

(Published in The Sheridan Sentinel July 25, 2024)

State of Kansas
City 2025

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
CITY OF HOXIE
will meet on Monday, August 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 629 Main St. for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at City Hall and will be available at this hearing.


BUDGET SUMMARY
Proposed Budget 2025 Expenditures and Amount of 2024 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2025 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Prior Year Actual for 2023		Current Year Estimate for 2024		Proposed Budget for 2025	
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Amount of 2024 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	751,748	27.093	1,141,579	33.868	1,154,290	33.593
Debt Service	363,310	0.957	364,299	0.925	548,073	1.603
Library	38,000	3.562	38,000	3.444	50,520	3.201
Employee Benefits	177,309	16.549	181,000	15.809	315,000	16.886
Street Renovation	265,315	5.277		5.103	210,000	5.007
Airport	1,201	0.490	1,400	0.474	63,070	5.535
						0.500
Special Highway	40,862		35,000		33,670	
Fuller Cemetery	13,946		15,000		44,447	
Special Parks	5,000		5,000		10,799	
Ball Tax	4,134		5,500		12,749	
Water Utility	253,854		252,000		554,624	
Refuse	199,028		185,500		270,915	
Sewer Maintenance	139,809		153,093		277,153	
Non-Budgeted Funds-A	105,212					
Non-Budgeted Funds-B	34,384					
Totals	2,993,412	63.728	2,377,371	61.623	3,545,310	64.342
						57.791
						Revenue Neutral Rate**
						57.791
Less: Transfers	232,777		665,540		224,461	
Net Expenditure	2,160,635		1,707,831		3,320,849	
Total Tax Levied	640,489		640,489		640,489	
Assessed Valuation	10,060,543		10,391,379		11,080,438	
Outstanding Indebtedness:						
January 1,	2023	2024	2024			
G.O. Bonds	5,036,182	4,781,492	4,525,915			
Revenue Bonds	0	0	0			
Other	79,538	67,363	55,313			
Lease Purchase Principal	61,727	34,115	5,728			
Total	5,177,847	4,883,670	4,586,952			

*Tax rates are expressed in mills
**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988

Janet Balaier
Official Title: City Clerk
Page No. 17

Larry Horton
July 26, 1954 ~ November 20, 2023



Larry Wayne Horton, 72, passed away on Monday, November 20, 2023, in Lubbock, Texas. Larry was born July 26, 1954, to Loren & Delpha (Fitzerald) Horton.

Larry grew up on the family farm in rural Sheridan County and graduated from Hoxie High School with the Class of 1969. After high school, Larry attended Colby Community College for one year and then enlisted in the United States Army.

On October 9, 1976, he married Dalene Luft, and they had one daughter, Ashley. Throughout his life he enjoyed farming, raising pigs, driving trucks, and construction work.

Larry is survived by his daughter: Ashley (Garrett) Wagner of McCook, NE, and grandchildren: Harrison, Madden, Owen, and Magnolia. Larry was preceded in death by his parents, Loren & Delpha and half-brother Raymond Hoffman.

Graveside Services will be held on August 26, 2024, at 10:00 AM at the Lucerne Cemetery in rural Sheridan County. Condolence can be left at www.plumergobber.com.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR
FROM THE EDITOR
Viktorija Briggs

This election year is a big one on all fronts. Locally, we have incumbents with challengers; statewide, we have districts that will fight to maintain the Republican super majority in our legislature; nationally, we will be voting for a president and the health and life of the United States and its Constitution. What is beyond reprehensible is that voters will vote their 'feelings' rather than what is right, which is their due diligence to vet the candidates for what their past accomplishments for the betterment of their constituents have been, what they say vs what actions you see them perform, and what their plans are for improving the future for everyone.

Locally, we have a county commissioner who is retiring (*thank you for your service to the County*), so that seat has multiple candidates. Another commissioner has a challenger. Most of these candidates answered our questionnaire, which was printed in last week's issue, as well as linked from our Facebook group. If you haven't read them, please do. While reading the answers provided by the candidates, please take into consideration what their main platform is. How narrow or broad is it regarding the governing of Sheridan County as a whole? If a candidate is focused on only one aspect rather than the entirety of what is needed for the county, then ask yourself, "Is this candidate seeing the whole picture of what it takes to run a governmental entity or only concerned with one small part of it?" Governing a city/county/state/country is not about having a singular 'agenda'; it's about knowing and/or learning about government and how to make it run smoothly.


I have sat in on the Commissioner Meetings for eight years now, rarely missing any. I record those sessions, and I have learned an enormous amount of what it takes to truly govern as a County Commissioner. I've watched as some who had one main concern on one main aspect of life in Sheridan County that made decisions and voted 'yay' for their pet concern regardless of cost, and then vote 'nay' for things that were of vital importance to the county that would cost the county nothing through grants, etc., but their personal view was hindered by personal prejudice. 'Personal', 'prejudice', and 'agenda' have zero place in governance. Instead, consider 'general public', 'good for all', and 'platform' as deciding factors.

If someone has a complaint about something in the county, then it should be brought to the attention of the County Commissioners. *Some do. Some. It's usually the same people, too.* Everyone else who complains (and yes, I'm generalizing here) are nothing more than the peanut gallery throwing peanut shells because they have nothing of value to say and don't have the backbone to stand up and speak publicly and go on the record about their concern(s). They are also the ones who have never sat in on the Commission Meetings, especially not on a regular basis. If you have concerns - *and solutions to offer* - then figure out how to present it to the Commissioners in a manner that is open to compromise.

The first part of each week's meeting begins with the Road & Bridge Department. The majority of complaints that come in are about the roads. Too many times someone runs on that agenda alone. Yet have they been to a Commission Meeting to overhear what goes on regarding ALL that is done for and to the roads on a weekly basis? No, they have not. IF people actually came in regularly, they would find out that which has been accomplished, that which comes up all-of-a-sudden, that which is on-going, that which is in the plans, and that which is in the future. *Then* their opinion would be valid and not just a complaint from the peanut gallery.

So, before you vote, evaluate the candidates. Vet them for what their platform is and stands for as a whole; is it a 'what's good for all' or is it a too narrowly focused platform that picks and chooses who benefits? (*And leave your 'feelings' at home.*)

William Moore
October 14, 1941 ~ July 19, 2024



William E. Moore Born October 14, 1941, in Studley KS, passed away in his home on July 19, 2024. He was the youngest of eight children born to Andrew A & Anna (Senger) Moore. He attended grade school in Studley and graduated from high school in Hoxie in 1959.

He leaves behind a son Greg (Terri) Moore of Stockton, and a daughter, Becky (Mike) Mullins, of Hoxie; 7 grandkids: Ashly, Anthony, Drake, Sara, Shelby, Kevin, Rhiannon, and many great-grandkids, and one sister Donna Morgenstern of Salina.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Rhonda Moore; parents, Andrew A & Anna Moore; sisters: Hazel, Stella, Dela, Dorothy; and brothers, Glen and Wilber.

He began working out of high school for King construction and helped build I-70. He worked as a master welder at Tamko roofing mill in Phillipsburg and Palmer Tank in Garden City. He worked many years in grain elevators as well as elevator repair service. He worked at Sheridan County Road Department when he retired. He loved to fish and hunt. He was very talented with building things by hand. He was an avid gardener and loved to grow fruits and vegetables to share with friends and family.

A graveside service will be planned for a later date. Memorials are suggested to Hospice Services of Northwest Kansas, PO Box 116, Phillipsburg, KS 67661. Memorials may be sent to Mickey-Leopold Funeral Home, PO Box 987, Hoxie, Kansas 67740. Mickey-Leopold Funeral Home, Hoxie is handling arrangements. Words of condolence and caring may be left at www.hoxie@mickeyleopoldfuneral.com.

changing the weekend pay to \$10.00/hr. and EMT would still be paid for runs and transfers. This is effective July 23, 2024, and will be readdressed in January. Stithem seconded the motion. Carried 3-0. Weekend pay begins on Friday at 5:00 pm and ends Monday at 8:00 am.

The Board would like Heim Body Shop to give an estimate on damages to the courthouse pickup truck which was damaged by hail.

Mader completed and signed the 2023 audit questions.

Bainter made a motion to approve the July 16, 2024 Minutes as presented. Stithem seconded the motion. Carried 3-0.

The Board discussed the value of property if on a dirt road versus a paved road, weeds, equipment, roads, and personnel.

At 10:35 a.m. with no further business, Mader made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Stithem. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Room.

Attest: Heather Bracht,
County Clerk, Mike "Buck" Mader, Chairman

(First published in The Sheridan Sentinel July 18, 2024)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERIDAN COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Application of
LEVI CHANCE GLEASON, to change his name } Case No. SD-2024-CV-000010

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS TO LEVI CHANCE GLEASON AND ALL OTHER PERSONS WHO ARE OR MAY BE CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a Petition for Change of Name has been filed in the District Court of Sheridan County, Kansas, by Levi Chance Gleason, by and through his attorney, Harry Joe Pratt of Pratt Law Office, LLC, Hoxie, Kansas, praying for a change of name from Levi Chance Gleason to Levi Chance Moltz, and you are hereby required to plead to the Petition on or before the 3rd day of September, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. in the Court at Hoxie, Kansas. If you fail to plead, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

LEVI CHANCE GLEASON
Petitioner

SUBMITTED BY:

/s/ Harry Joe Pratt, #11860
Attorney for Petitioner
PRATT LAW OFFICE, LLC
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 275
736 Main Street
Hoxie, KS 67740
(785) 673-3217
Fax No. (785) 673-3983

(Last published in The Sheridan Sentinel August 1, 2024)

Commission Minutes
7/16/2024

Now on this 23rd day of July 2024, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas, met in regular session with Chairman Mike "Buck" Mader presiding. Other members present were Joe Bainter, David Stithem, Harry Joe Pratt County Attorney and County Clerk Heather Bracht. The guests were Kyle Emigh and The Sheridan Sentinel.

At 8:00 a.m. Mader called the meeting to order.

Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joe Herskowitz, Road & Bridge Supervisor, came to the table. Herskowitz advised the Board he had gone to the property which needs a culvert put in and there is a "No Trespassing" sign up. He has found out who the owners are of the property and will continue to try and contact them.

CAT will be here next week for two days to do a shoudering and elevating class. This will be done on 30E heading north.

Various problems with equipment was discussed.

Several areas in need of culverts was discussed.

Recycling is ready for cardboard truck next week.

Plastic recycling are about ready to be sent out.

The Board and Herskowitz discussed weeds in the northwest part of the Selden area.

There was discussion about several roads. Road viewing will be put on the agenda for next week.

Pratt had talked with a landowner about some prairie dogs that are moving in the area of 11-9-29.

Jerol DeBoer from Penco Engineering entered the meeting and stated that Bettis would like to know if the County was going to proceed with Additive #2 - 10W/Hwy 24 south to the Catholic Cemetery. The Board will have an answer next week. There was a brief discussion about who will

maintain the road and if it is something that needs to be in an Agreement with Foote. No decision was made.

Pratt went over some information he had put together pertaining to the roadwork to be done on Sheridan Ave. to 10W and the cost of the project from the Catholic Cemetery south to Foote's house and the cost north from the Catholic Cemetery to Hwy 24.

There was a brief discussion about construction on Hwy 23 and alternate routes.

The Board and Pratt discussed a micro loan project that is in default and the fence that was replaced between the landfill and Keith Kennedy.

At 8:56, Mader made a motion to enter into executive session for a period of five minutes for the discussion of non-elected personnel. Stithem seconded. Carried 3-0. Present were the Board, Bracht, and Pratt. The door opened at 8:59 with no decision being made.


Shirley Niermeier, Treasurer, came to the table and distributed the 2nd quarter financial information. Niermeier discussed various funds. The 2023 delinquent list is substantially higher than last year.

Jordan Riley, EMS Director, and Don Koepferich, EMT, entered the meeting. Riley stated he is still waiting for Dan Campbell to come and look at the drive. The state inspection of the facility and ambulances will happen on Wednesday.

Riley discussed with the Board again his plan to hire a full-time person to help get the hours covered and to help with community para-medicine. No decision was made on hiring the full-time person.

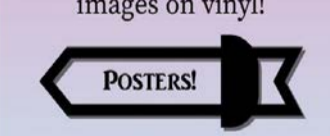
After discussion Mader made a motion to approve

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Brandi Taul, DVM
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