

DECEMBER 12, 2022

REGULAR SESSION

The LaGrange County Council met in Regular Session on Monday, December 12, 2022 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, , Ryan J. Riegsecker, Michael G. Strawser and James R. Young; and LaGrange County Auditor, Kathryn Hopper. Councilmen, Harold D. Gingerich and Steven E. McKowen were absent. Mr. Mike Strawser brought the meeting to order and lead the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – HOUSING STRATEGY PROJECT

Mrs. Sherri Johnston, President of the LaGrange County Economic Development Corporation (EDC), was present. She introduced Ms. Heather Presley-Cowan, of Housing Resource Hub, who gave an update of the housing strategy project to bring housing to LaGrange County.

RESOLUTION OF THE LAGRANGE COUNTY COUNCIL DECLARING THE COUNTY'S INTEREST IN THE PURCHASE OF SPECIFIED REAL ESTATE AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS RELATED THERETO

Mr. Mike Strawser read the following Resolution for consideration:

COUNTY OF LAGRANGE
RESOLUTION 2022-12-12 A

A RESOLUTION OF THE LAGRANGE COUNTY COUNCIL DECLARING THE COUNTY'S
INTEREST IN THE PURCHASE OF SPECIFIED REAL ESTATE AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN
ACTIONS RELATED THERETO

WHEREAS, the County of LaGrange, Indiana (the "County"), has been vested with the power to purchase any interest in real property under Indiana Code §36-1-4-5; and

WHEREAS, the County is interested in purchasing certain real property consisting of a portion of parcel containing approximately 82.114 acres of unimproved real estate in LaGrange County, Indiana, and more commonly known as 1635 E. 025 N., LaGrange County, Indiana. The property subject of this Resolution consists of approximately 13.93 acres of the unimproved and undeveloped portion of the 82.114 acres only as generally depicted on Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part hereof and as fully as if set forth herein, and all privileges, and appurtenances pertaining thereto include any right, title, and interest of Seller in and to adjacent streets, alleys, or rights-of-way (the "Real Estate"), which Real Estate is more commonly known as a portion of 1635 E. 025 N, LaGrange, Indiana 46761; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of LaGrange (the "Commissioners"), have entered into a Real Estate Purchase Agreement (the "Purchase Agreement") with the owner of the Real Estate for the purchase thereof at a total price (including land and structures, if any) in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), but which is subject to, among other contingencies, compliance of Indiana Code §36-1-10.5-5; and

WHEREAS, Indiana Code §36-1-10.5 (the "Act"), provides that if the purchase of the Real Estate has a total price (including land and structures, if any) in excess of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), the LaGrange County Council (the "Council"), as the fiscal body of the County, is required to pass a Resolution to the effect that it is interested in making a purchase of the Real Estate; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Act, the Commissioners are required to: (i) appoint two (2) appraisers professionally engaged in making appraisals or be trained as an appraiser and licensed as a broker under Indiana Code §25-34.1 to appraise the fair market value of the Real Estate; and (ii) to purchase the Real Estate for a price not greater than the average of the two (2) appraisals received; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners have hereto before authorized the appointment of two (2) appraisers professionally engaged in making appraisals or that are trained as an appraiser and licensed as a broker under Indiana Code

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§25-34.1 to appraise the fair market value of the Real Estate, but said appraisers have not yet returned their separate appraisals; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to approve the term and conditions of the Purchase Agreement to purchase the Real Estate subject to the price thereof not being greater than the average of the two (2) appraisals received, authorize payment thereon, and take all other action associated therewith.

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

SECTION I

The Council hereby declares its interest in making a purchase of the Real Estate pursuant to the terms and conditions established and set forth in the Purchase Agreement and this Resolution. The purchase of the Real Estate shall not be for a price greater than the average of the two (2) appraisals to be received by the Commissioners. The payment of the total net purchase price of the Real Estate shall be subject to proper appropriation of all funds.

SECTION II

No part of this Resolution shall be interpreted to conflict with any local, state, or federal laws, and all reasonable efforts should be made to harmonize the same. Should any section or part thereof of the Resolution be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the Resolution as a whole, or any other portion thereof other than that portion so declared to be invalid, and for this purpose the provisions of the Resolution are hereby declared severable.

SECTION III

This Resolution shall be effective upon passage.

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

Mr. Mike Strawser read the following Resolution for consideration:

COUNTY OF LAGRANGE
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-12-12

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

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 ten percent (10%) 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:

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Therefore, effective this date, the LaGrange County Council approves the transfer of \$300,000 of unused and unencumbered funds from 2022 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.

Mr. Ryan Riegsecker made a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Charles Ashcraft seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Ryan Riegsecker made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Jim Young 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 2023

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED THAT the following changes be made in the LaGrange County Salary Ordinance for the year 2023:

| | <u>REQUESTED</u> |
|--|---------------------|
| <u>COUNTY GENERAL - SHERIFF</u> | |
| Interim Dispatch Supervisor – 2 people | |
| 1000-038-01-1004 | Up to \$2.50 / hour |

*Temporary position until position is filled, effective January 1, 2023

Mr. Jim Young made a motion to approve the amendment. Mr. Jeff Brill seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Jim Young made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Jeff Brill seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2023

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED THAT the following changes be made in the LaGrange County Salary Ordinance for the year 2023:

| | <u>REQUESTED</u> |
|---|----------------------|
| <u>WOMEN'S, INFANTS, CHILDREN GRANT</u> | |
| Coordinator – 8102 000-01-1001 | Up to \$28.88 / hour |
| Breast Feeding Coordinator – 8102-000-01-1020 | Up to \$28.88 / hour |
| CPA / Nutritionist – 8102-000-01-1012 | Up to \$23.14 / hour |
| Clinic Assistant – 8102-000-01-1013 | Up to \$16.95 / hour |
| Peer Counselor – 8104-000-01-1020 | Up to \$16.95 / hour |

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- Rates for 2023 WIC Fiscal Year, effective October 1, 2022

Mr. Ryan Riegsecker made a motion to approve the amendment. Mr. Jim Young seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Ryan Riegsecker made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Jeff Brill seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2023

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED THAT the following changes be made in the LaGrange County Salary Ordinance for the year 2023:

| | <u>REQUESTED</u> |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY</u> | |
| 1176-001-01-1301 Hourly Clerical | Up to \$18.31/hour |

Temporary: For 2022 and 2022, not to exceed 80 hours in 2022 and 2023 in total
Effective November 18, 2022

Mr. Jeff Brill made a motion to approve the amendment. Mr. Ryan Riegsecker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Ryan Riegsecker made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Jim Young seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO THE SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2023

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED THAT the following changes be made in the LaGrange County Salary Ordinance for the year 2023:

| | <u>REQUESTED</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <u>MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY</u> | |
| 1176-002-01-1211 North Foreman | Up to \$27.38/hour |
| 1176-002-01-1515 Inflation Adjustment | Up to \$2,704/year |
| | |
| 1176-002-01-1212 South Foreman | Up to \$27.38/ hour |
| 1176-002-01-1515 Inflation Adjustment | Up to \$2,704/year |

- In November of 2022, we took away the assistant supervisor position and added another foreman position to create one South Foreman and one North Foreman. We did this after the budget was passed.
- 5% rate increase and the 5% inflation adjustment on the approved November 2022 rate change.

Mr. Jim Young made a motion to approve the amendment. Mr. Jeff Brill seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Jeff Brill made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Jim Young seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

LAGRANGE COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Ryan Riegsecker made a motion to appoint Mr. Charles Ashcraft and Mr. Mark Leu, to the LaGrange County Redevelopment Commission. Mr. Jeff Brill 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.

| | REQUESTED AMOUNT |
|--|---------------------|
| <u>8202 97.042 EMA – 2022 BALLISTIC HELMETS FOR POLICE</u> | |
| 8202-000-02-2000 Ballistic Helmets | 18,794.87 |
| <u>8303 15.662 CEDAR LAKE FEN WETLAND</u> | 5,882.50 |
| 8303-000-03-3001 Blue Heron Ministries | |

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

TRANSFER RESOLUTION

Mr. Ryan Riegsecker made a motion to approve the end of year transfer Resolution. Mr. Charles Ashcraft seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mr. Jim Young made a motion to waive the requirement for second reading. Mr. Ryan Riegsecker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS

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

RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS

| | DECREASE | INCREASE |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| <u>COUNTY GENERAL - SHERIFF</u> | | |
| 1000-005-01-1304 Jail Corporal | 11,000.00 | |
| 1000-005-01-1316 Transport | 10,000.00 | |
| 1000-005-03-3050 Maintenance Construction | | 21,000.00 |
| 1000-005-01-1316 Transport | 7,000.00 | |
| 1000-005-03-3012 Travel | | 7,000.00 |
| 1000-005-01-1005 Deputies | 3,000.00 | |
| 1000-005-01-1008 Corporal | 4,000.00 | |

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| | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| 1000-005-03-3010 Telephone | | 7,000.00 |
| 1000-005-01-1315 Jailers | 6,000.00 | |
| 1000-005-03-3018 Building Equipment | | 6,000.00 |
| 1000-005-01-1005 Deputies | 2,500.00 | |
| 1000-005-03-3050 Maintenance Contracts | | 2,500.00 |
| 1000-005-01-1510 Extra Hours | 6,000.00 | |
| 1000-005-01-1008 Corporal | 2,000.00 | |
| 1000-005-01-1304 Jail Corporal | 4,000.00 | |
| 1000-005-02-2020 Gas, Oil, Lubricants | | 12,000.00 |
| <u>COUNTY GENERAL - EXTENSION</u> | | |
| 1000-023-01-1006 Secretary | 60.00 | |
| 1000-023-01-1510 Extra hours / overtime | | 60.00 |
| 1000-023-03-2010 Office Supplies | 1,449.00 | |
| 1000-023-04-4010 Equipment | | 1,449.00 |
| <u>COUNTY GENERAL -DRAINAGE BOARD</u> | | |
| 1000-026-04-4500 Owner Portion – Storm water projects | 4,050.00 | |
| 1000-026-04-4506 Bieberich – Big Long Lake | | 3,250.00 |
| 1000-026-04-4507 Wagner – Westler Lake – 2022 | | 800.00 |
| <u>COUNTY GENERAL -COMMISSIONERS</u> | | |
| 1000-030-01-1521 PERF | 12,000.00 | |
| 1000-030-01-1525 Medicare | | 12,000.00 |
| <u>COUNTY GENERAL – MAINTENANCE</u> | | |
| 1000-031-03-3103 Tree Service | 2,000.00 | |
| 1000-031-03-3102 Elevator | 1,036.36 | |
| 1000-031-02-2022 Garage & Motor Supplies | 577.31 | |
| 1000-031-02-2042 Grounds | 180.00 | |
| 1000-031-02-2052 Maintenance Supplies | 83.05 | |
| 1000-031-01-1002 Maintenance Custodian II | | 1,960.94 |
| 1000-031-01-1003 Housekeeping | | 1,915.78 |
| <u>COUNTY GENERAL – INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</u> | | |
| 1000-034-02-2290 Tools, Peripheral Equip | 287.98 | |
| 1000-034-04-4010 Equipment | | 287.98 |
| <u>COUNTY GENERAL – SUPERIOR COURT</u> | | |
| 1000-037-01-1207 2 nd Deputy Court Reporter | 4,000.00 | |
| 1000-037-01-1510 Extra hours / OT | | 4,000.00 |
| <u>COUNTY GENERAL - COMMUNICATIONS</u> | | |
| 1000-038-01-1007 Asst. IDACS Coordinator | 100.00 | |

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| | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| 1000-038-01-1512 Longevity | | 100.00 |
| 1000-038-03-3010 Telephone | 7,400.00 | |
| 1000-038-01-1007 Asst. IDACS Coordinator | | 7,400.00 |
| 1000-038-01-1301 PT Dispatchers | 9,300.00 | |
| 1000-038-01-1510 Extra Hours / OT | | 9,300.00 |
| <u>COUNTY GENERAL – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT</u> | | |
| 1000-041-02-2010 Office Supplies | 1,441.00 | |
| 1000-041-04-4010 Office Equipment | | 1,441.00 |
| <u>1112 LIT – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u> | | |
| 1112-000-04-4900 Capital Improvement Projects | 19,573.63 | |
| 1112-000-04-4016 Annex remodel | | 6,543.59 |
| 1112-000-04-4024 Courthouse remodel / repairs | | 9,714.20 |
| 1112-000-04-4029 Justice Building Remodel / repairs | | 3,315.84 |
| <u>1159 HEALTH</u> | | |
| 1159-000-01-1010 Food Sanitarian | 775.00 | |
| 1159-000-01-1310 Health Board | | 625.00 |
| 1159-000-01-1315 Health Board Secretary | | 150.00 |
| <u>1170 LIT – PUBLIC SAFETY</u> | | |
| 1170-000-03-3500 Public Safety | 17,030.40 | |
| 1170-000-04-4007 Drone Purchase – Sheriff - 2022 | | 17,030.40 |
| <u>1176 MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY</u> | | |
| 1176-001-01-1001 Supervisor | 5,879.01 | |
| 1176-001-01-1301 Hourly Clerical | | 1,464.74 |
| 1176-001-01-1512 Longevity | | 2,000.00 |
| 1176-001-04-4030 Office Equipment | | 2,414.27 |
| 1176-001-01-1202 Assistant Supervisor | 2,595.33 | |
| 1176-002-01-1203 Foreman | 5,990.40 | |
| 1176-002-01-1207 Level 1 Equip Operator | 32,755.02 | |
| 1176-002-01-1208 Level 2 Equip Operator | 26,250.82 | |
| 1176-002-01-1212 South Foreman | | 6,500.00 |
| 1176-002-01-1211 North Foreman | | 6,500.00 |
| 1176-002-01-1205 Truck Driver | | 30,755.02 |
| 1176-002-01-1510 Extra Hours | | 23,836.55 |
| <u>1219 PARKS & RECREATION</u> | | |
| 1219-000-04-4052 Mower Trade | 1,690.95 | |
| 1219-000-01-1030 Seasonal | 1,054.90 | |
| 1219-000-04-4055 Well System | | 2,745.85 |
| 1219-000-01-1030 Seasonal Staff | 4,622.00 | |

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| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1219-000-02-2025 | Paint | 1,045.00 | |
| 1219-000-02-2026 | Hardware & Tools | 1,800.00 | |
| 1219-000-02-2034 | Herbicide & Seed | 472.00 | |
| 1219-000-02-2035 | Repairs Building Equipment | 9,000.00 | |
| 1219-000-02-2036 | Playground surfacing | 576.00 | |
| 1219-000-03-3016 | Equip Rental | 615.00 | |
| 1219-000-03-3041 | Portable Toilers | 205.00 | |
| 1219-000-03-3045 | Building/Equip repairs | 1,000.00 | |
| 1219-000-03-3069 | Park Conference | 329.00 | |
| 1219-000-03-3078 | Safety Examination | 400.00 | |
| | | | |
| 1219-000-02-2020 | Gas, Oil, Lubricants | | 1,000.00 |
| 1219-000-02-2021 | Tires & Tubes | | 364.00 |
| 1219-000-02-2033 | Sand, Gravel, Concrete | | 7,000.00 |
| 1219-000-03-3040 | Utilities | | 200.00 |
| 1219-000-04-4057 | Furnace | | 10,000.00 |
| 1219-000-04-4061 | Playground Equip | | 1,500.00 |
| | | | |
| | <u>1222 STATEWIDE 911</u> | | |
| 1222-000-01-1010 | Dispatch | 6,300.00 | |
| 1222-000-01-1512 | Longevity | | 100.00 |
| 1222-000-01-1005 | IDACS Coordinator | | 6,200.00 |
| | | | |
| 1222-000-01-1010 | Dispatchers | 16,000.00 | |
| 1222-000-01-1510 | Extra Hours / OT | | 16,000.00 |
| | | | |
| | <u>4105 IMMUNIZATIONS</u> | | |
| 4105-000-02-2010 | Immunization Supplies | 2,500.00 | |
| 4105-000-02-2030 | Vaccines | 10,500.00 | |
| 4105-000-03-3054 | Repair & Maintenance of Equip | 2,000.00 | |
| 4105-000-04-4011 | Health Dept Remodel | | 15,000.00 |
| | | | |
| | <u>4915 PRETRIAL DIVERSION</u> | | |
| 4915-000-01-1006 | P/T Ticket Clerk | 320.91 | |
| 4915-000-01-1510 | Extra hours / OT | | 320.91 |

Mr. Ryan Riegsecker made a motion to approve the Resolution to Transfer Funds. Mr. Jeff Brill seconded the motion it carried unanimously.

LEGAL CLAIMS

Mr. Harold Gingerich presented the September 2022 legal claims in the amount of \$17,313 from Beers Mallers. Mr. Ryan Riegsecker made a motion to approve the legal claims. Mr. Charles Ashcraft seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Mr. Jeff Brill made a motion to approve the November 14, 2022 regular session minutes. Mr. Ryan Riegsecker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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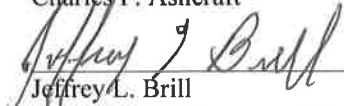
MEMORANDA

Mr. Charles Ashcraft made a motion to approve the November 14, 2022 Joint Executive Session memoranda. Mr. Ryan Riegsecker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to come before the Board at this time, Mr. Ryan Riegsecker 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



Jeffrey L. Brill



Harold D. Gingerich

Steven E. McKowen



Ryan J. Riegsecker




Michael G. Strawser



James R. Young

ATTEST:



Kathryn Hopper
LaGrange County Auditor