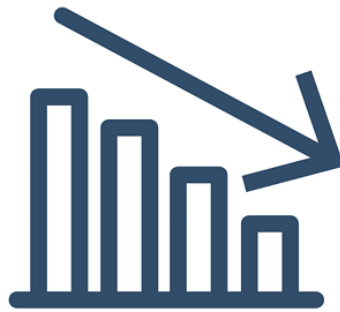


Be Noble

Noble County Economic Development



February 2022



2022 Tax Rates (Certified Budget Order)

Property tax rates drop with growth in assessed values

While tax bills may not necessarily reflect it, tax rates for 2022 have dropped in all but one taxing district in Noble County. Rising assessed property values have resulted in decreases in tax rates of as much as 14%, with seven districts seeing double-digit percentage decreases. Wolcottville is the only Noble County taxing district to see the rate go up, with increase of 9.97% over 2021.

New company granted abatement

Hershberger Properties LLC is planning to construct a new manufacturing facility in Ligonier for the production of portable buildings, primarily sheds, later this year. Sam Hershberger appeared before the Ligonier Redevelopment Commission, followed by Ligonier City Council, and was approved for a seven year tax abatement on an \$850,000 planned investment in newly constructed real property. A five year abatement was also approved for a \$390,000 investment in the acquisition of personal property including

manufacturing, IT, and logistical equipment for the start-up. Hershberger projects about 12 new jobs will be created with an average salary of \$70,000. The facility will be located on Heckner Drive.



Applications narrowed for review

Twenty-five applications for PreservINg Main Street (PMS) grant funding to enhance, repair, and/or restore historic facades on properties in downtown Kendallville were received before the January 3 deadline. That response was stronger than expected. Experience the Heart of Kendallville, the city's national Main Street™ affiliate, scored applications to prioritize the top ten they say best fit the objectives of the grant program. Projects not deemed a priority may still receive funding, either from the PMS grant if funds are not fully depleted by priority projects, or through the Kendallville Redevelopment Commission (RDC). Architects will now begin working with property owners to help determine scope and costs of high priority projects. Some applications may also, in the meantime, be referred to the RDC for consideration for facade grants to complete work that did not qualify for PMS funding.

ARP funds to boost local early childhood education efforts

Noble Thrive by 5 anticipates some local child care providers will be able to better attract and retain staff, update facilities, and improve quality as a result of \$353,000 in federal grant funding coming into the county through Indiana's appropriation of American Rescue Plan (ARP) dollars. Eligible providers will also be able to apply for a second round of funding for the Build, Learn, Grow Stabilization Grants when applications open again from January 17 to April 15. For more information, contact Jenna Anderson, Thrive by 5, at 260-445-3369.



Ligonier approves plan for use of ARP funds

The City of Ligonier will use American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds of \$988,658 for a variety of projects, according to news reports about a plan approved by city council. They include improvements to police radio communications with West Noble High School, water and sewer system improvements, and the addition of broadband internet hotspots around the city. Remaining funds will be tapped for additional city trail expansions and related develop projects.

Feb. 8 deadline for nominations

KPC Media Group and the Regional Chamber of Northeast Indiana are partnering for the second annual Manufacturing Awards. Nominations are now being sought for a variety of awards to be presented later this year. The deadline for nominations is February 8.



[Submit a Nomination](#)

The first Manufacturing Awards, presented in 2020, featured a number of Noble County manufacturers including Bosch, Flint & Walling, No-Sag, Reliable, Tenneco, and KDI. In addition to recognition and awards presented at a banquet, a Salute to Industry publication highlighting manufacturers across northeast Indiana and a video recording of the presentations were also published, providing significant exposure to the nation's top-ranked region for concentration of employment in manufacturing.



[INTAP info](#)

\$15k grants for tech expertise

The Indiana Technical Assistance Program (INTAP) has re-opened applications for small businesses to apply for up to \$15,000 in funding to help their business grow. INTAP focuses on helping companies take on projects they might not otherwise be able to pursue, including various professional services like product prototyping, developing an inventory control system, and developing a custom app. Applications are due by February 18.



NoblePalooza, an Expo to Thrive

Saturday, March 12, 2022

Community Learning Center 10 AM - 1 PM

NoblePalooza is an expo that will bring together individuals and organizations from across the county to network, share information, and one another thrive! Featuring information and exhibits from every sector of the economy and a small business marketplace. Exhibitors and vendors are now being sought. Apply to exhibit/vend or attend using the buttons below!

EVENT DETAILS

Apply to exhibit or vend

Register to attend (free!)



Dr. Jeffrey Batesole has joined the dentistry team at Hayes & Mead Family Dentistry in Albion. Dr. Batesole is a graduate of Snider High School and Ball State University. He obtained his Doctorate of Dental Surgery from Indiana University School of Dentistry in 2014 and practiced in Indiana and Oregon before joining Hayes & Mead. He begins work at the Albion practice on January 3, 2022.

The executive director of the Kendallville Public Library (KPL) since 2013 is leaving. **Katie Mullins** has been hired by the Eckhart Public Library in Auburn to take over as executive director there beginning April 18. Her resignation from KPL is effective March 18. Mullins served as KPL's teen services manager from 2007 to 2013 before becoming executive director. She currently resides with her family in Kendallville.

Pulver Asphalt, based in Albion, has been awarded a contract to carry out eight paving projects for Noble County. The \$765,100 contract is for 8.5 miles of two-inch overlay paving on eight stretches of road in central Noble County. 75% of the funding for the project is covered by a Community Crossings grant the county was awarded last fall. Pulver had the lowest bid of five submitted for the work.

Haley Anglin, a 2010 graduate of East Noble High School, has been named the new associate director of Northeastern Center's (NEC) Albion Outpatient office. Anglin worked

previously at Lifeline Youth and Family Services and joined NEC's LaGrange team in 2019.



Thrive Noble County, c/o Noble County EDC, 110 S Orange St, Albion, IN 46701, 260-636-3800

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