. The trade in value for the current gradall is \$11,000.00. The Council discussed the need for having a plan in place for equipment replacement. Mr. Mike Strawser made a motion to table the matter until a five year plan for equipment and roads is put together. Mr. Charles Ashcraft seconded the motion and it tied with Mr. Jeff Brill, Mr. Harold Gingerich, and Mr. Peter Cook voting no. Mr. Mike Strawser made a motion to move ahead with the purchase, and to prepare a five year plan for equipment and roads. Mr. Harold Gingerich seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING – LAGRANGE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS OF 2017**

At 9:00 a.m. Mr. Todd Samuelson, from H.J. Umbaugh and Associates, opened the public hearing on the matter of appropriating the proceeds of the LaGrange County Public Library General Obligation Refunding Bonds of 2017. The statute provides that the County Council be involved since the Library board is appointed. He presented the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-02-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE LAGRANGE COUNTY COUNCIL OF LAGRANGE COUNTY,  
INDIANA, APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND ADDITIONAL  
APPROPRIATION BY THE LAGRANGE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

WHEREAS, the LaGrange County Public Library (the "Public Library") previously issued its LaGrange County Public Library General Obligation Bonds of 2009, Series A, dated as of December 30, 2009 (the "Prior Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, there is an opportunity to refinance the Prior Bonds in order to effect a savings or modify restrictive covenants;  
and

WHEREAS, on January 19, 2017, the Library Board of the Public Library adopted its Resolution No. 2017-01-19, approving the issuance of the LaGrange County Public Library General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2017 (the "Refunding Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, IC 6-1.1-17-20.5 provides for the approval by the county fiscal body for bonds payable in whole or in part from property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the LaGrange County Council (the "County Council") finds that the issuance of the Refunding Bonds is of benefit to the citizens of LaGrange County and the well-being of the Public Library and that the Refunding Bonds and additional appropriation related thereto are reasonable; and

WHEREAS, there has been published a Notice of Public Hearing concerning the additional appropriation of proceeds of the Refunding Bonds on January 30, 2017 in the *LaGrange Standard* and on February 3, 2017 in *The News*, which public hearing was held before the County Council on this date.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the LaGrange County Council, being the appropriate fiscal body for the LaGrange County Public Library as designated in 6-1.1-17-20.5:

1. The County Council has reviewed the issuance of the Refunding Bonds.
2. The County Council hereby approves the issuance of the Refunding Bonds by the Public Library.
3. The County Council has reviewed the request for approval of an additional appropriation for the proceeds of the Refunding Bonds.
4. The County Council hereby approves the additional appropriation of proceeds of the Refunding Bonds to be issued by the Public Library.

There being no comments from the public, Mr. Steve McKowen made a motion to close the public hearing and approve the Resolution. Mr. Jeff Brill 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.

**LEGAL CLAIMS**

Mr. Peter Cook presented the December legal claims in the amount of \$19,018.42 from Beers, Mallers, Backs & Salin. Mr. Charles Ashcraft made a motion to approve the legal claims. Mr. Steve McKowen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**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 2017.

	<u>DECREASE</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>
<u>COUNTY GENERAL – PLAN COMMISSION</u>		
1000-024-02-2010 Office Supplies	119.99	
1000-024-04-4010 Equipment		119.99
<u>RAINY DAY</u>		
1186-000-04-4015 Capital Outlays	295.44	
1186-000-03-3201 County Road 200 N Analysis		295.44

Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Mike Strawser seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Mike Strawser made a motion to approve the January 9, 2017 regular session minutes, special joint session minutes, and joint executive session minutes. Mr. Steve McKowen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE**

The following Amendments to the Salary Ordinance were presented:

**AMENDMENT TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2017**

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED THAT the following changes be made in the LaGrange County Salary Ordinance for the year 2017:

	<u>REQUESTED</u>
<u>PROSECUTOR</u>	
Deputy Prosecutor	
1000 008-01-1003	Up to \$2,475.64 bi-weekly
1000 049-01-1003	Up to \$ 618.91 bi-weekly

Mr. Mike Strawser made a motion to approve the amendment to be effective January 1, 2017. Mr. Jeff Brill 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.

**AMENDMENT TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2017**

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED THAT the following changes be made in the LaGrange County Salary Ordinance for the year 2017:

	<u>REQUESTED</u>
<u>SUPERIOR COURT</u>	
Probation Officer – Community Corrections Grant	
9160-000-01-1001	Up to \$50,297.75 annually
Effective: February 5, 2017	

Mr. Mike Strawser made a motion to approve the amendment to be effective February 5, 2017. Mr. Charles Ashcraft seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Harold Gingerich made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Mike Strawser seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**LOCAL INCOME TAX**

Mr. Kurt Bachman, County Attorney, explained that he has prepared a notice for a public hearing on a proposed Local Income Tax ordinance. Mr. Charles Ashcraft made a motion to formally introduce the notice for public hearing and make available for public inspection and copy. Mr. Harold Gingerich seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Mike Strawser made a motion to set a public hearing on a proposed Local Income Tax Ordinance for March 13, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Steve McKowen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Bill Connelly, Clay Township Trustee, inquired if the Council would be allocating any of the proposed income tax to the townships. He would like to see that a part of the County's allocation be allocated for townships.

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Mr. Peter Cook appointed Mr. Steve McKowen, Mr. Mike Strawser, and Mr. Harold Gingerich to a Public Safety Tax Budget Committee. Mr. Bill Connelly would also serve on the Committee.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Mike Strawser reported that the Liability Insurance Committee met and the claims have decreased.  
Mr. Harold Gingerich reported that there is legislation pending that would affect solid waste districts.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles F. Ashcraft

Absent  
\_\_\_\_\_  
George R. Bachman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey L. Brill

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter A. Cook

\_\_\_\_\_  
Harold D. Gingerich

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven E. McKowen

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael G. Strawser

ATTEST:

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Kay M. Myers  
LaGrange County Auditor