

# MINUTE RECORD

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**FRIEND CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES-REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, September 8, 2025**

Mayor Knoke called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall. Advanced notice of the meeting was given by publication in The Sentinel, the appointed method for giving advanced notice. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Judith Knoke presided, and City Clerk John R. Schwab recorded the proceedings. The following Councilmembers were present: A quorum being present, and the meeting duly convened, the following proceedings were had and done.

As required by the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, Mayor Knoke announced that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act has been posted on the south door of the City Hall meeting room for all in attendance to review.

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Judith K. Knoke, Mayor

ATTEST

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John R. Schwab, City Clerk

I, the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Friend, Nebraska, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the Council on September 1, 2020; that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted and were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days; that all news media requesting notification concerning meeting of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

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City Clerk

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

# MINUTE RECORD

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## CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Friend, Nebraska will meet at 7:00 p.m. on at the City Hall which meeting will be open to the public. Agenda for said meeting is kept current and is available in the City Clerk's office during regular business hours. Request to be on the agenda must be in the City Clerk's office 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

John R. Schwab, City Clerk

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**NEBRASKA OPEN MEETINGS ACT**

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**84-1407. Act, how cited.**

Sections 84-1407 to 84-1414 shall be known and may be cited as the Open Meetings Act.

**Source:** Laws 2004, LB 821, § 34.

**84-1408. Declaration of intent; meetings open to public.**

It is hereby declared to be the policy of this state that the formation of public policy is public business and may not be conducted in secret.

Every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public in order that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of attending and speaking at meetings of public bodies, except as otherwise provided by the Constitution of Nebraska, federal statutes, and the Open Meetings Act.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 1; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 1071; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 35.

**Annotations**

- Nebraska's public meetings laws do not apply to school board deliberations pertaining solely to disputed adjudicative facts. *McQuinn v. Douglas Cty. Sch. Dist. No. 66*, 259 Neb. 720, 612 N.W.2d 198 (2000).
- The primary purpose of the public meetings law is to ensure that public policy is formulated at open meetings. *Marks v. Judicial Nominating Comm.*, 236 Neb. 429, 461 N.W.2d 551 (1990).
- The public meetings law is broadly interpreted and liberally construed to obtain the objective of openness in favor of the public, and provisions permitting closed sessions must be narrowly and strictly construed. *Grein v. Board of Education of Fremont*, 216 Neb. 158, 343 N.W.2d 718 (1984).
- A county board of equalization is a public body whose meetings shall be open to the public. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).

**84-1409. Terms, defined.**

For purposes of the Open Meetings Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1)(a) Public body means (i) governing bodies of all political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska, (ii) governing bodies of all agencies, created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, of the executive department of the State of Nebraska, (iii) all independent boards, commissions, bureaus, committees, councils, subunits, or any other bodies created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, (iv) all study or

advisory committees of the executive department of the State of Nebraska whether having continuing existence or appointed as special committees with limited existence, (v) advisory committees of the bodies referred to in subdivisions (i), (ii), and (iii) of this subdivision, and (vi) instrumentalities exercising essentially public functions; and

(b) Public body does not include (i) subcommittees of such bodies unless a quorum of the public body attends a subcommittee meeting or unless such subcommittees are holding hearings, making policy, or taking formal action on behalf of their parent body, except that all meetings of any subcommittee established under section 81-15,175 are subject to the Open Meetings Act, and (ii) entities conducting judicial proceedings unless a court or other judicial body is exercising rulemaking authority, deliberating, or deciding upon the issuance of administrative orders;

(2) Meeting means all regular, special, or called meetings, formal or informal, of any public body for the purposes of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public body; and

(3) Virtual conferencing means conducting or participating in a meeting electronically or telephonically with interaction among the participants subject to subsection (2) of section 84-1412.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 2; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 1; Laws 1989, LB 429, § 42; Laws 1989, LB 311, § 14; Laws 1992, LB 1019, § 124; Laws 1993, LB 635, § 1; Laws 1996, LB 1044, § 978; Laws 1997, LB 798, § 37; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 36; Laws 2007, LB296, § 810; Laws 2011, LB366, § 2; Laws 2021, LB83, § 11.

**Annotations**

- A township is a political subdivision, and as such, a township board is subject to the provisions of the public meetings laws. *Steenblock v. Elkhorn Township Bd.*, 245 Neb. 722, 515 N.W.2d 128 (1994).
- A county agricultural society is a public body to which the provisions of the Nebraska public meetings law are applicable. *Nixon v. Madison Co. Ag. Soc'y*, 217 Neb. 37, 348 N.W.2d 119 (1984).
- Failure by a public governing body, as defined under section 84-1409, R.R.S.1943, to take and record a roll call vote on an action, as required by section 84-1413(2), R.S.Supp.,1980, grants any citizen the right to sue for the purpose of having the action declared void. In this case such failure could not be later corrected by a nunc pro tunc order because there was no showing that a roll call vote on the disputed action was actually taken, and even if it was the record showed it was not recorded until over a year later. Sections 23-1301, R.R.S.1943, and 23-1302, R.R.S.1943, make it the duty of the county clerk to record proceedings of the board of county commissioners. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 208 Neb. 69, 302 N.W.2d 674 (1981).

- As an administrative agency of the county, a county board of equalization is a public body. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- The electors of a township at their annual meeting are a public body under the Open Meetings Act. *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Bd.*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d 399 (2007).
- The meeting at issue in this case was a "meeting" within the parameters of subsection (2) of this section because it involved the discussion of public business, the formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public power district. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Pub. Power Dist.*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998).
- Informational sessions in which the governmental body hears reports are briefings. *Johnson v. Nebraska Environmental Control Council*, 2 Neb. App. 263, 509 N.W.2d 21 (1993).

**84-1410. Closed session; when; purpose; reasons listed; procedure; right to challenge; prohibited acts; chance meetings, conventions, or workshops.**

(1) Any public body may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. The subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to close. Closed sessions may be held for, but shall not be limited to, such reasons as:

(a) Strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate purchases, pending litigation, or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body;

(b) Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices;

(c) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct;

(d) Evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting;

(e) For the Community Trust created under section 81-1801.02, discussion regarding the amounts to be paid to individuals who have suffered from a tragedy of violence or natural disaster; or

(f) For public hospitals, governing board peer review activities, professional review activities, review and discussion of medical staff investigations or disciplinary actions, and any strategy session concerning transactional negotiations with any referral source that is required by federal law to be conducted at arms length.

Nothing in this section shall permit a closed meeting for discussion of the appointment or election of a new member to any public body.

(2) The vote to hold a closed session shall be taken in open session. The entire motion, the vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, and the time when the closed session commenced and concluded shall be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close passes, then the presiding officer immediately prior to the closed session shall restate on the record the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session. The public body holding such a closed session shall restrict its consideration of matters during the closed portions to only those purposes set forth in the motion to close as the reason for the closed session. The meeting shall be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken. For purposes of this section, formal action shall mean a collective decision or a collective commitment or promise to make a decision on any question, motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance or formation of a position or policy but shall not include negotiating guidance given by members of the public body to legal counsel or other negotiators in closed sessions authorized under subdivision (1)(a) of this section.

(3) Any member of any public body shall have the right to challenge the continuation of a closed session if the member determines that the session has exceeded the reason stated in the original motion to hold a closed session or if the member contends that the closed session is neither clearly necessary for (a) the protection of the public interest or (b) the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Such challenge shall be overruled only by a majority vote of the members of the public body. Such challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public. No person or public body shall fail to invite a portion of its members to a meeting, and no public body shall designate itself a subcommittee of the whole body for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act. No closed session, informal meeting, chance meeting, social gathering, email, fax, or other electronic communication shall be used for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of the act.

(5) The act does not apply to chance meetings or to attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops of members of a public body at which there is no meeting of the body then intentionally convened, if there is no vote or other action taken regarding any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 3; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 2; Laws 1985, LB 117, § 1; Laws 1992, LB 1019, § 125; Laws 1994, LB 621, § 1; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 1072; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 37; Laws 2004, LB 1179, § 1; Laws 2006, LB 898, § 1; Laws 2011, LB390, § 29; Laws 2012, LB995, § 17.

**Annotations**

- There is no absolute discovery privilege for communications that occur during a closed session. *State ex rel. Upper Republican NRD v. District Judges*, 273 Neb. 148, 728 N.W.2d 275 (2007).
- If a person present at a meeting observes a public meetings law violation in the form of an improper closed session and fails to object, that person waives his or her right to object at a later date. *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Bd.*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002).
- The public interest mentioned in this section is that shared by citizens in general and by the community at large concerning pecuniary or legal rights and liabilities. *Grein v. Board of Education*, 216 Neb. 158, 343 N.W.2d 718 (1984).
- Hearing in closed executive session was contrary to this section since there was no showing of necessity or reason under subdivision (1)(a), (b), or (c), but did not result in reversal of board decision. *Simonds v. Board of Examiners*, 213 Neb. 259, 329 N.W.2d 92 (1983).
- Negotiations for the purchase of land need not be conducted at an open meeting but the deliberations of a city council as to whether an offer to purchase real estate should be made should take place in an open meeting. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979).
- Public meeting law was not violated where the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska voted to hold a closed session to consider the university president's resignation, and also discussed the appointment of an interim president during such session. *Meyer v. Board of Regents*, 1 Neb. App. 893, 510 N.W.2d 450 (1993).

**84-1411. Meetings of public body; notice; method; contents; when available; right to modify; duties concerning notice; virtual conferencing authorized; requirements; emergency meeting without notice; appearance before public body.**

(1)(a) Each public body shall give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting as provided in this subsection. Such notice shall be transmitted to all members of the public body and to the public.

(b)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (1)(b)(ii) of this section, in the case of a public body described in subdivision (1)(a)(i) of section 84-1409 or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's website.

(ii) In the case of the governing body of a city of the second class or village or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published by:

(A) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's website; or

(B) Posting written notice in three conspicuous public places in such city or village. Such notice shall be posted in the same three places for each meeting.

(iii) In the case of a public body not described in subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body.

(c) In addition to a method of notice required by subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice may also be provided by any other appropriate method designated by such public body or such advisory committee.

(d) Each public body shall record the methods and dates of such notice in its minutes.

(e) Such notice shall contain an agenda of subjects known at the time of the publicized notice or a statement that the agenda, which shall be kept continually current, shall be readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the public body during normal business hours. Agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting. Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda shall not be altered later than (i) twenty-four hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting or (ii) forty-eight hours before the scheduled commencement of a meeting of a city council or village board scheduled outside the corporate limits of the municipality. The public body shall have the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

(2)(a) The following entities may hold a meeting by means of virtual conferencing if the requirements of subdivision (2)(b) of this section are met:

(i) A state agency, state board, state commission, state council, or state committee, or an advisory committee of any such state entity;

(ii) An organization, including the governing body, created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act;

(iii) The governing body of a public power district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state;

(iv) The governing body of a public power and irrigation district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state;

(v) An educational service unit;

(vi) The Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council;

(vii) An organization, including the governing body, of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act;

(viii) A community college board of governors;

- (ix) The Nebraska Brand Committee;
- (x) A local public health department;
- (xi) A metropolitan utilities district;
- (xii) A regional metropolitan transit authority;
- (xiii) A natural resources district; and
- (xiv) The Judicial Resources Commission.

(b) The requirements for holding a meeting by means of virtual conferencing are as follows:

(i) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsection (1) of this section, including providing access to a dial-in number or link to the virtual conference;

(ii) In addition to the public's right to participate by virtual conferencing, reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend at a physical site and participate as provided in section 84-1412, including reasonable seating, in at least one designated site in a building open to the public and identified in the notice, with: At least one member of the entity holding such meeting, or his or her designee, present at each site; a recording of the hearing by audio or visual recording devices; and a reasonable opportunity for input, such as public comment or questions, is provided to at least the same extent as would be provided if virtual conferencing was not used;

(iii) At least one copy of all documents being considered at the meeting is available at any physical site open to the public where individuals may attend the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act; and

(iv) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision or subsection (4) of section 79-2204, no more than one-half of the meetings of the state entities, advisory committees, boards, councils, organizations, or governing bodies are held by virtual conferencing in a calendar year. In the case of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis or an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, the organization may hold more than one-half of its meetings by virtual conferencing if such organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by virtual conferencing. The governing body of a risk management pool that meets at least quarterly and the advisory committees of the governing body may each hold more than one-half of its meetings by virtual conferencing if the governing body's quarterly meetings are not held by virtual conferencing.

(3) Virtual conferencing, emails, faxes, or other electronic communication shall not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act.

(4) The secretary or other designee of each public body shall maintain a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to them of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at that meeting.

(5) When it is necessary to hold an emergency meeting without reasonable advance public notice, the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes and any formal action taken in such meeting shall pertain only to the emergency. Such emergency meetings may be held by virtual conferencing. The provisions of subsection (4) of this section shall be complied with in conducting emergency meetings. Complete minutes of such emergency meetings specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available to the public by no later than the end of the next regular business day.

(6) A public body may allow a member of the public or any other witness to appear before the public body by means of virtual conferencing.

(7)(a) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (5) of this section, if an emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to the Emergency Management Act as defined in section 81-829.39, a public body the territorial jurisdiction of which is included in the emergency declaration, in whole or in part, may hold a meeting by virtual conferencing during such emergency if the public body gives reasonable advance publicized notice as described in subsection (1) of this section. The notice shall include information regarding access for the public and news media. In addition to any formal action taken pertaining to the emergency, the public body may hold such meeting for the purpose of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action by the public body.

(b) The public body shall provide access by providing a dial-in number or a link to the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act. Reasonable arrangements shall be made to accommodate the public's right to hear and speak at the meeting and record the meeting. Subsection (4) of this section shall be complied with in conducting such meetings.

(c) The nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes. Complete minutes of such meeting specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available for inspection as provided in subsections (5) and (6) of section 84-1413.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 4; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 3; Laws 1987, LB 663, § 25; Laws 1993, LB 635, § 2; Laws 1996, LB 469, § 6; Laws 1996, LB 1161, § 1; Laws 1999, LB 47, § 2; Laws 1999, LB 87, § 100; Laws 1999, LB 461, § 1; Laws 2000, LB 968, § 85; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 38; Laws 2004, LB 1179, § 2; Laws 2006, LB 898, § 2; Laws 2007, LB199, § 9; Laws 2009, LB361, § 2; Laws 2012, LB735, § 1; Laws 2013, LB510,

§ 1; Laws 2017, LB318, § 1; Laws 2019, LB212, § 5; Laws 2020, LB148, § 3; Laws 2021, LB83, § 12.

### **Cross References**

- **Intergovernmental Risk Management Act**, see section 44-4301.
- **Interlocal Cooperation Act**, see section 13-801.
- **Joint Public Agency Act**, see section 13-2501.
- **Municipal Cooperative Financing Act**, see section 18-2401.

### **Annotations**

- Under subsection (1) of this section, the Legislature has imposed only two conditions on the public body's notification method of a public meeting: (1) It must give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting and (2) it must be recorded in the public body's minutes. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).
- An emergency is "(a)ny event or occasional combination of circumstances which calls for immediate action or remedy; pressing necessity; exigency; a sudden or unexpected happening; an unforeseen occurrence or condition." *Steenblock v. Elkhorn Township Bd.*, 245 Neb. 722, 515 N.W.2d 128 (1994).
- An agenda which gives reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at a meeting of a city council complies with the requirements of this section. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979).
- When notice is required, a notice of a special meeting of a city council posted in three public places at 10:00 p.m. on the day preceding the meeting is not reasonable advance publicized notice of a meeting as is required by this section. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979).
- Teacher waived right to object to lack of public notice in board of education employment hearing by voluntary participation in the hearing without objection. *Alexander v. School Dist. No. 17*, 197 Neb. 251, 248 N.W.2d 335 (1976).
- A county board of commissioners and a county board of equalization are not required to give separate notices when the notice states only the time and place that the boards meet and directs a citizen to where the agendas for each board can be found. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- A county board of equalization is a public body which is required to give advanced publicized notice of its meetings. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- Notice of recessed and reconvened meetings must be given in the same fashion as the original meeting. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- True notice of a meeting is not given by burying such in the minutes of a prior board proceeding. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- An agenda notice which merely stated "work order reports" was an inadequate notice under this section because it did not give interested persons knowledge that

plans for a 345 kv transmission line through the district was going to be discussed and voted upon at the meeting. Inadequate agenda notice under this section meant there was a substantial violation of the public meeting laws; however, later actions by the board of directors cured the defects in notice, and such actions were in substantial compliance with the statute. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Pub. Power Dist.*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998).

**84-1412. Meetings of public body; rights of public; public body; powers and duties.**

(1) Subject to the Open Meetings Act, the public has the right to attend and the right to speak at meetings of public bodies, and all or any part of a meeting of a public body, except for closed sessions called pursuant to section 84-1410, may be videotaped, televised, photographed, broadcast, or recorded by any person in attendance by means of a tape recorder, a camera, video equipment, or any other means of pictorial or sonic reproduction or in writing.

(2) It shall not be a violation of subsection (1) of this section for any public body to make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, televising, photographing, broadcasting, or recording its meetings, including meetings held by virtual conferencing. A body may not be required to allow citizens to speak at each meeting, but it may not forbid public participation at all meetings.

(3) No public body shall require members of the public to identify themselves as a condition for admission to the meeting nor shall such body require that the name of any member of the public be placed on the agenda prior to such meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda. The body shall require any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself, including an address and the name of any organization represented by such person unless the address requirement is waived to protect the security of the individual.

(4) No public body shall, for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act, hold a meeting in a place known by the body to be too small to accommodate the anticipated audience.

(5) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds its meeting in its traditional meeting place which is located in this state.

(6) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds a meeting outside of this state if, but only if:

(a) A member entity of the public body is located outside of this state and the meeting is in that member's jurisdiction;

(b) All out-of-state locations identified in the notice are located within public buildings used by members of the entity or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience;

(c) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including making virtual conferencing available at an in-state location to members, the public, or the press, if requested twenty-four hours in advance;

(d) No more than twenty-five percent of the public body's meetings in a calendar year are held out-of-state;

(e) Out-of-state meetings are not used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act; and

(f) The public body publishes notice of the out-of-state meeting at least twenty-one days before the date of the meeting in a legal newspaper of statewide circulation.

(7) Each public body shall, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear the discussion and testimony presented at a meeting.

(8) Public bodies shall make available at the meeting or the in-state location for virtual conferencing as required by subdivision (6)(c) of this section, for examination and copying by members of the public, at least one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed at an open meeting, either in paper or electronic form. Public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. At the beginning of the meeting, the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 5; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 4; Laws 1985, LB 117, § 2; Laws 1987, LB 324, § 5; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 1073; Laws 2001, LB 250, § 2; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 39; Laws 2006, LB 898, § 3; Laws 2008, LB962, § 1; Laws 2021, LB83, § 13.

**Annotations**

- To preserve an objection that a public body failed to make documents available at a public meeting as required by subsection (8) of this section, a person who attends a public meeting must not only object to the violation, but must make that objection to the public body or to a member of the public body. *Stoetzel & Sons v. City of Hastings*, 265 Neb. 637, 658 N.W.2d 636 (2003).

**84-1413. Meetings; minutes; roll call vote; secret ballot; when; agenda and minutes; required on website; when.**

(1) Each public body shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed.

(2) Any action taken on any question or motion duly moved and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the public body in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted or if the member was absent or not voting. The requirements of a roll call or viva voce vote shall be

satisfied by a public body which utilizes an electronic voting device which allows the yeas and nays of each member of such public body to be readily seen by the public.

(3) The vote to elect leadership within a public body may be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) The minutes of all meetings and evidence and documentation received or disclosed in open session shall be public records and open to public inspection during normal business hours.

(5) Minutes shall be written, except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, and available for inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier, except that cities of the second class and villages may have an additional ten working days if the employee responsible for writing the minutes is absent due to a serious illness or emergency.

(6) Minutes of the meetings of the board of a school district or educational service unit may be kept as an electronic record.

(7) Beginning July 31, 2022, the governing body of a natural resources district, the city council of a city of the metropolitan class, the city council of a city of the primary class, the city council of a city of the first class, the county board of a county with a population greater than twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and the school board of a school district shall make available on such entity's public website the agenda and minutes of any meeting of the governing body. The agenda shall be placed on the website at least twenty-four hours before the meeting of the governing body. Minutes shall be placed on the website at such time as the minutes are available for inspection as provided in subsection (5) of this section. This information shall be available on the public website for at least six months.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 6; Laws 1978, LB 609, § 3; Laws 1979, LB 86, § 9; Laws 1987, LB 663, § 26; Laws 2005, LB 501, § 1; Laws 2009, LB361, § 3; Laws 2015, LB365, § 2; Laws 2016, LB876, § 1; Laws 2021, LB83, § 14.

**Annotations**

- If a person present at a meeting observes and fails to object to an alleged public meetings laws violation in the form of a failure to conduct rollcall votes before taking actions on questions or motions pending, that person waives his or her right to object at a later date. *Hauser v. Nebraska Police Stds. Adv. Council*, 264 Neb. 944, 653 N.W.2d 240 (2002).
- Subsection (2) of this section does not require the record to state that the vote was by roll call, but requires only that the record show if and how each member voted. Neither does the statute set a time limit for recording the results of a vote, after which no corrections of the record can be made. If no intervening rights of third persons have arisen, a board of county commissioners has power to correct the record of the proceedings had at a previous meeting so as to make them speak the

truth, particularly where the correction supplies some omitted fact or action and is done not to contradict or change the original record but to have the record show that a certain action was taken or thing done, which the original record fails to show. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 214 Neb. 85, 333 N.W.2d 652 (1983).

- Failure by a public governing body, as defined under section 84-1409, R.R.S.1943, to take and record a roll call vote on an action, as required by section 84-1413(2), R.S.Supp.,1980, grants any citizen the right to sue for the purpose of having the action declared void. In this case such failure could not be later corrected by a nunc pro tunc order because there was no showing that a roll call vote on the disputed action was actually taken, and even if it was the record showed it was not recorded until over a year later. Sections 23-1301, R.R.S.1943, and 23-1302, R.R.S.1943, make it the duty of the county clerk to record proceedings of the board of county commissioners. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 208 Neb. 69, 302 N.W.2d 674 (1981).
- There is no requirement that a public body make a record of where notice was published or posted. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).

**84-1414. Unlawful action by public body; declared void or voidable by district court; when; duty to enforce open meeting laws; citizen's suit; procedure; violations; penalties.**

(1) Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be declared void by the district court if the suit is commenced within one hundred twenty days of the meeting of the public body at which the alleged violation occurred. Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in substantial violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be voidable by the district court if the suit is commenced more than one hundred twenty days after but within one year of the meeting of the public body in which the alleged violation occurred. A suit to void any final action shall be commenced within one year of the action.

(2) The Attorney General and the county attorney of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets shall enforce the Open Meetings Act.

(3) Any citizen of this state may commence a suit in the district court of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets or in which the plaintiff resides for the purpose of requiring compliance with or preventing violations of the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of declaring an action of a public body void, or for the purpose of determining the applicability of the act to discussions or decisions of the public body. It shall not be a defense that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at such time. The court may order payment of reasonable attorney's fees and court costs to a successful plaintiff in a suit brought under this section.

(4) Any member of a public body who knowingly violates or conspires to violate or who attends or remains at a meeting knowing that the public body is in violation of any provision of

the Open Meetings Act shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class III misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 9; Laws 1977, LB 39, § 318; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 5; Laws 1992, LB 1019, § 126; Laws 1994, LB 621, § 2; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 1074; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 40; Laws 2006, LB 898, § 4.

#### **Annotations**

- The Legislature has granted standing to a broad scope of its citizens for the very limited purpose of challenging meetings allegedly in violation of the Open Meetings Act, so that they may help police the public policy embodied by the act. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010).
- Any citizen of the state may commence an action to declare a public body's action void. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).
- The reading of ordinances constitutes a formal action under subsection (1) of this section. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).
- If a person present at a meeting observes a public meetings law violation in the form of an improper closed session and fails to object, that person waives his or her right to object at a later date. *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Bd.*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002).
- Under the Public Meetings Act, a county lacks capacity to maintain an action to declare its official conduct "void" for noncompliance with the act. *County of York v. Johnson*, 230 Neb. 403, 432 N.W.2d 215 (1988).
- When a petitioner under this section is successful in the district court, that court may allow attorney fees. *Tracy Corp. II v. Nebraska Pub. Serv. Comm.*, 218 Neb. 900, 360 N.W.2d 485 (1984).
- Informal discussions between the Tax Commissioner and the State Board of Equalization in which instructions were clarified, with such clarification leading to the amendment of hearing notices, did not constitute a public meeting subject to the provisions of this section. *Box Butte County v. State Board of Equalization and Assessment*, 206 Neb. 696, 295 N.W.2d 670 (1980).
- The right to collaterally attack an order made in contravention of the Public Meeting Act must occur within a period of one year as is specifically provided by this section. *Witt v. School District No. 70*, 202 Neb. 63, 273 N.W.2d 669 (1979).
- Statutory change, requiring "publicized notice" for board of education employment hearings, occurring between dates meeting scheduled and conducted, held not to void proceedings. *Alexander v. School Dist. No. 17*, 197 Neb. 251, 248 N.W.2d 335 (1976).
- Voiding an entire meeting is a proper remedy for violations of the Open Meetings Act. Once a meeting has been declared void pursuant to Nebraska's public meetings law, board members are prohibited from considering any information

obtained at the illegal meeting. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).

- Actions by the board of directors were merely voidable under this section, and not void. Pursuant to subsection (3) of this section, the plaintiffs were awarded partial attorney fees because they were successful in having the court declare that the board of directors was in substantial violation of the statute, even though the plaintiffs did not get the relief requested of having the board's actions declared void. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Pub. Power Dist.*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998).

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Source: [http://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/display\\_html.php?begin\\_section=84-1407&end\\_section=84-1414](http://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/display_html.php?begin_section=84-1407&end_section=84-1414)

Date: July 2021



**I pledge allegiance to the Flag  
of the United States of America,  
and to the Republic for which it stands,  
one Nation under God, indivisible,  
with liberty and justice for all.**

**CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA**

**BUDGET FORM AND INDEPENDENT  
ACCOUNTANT'S COMPILATION REPORT**

**Year Ending September 30, 2026**



## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S COMPILATION REPORT

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council  
City of Friend, Nebraska

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial forecasts of the City of Friend, which comprise forecasted information for the years ended September 30, 2026 and 2025, included in the accompanying prescribed form and the related summary of significant forecast assumptions in accordance with guidelines for the presentation of a financial forecast established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).

Management also is responsible for the accompanying historical financial statements of the City of Friend, which comprise the financial information for the year ended September 30, 2024, included in the accompanying prescribed form.

We have performed the compilation engagements in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services, promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit, examine, or review the forecast or the financial statements nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any form of assurance on the financial forecasts and historical financial statements included in the accompanying prescribed form.

The financial forecasts and historical financial statements included in the accompanying prescribed form are presented in accordance with the requirements of the State of Nebraska Budget Act, and are not intended to be a presentation in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The forecasted results may not be achieved, as there will usually be differences between the forecasted and actual results because events and circumstances frequently do not occur as expected, and these differences may be material. We have no responsibility to update this report for events and circumstances occurring after the date of this report.

**SHAREHOLDERS:**

Marcy J. Luth  
Heidi A. Ashby  
Christine R. Shenk  
Michael E. Hoback  
Joseph P. Stump  
Kyle R. Overturf  
Tracy A. Cannon  
Jamie L. Clemans  
Travis L. Arnold

3123 W. Stolley Park Rd.  
Suite A  
P.O. Box 1407  
Grand Island, NE 68802  
P 308-381-1810  
F 308-381-4824  
EMAIL [cpa@gicpas.com](mailto:cpa@gicpas.com)

Management has elected to omit the summary of significant accounting policies and substantially all the disclosures required by guidelines for the presentation of a forecast established by the AICPA other than those related to the significant forecast assumptions. If the omitted summary of significant accounting policies and disclosures were included in the forecast, they might influence the user's conclusions about the City's results of operations for the forecast periods. Accordingly, this forecast is not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management of the City of Friend and the State of Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

AMGL P.C.

Grand Island, Nebraska  
August 28, 2025

**2025-2026  
STATE OF NEBRASKA  
CITY/VILLAGE BUDGET FORM**

**City of Friend  
TO THE COUNTY BOARD AND COUNTY CLERK OF  
Saline County**

**This budget is for the Period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026**

**Upon Filing, The Entity Certifies the Information Submitted on this Form to be Correct:**

The following **PERSONAL AND REAL PROPERTY TAX** is requested for the ensuing year:

499,771.89	Property Taxes for Non-Bond Purposes
177,787.00	Principal and Interest on Bonds
677,558.89	<b>Total Personal and Real Property Tax Required</b>

**Projected Outstanding Bonded Indebtedness as of October 1, 2025**  
*(As of the Beginning of the Budget Year)*

Principal	2,895,000.00
Interest	556,683.75
<b>Total Bonded Indebtedness</b>	<b>3,451,683.75</b>

99,954,476.00	<b>Total Certified Valuation (All Counties)</b> <i>(Certification of Valuation(s) from County Assessor <b>MUST</b> be attached)</i>
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**Report of Joint Public Agency & Interlocal Agreements**

Was this Subdivision involved in any Interlocal Agreements or Joint Public Agencies for the reporting period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025?

YES                       NO

*If YES, Please submit Interlocal Agreement Report by September 30th.*

**County Clerk's Use ONLY**

**Report of Trade Names, Corporate Names & Business Names**

Did the Subdivision operate under a separate Trade Name, Corporate Name, or other Business Name during the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025?

YES                       NO

*If YES, Please submit Trade Name Report by September 30th.*

**APA Contact Information**

Auditor of Public Accounts  
PO Box 98917  
Lincoln, NE 68509

**Telephone:** (402) 471-2111      **FAX:** (402) 471-3301

**Website:** [auditors.nebraska.gov](http://auditors.nebraska.gov)

**Questions - E-Mail:** [Jeff.Schreier@nebraska.gov](mailto:Jeff.Schreier@nebraska.gov)

**Submission Information**

**Budget Due by 9-30-2025**

**Submit budget to:**

- Auditor of Public Accounts -Electronically on Website or Mail
- County Board (SEC. 13-508), C/O County Clerk

City of Friend in Saline County

Line No.	Beginning Balances, Receipts, & Transfers	Actual 2023 - 2024 (Column 1)	Actual/Estimated 2024 - 2025 (Column 2)	Adopted Budget 2025 - 2026 (Column 3)
1	Net Cash Balance	1,746,466.00	1,993,072.00	3,610,609.00
2	Investments	485,397.00	500,000.00	500,000.00
3	County Treasurer's Balance	15,263.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
4	Beginning Balance Proprietary Function Funds (Only If Page 6 is Used)	451,630.00	229,563.00	(178,466.00)
5	<b>Subtotal of Beginning Balances</b> (Lines 1 thru 4)	<b>2,698,756.00</b>	<b>2,737,635.00</b>	<b>3,947,143.00</b>
6	Personal and Real Property Taxes (Columns 1 and 2 - See Preparation Guidelines)	567,596.17	643,113.00	670,850.39
7	Federal Receipts	28,666.00	49,024.31	-
8	State Receipts: Motor Vehicle Pro-Rate	1,449.52	1,450.00	1,450.00
9		-	-	-
10	State Receipts: Highway Allocation and Incentives	168,065.33	176,741.00	170,435.00
11	State Receipts: Motor Vehicle Fee	12,016.14	12,000.00	12,000.00
12	State Receipts: State Aid	-	-	-
13	State Receipts: Municipal Equalization Aid	44,259.64	41,169.42	25,324.59
14	State Receipts: Other	-	-	-
15	State Receipts: Property Tax Credit	42,466.00	45,000.00	-
16	Local Receipts: Nameplate Capacity Tax	-	-	-
17	Local Receipts: Motor Vehicle Tax	65,934.63	72,370.00	70,000.00
18	Local Receipts: Local Option Sales Tax	192,998.88	247,850.00	291,850.00
19	Local Receipts: In Lieu of Tax	-	-	-
20	Local Receipts: Other	1,193,403.43	2,714,089.13	4,424,734.80
21	Transfers In of Surplus Fees	-	-	936,828.72
22	Transfers In Other Than Surplus Fees	-	-	820,241.14
23	Proprietary Function Funds (Only if Page 6 is Used)	5,788,761.00	4,981,340.00	7,979,996.00
24	<b>Total Resources Available</b> (Lines 5 thru 23)	<b>10,804,372.74</b>	<b>11,721,781.86</b>	<b>19,350,853.64</b>
25	<b>Total Disbursements &amp; Transfers</b> (Line 22, Pg 3, 4 & 5)	<b>8,066,737.74</b>	<b>7,774,638.86</b>	<b>14,209,179.64</b>
26	<b>Balance Forward/Cash Reserve</b> (Line 24 MINUS Line 25)	<b>2,737,635.00</b>	<b>3,947,143.00</b>	<b>5,141,674.00</b>
27	Cash Reserve Percentage			64%
<b>PROPERTY TAX RECAP</b>		Tax from Line 6		670,850.39
		County Treasurer Commission at 1%		6,708.50
		<b>Total Property Tax Requirement</b>		<b>677,558.89</b>

## City of Friend in Saline County

### To Assist the County For Levy Setting Purposes

The Cover Page identifies the Property Tax Request between Principal & Interest on Bonds and All Other Purposes. If your municipality needs more of a breakdown for levy setting purposes, complete the section below.

Property Tax Request by Fund:	Property Tax Request
General Fund	\$ 499,771.89
Bond Fund	\$ 177,787.00
_____ Fund	
_____ Fund	
<b>Total Tax Request</b>	<b>** \$ 677,558.89</b>

\*\* This Amount should agree to the Total Personal and Real Property Tax Required on the Cover Page 1.

### Cash Reserve Funds

Statute 13-503 says cash reserve means funds required for the period before revenue would become available for expenditure but shall not include funds held in any special reserve fund. If the cash reserve on Page 2 exceeds 50%, you can list below funds being held in a special reserve fund.

Special Reserve Fund Name	Amount
Warren Memorial Hospital	\$ 2,362,030.00
_____	
_____	
Total Special Reserve Funds	\$ 2,362,030.00
Total Cash Reserve	\$ 5,141,674.00
Remaining Cash Reserve	\$ 2,779,644.00
Remaining Cash Reserve %	35%

### Documentation of Transfers of Surplus Fees:

*(Only complete if Transfers of Surplus Fees Were Budgeted)*

Please explain where the monies will be transferred from, where the monies will be transferred to, and the reason for the transfer.

Transfer From:	Transfer To:
Electric Fund	General Fund
Amount: \$	936,828.72
Reason: Surplus Fees	

Transfer From:	Transfer To:
Amount:	
Reason:	

Transfer From:	Transfer To:
Amount:	
Reason:	

City of Friend in Saline County

Line No.	2025-2026 ADOPTED BUDGET Disbursements & Transfers	Operating Expenses (A)	Capital Improvements (B)	Other Capital Outlay (C)	Debt Service (D)	Other (E)	Transfers Out (F)	TOTAL
1	Governmental:							
2	General Government	735,111.18	-	-	-	-	523,287.17	1,258,398.35
3	Public Safety - Police	186,835.00	3,100.00	-	-	-	-	189,935.00
3a	Public Safety - Fire	49,510.00	3,139,157.00	15,834.37	119,463.75	-	-	3,323,965.12
4	Public Safety - Other	20,300.00	-	10,000.00	-	-	-	30,300.00
5	Public Works - Streets	247,024.50	1,051,125.00	30,000.00	119,602.50	-	187,069.14	1,634,821.14
6	Public Works - Other	51,630.00	-	1,000.00	-	-	-	52,630.00
7	Public Health and Social Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Culture and Recreation	283,595.00	10,000.00	51,500.00	158,567.50	-	-	503,662.50
9	Community Development	107,227.00	-	-	-	-	-	107,227.00
10	Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Business-Type Activities:							
12	Airport	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Nursing Home	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Hospital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Electric Utility	-	-	-	-	-	936,828.72	936,828.72
16	Solid Waste	105,375.00	-	-	-	-	116.50	105,491.50
17	Transportation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Wastewater	172,985.00	57,500.00	17,500.00	-	-	87,331.15	335,316.15
19	Water	213,145.00	20,300.00	22,000.00	13,221.98	-	22,437.18	291,104.16
20	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Proprietary Function Funds (Page 6)					5,439,500.00		5,439,500.00
22	<b>Total Disbursements &amp; Transfers (Lns 2 thru 21)</b>	<b>2,172,737.68</b>	<b>4,281,182.00</b>	<b>147,834.37</b>	<b>410,855.73</b>	<b>5,439,500.00</b>	<b>1,757,069.86</b>	<b>14,209,179.64</b>

(A) **Operating Expenses** should include Personal Services, Operating Expenses, Supplies and Materials, and Equipment Rental.

(B) **Capital Improvements** should include acquisition of real property or acquisition, construction, or extension of any improvements on real property.

(C) **Other Capital Outlay** should include other items to be inventoried (i.e. equipment, vehicles, etc.).

(D) **Debt Service** should include Bond Principal and Interest Payments, Payments to Retirement Interest-Free Loans from NDA (Airports) and other debt payments.

(E) **Other** should include Judgments, and Proprietary Function Funds if a separate budget is filed.

(F) **Transfers** should include Transfers and Transfers of Surplus Fees

City of Friend in Saline County

Line No.	2024-2025 ACTUAL/ESTIMATED Disbursements & Transfers	Operating Expenses (A)	Capital Improvements (B)	Other Capital Outlay (C)	Debt Service (D)	Other (E)	Transfers Out (F)	TOTAL
1	Governmental:							
2	General Government	437,963.60	-	-	-	-	-	437,963.60
3	Public Safety - Police	165,420.00	3,100.00	-	-	-	-	168,520.00
3a	Public Safety - Fire	37,446.00	60,843.00	35,000.00	63,201.04	-	-	196,490.04
4	Public Safety - Other	68,300.00	-	-	-	-	-	68,300.00
5	Public Works - Streets	185,411.30	-	-	121,602.50	-	-	307,013.80
6	Public Works - Other	48,735.00	-	1,000.00	-	-	-	49,735.00
7	Public Health and Social Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Culture and Recreation	260,064.25	5,500.00	1,050.00	160,005.00	-	-	426,619.25
9	Community Development	250,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	250,000.00
10	Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Business-Type Activities:							
12	Airport	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Nursing Home	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Hospital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Electric Utility	24,572.78	-	-	-	-	-	24,572.78
16	Solid Waste	106,220.00	-	-	-	-	-	106,220.00
17	Transportation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Wastewater	132,085.00	1,500.00	12,500.00	-	-	-	146,085.00
19	Water	161,515.00	4,000.00	24,900.00	13,335.39	-	-	203,750.39
20	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Proprietary Function Funds					5,389,369.00		5,389,369.00
22	<b>Total Disbursements &amp; Transfers (Ln 2 thru 21)</b>	<b>1,877,732.93</b>	<b>74,943.00</b>	<b>74,450.00</b>	<b>358,143.93</b>	<b>5,389,369.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,774,638.86</b>

(A) **Operating Expenses** should include Personal Services, Operating Expenses, Supplies and Materials, and Equipment Rental.

(B) **Capital Improvements** should include acquisition of real property or acquisition, construction, or extension of any improvements on real property.

(C) **Other Capital Outlay** should include other items to be inventoried (i.e. equipment, vehicles, etc.).

(D) **Debt Service** should include Bond Principal and Interest Payments, Payments to Retirement Interest-Free Loans from NDA (Airports) and other debt payments.

(E) **Other** should include Judgments, and Proprietary Function Funds if a separate budget is filed.

(F) **Transfers** should include Transfers and Transfers of Surplus Fees

City of Friend in Saline County

Line No.	2023-2024 ACTUAL Disbursements & Transfers	Operating Expenses (A)	Capital Improvements (B)	Other Capital Outlay (C)	Debt Service (D)	Other (E)	Transfers Out (F)	TOTAL
1	Governmental:							
2	General Government	343,074.77	-	17,026.00	-	-	-	360,100.77
3	Public Safety - Police	124,076.69	3,586.00	-	-	-	-	127,662.69
3a	Public Safety - Fire	28,668.41	-	37,069.90	-	-	-	65,738.31
4	Public Safety - Other	44,791.57	-	-	-	-	-	44,791.57
5	Public Works - Streets	196,173.14	-	-	123,527.50	-	-	319,700.64
6	Public Works - Other	59,282.73	-	6,022.74	-	-	-	65,305.47
7	Public Health and Social Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Culture and Recreation	212,878.36	3,589.00	2,111.98	156,380.00	-	-	374,959.34
9	Community Development	266,196.84	-	-	-	-	-	266,196.84
10	Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Business-Type Activities:							
12	Airport	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Nursing Home	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Hospital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Electric Utility	3,054.83	-	-	-	-	-	3,054.83
16	Solid Waste	97,997.44	-	-	-	-	-	97,997.44
17	Transportation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Wastewater	155,176.68	1,117.80	3,625.00	-	-	-	159,919.48
19	Water	178,200.26	7,363.00	8,313.66	12,651.44	-	-	206,528.36
20	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Proprietary Function Funds					5,974,782.00		5,974,782.00
22	<b>Total Disbursements &amp; Transfers (Ln 2 thru 21)</b>	<b>1,709,571.72</b>	<b>15,655.80</b>	<b>74,169.28</b>	<b>292,558.94</b>	<b>5,974,782.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,066,737.74</b>

(A) **Operating Expenses** should include Personal Services, Operating Expenses, Supplies and Materials, and Equipment Rental.

(B) **Capital Improvements** should include acquisition of real property or acquisition, construction, or extension of any improvements on real property.

(C) **Other Capital Outlay** should include other items to be inventoried (i.e. equipment, vehicles, etc.).

(D) **Debt Service** should include Bond Principal and Interest Payments, Payments to Retirement Interest-Free Loans from NDA (Airports) and other debt payments.

(E) **Other** should include Judgments, and Proprietary Function Funds if a separate budget is filed.

(F) **Transfers** should include Transfers and Transfers of Surplus Fees



## CORRESPONDENCE INFORMATION

### ENTITY OFFICIAL ADDRESS

*If no official address, please provide address where correspondence should be sent*

NAME	<b>City of Friend</b>
ADDRESS	<b>235 Maple</b>
CITY & ZIP CODE	<b>Friend 68359</b>
TELEPHONE	<b>402-947-2711</b>
WEBSITE	<a href="http://www.cityoffriend.org">www.cityoffriend.org</a>

	<u>BOARD CHAIRPERSON</u>	<u>CLERK/TREASURER/SUPERINTENDENT/OTHER</u>	<u>PREPARER</u>
NAME	Judith Knoke	Heather Varney	Joseph P. Stump
TITLE /FIRM NAME	Chairperson	Clerk	AMGL, P.C.
TELEPHONE	402-826-1310	402-947-2711	308-381-1810
EMAIL ADDRESS	<a href="mailto:jewels61095@gmail.com">jewels61095@gmail.com</a>	<a href="mailto:cityclerk@cityoffriend.org">cityclerk@cityoffriend.org</a>	<a href="mailto:jstump@gicpas.com">jstump@gicpas.com</a>

For Questions on this form, who should we contact (please  one): Contact will be via email if supplied.

- Board Chairperson
- Clerk / Treasurer / Superintendent / Other
- Preparer

**City of Friend**  
**2025-2026 PROPERTY TAX REQUEST AUTHORITY COMPUTATION FORM**

**Calculation of Preliminary Property Tax Request Authority**

<b>2024-2025 Total Property Tax Request</b>	(1)	<b>\$ 654,128.00</b>	
<i>(from prior year budget - Cover Page submitted to the State Auditor)</i>			
Less: Prior Year Exceptions Utilized			
<i>(Will all be zero for 2025-2026 budget because first year of new cap)</i>			
Approved Bonds <i>(prior year line 16)</i>	(2)	-	
Emergency Response <i>(prior year line 17)</i>	(3)	-	
Public Safety Services <i>(prior year line 18)</i>	(4)	-	
County Attorneys <i>(prior year line 19)</i>	(5)	-	
County Public Defenders <i>(prior year line 20)</i>	(6)	-	
Response to Public Safety Threat <i>(prior year line 21)</i>	(7)	-	
Public Safety Interlocal Agreements <i>(prior year line 22)</i>	(8)	-	
Voter Approved Increase <i>(prior year line 23)</i>	(9)	-	
Unused authority used in the prior year <i>(prior year line 24)</i>	(10)	-	
<b>TOTAL Prior Year Exceptions Utilized (total line 2 thru 10)</b>	<b>(11)</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>Preliminary Property Tax Request Authority (line 1 - line 11)</b>			(12) <b>654,128.00</b>

**Allowed Increases to Preliminary Property Tax Request Authority**

<b>2024 Property Taxes Levied (per Taxes Levied Reports from Department of Revenue)</b>		<u>654,517.72</u>	
<i>See instructions below for where to find this amount</i>			
			(13)
<b>Growth Percentage per County Assessor</b>			
<u>13,541,110.00</u> / <u>94,048,016.00</u> = <u>14.40%</u>			
2025 Growth Value	2024 Total Valuation	(14a)	<u>94,237.99</u>
<i>(Line 14 equals Line 13 minus line 2 &amp; 3, multiplied by line 14a)</i>			Increase due to Growth (14)
<b>Inflation Percentage</b>			
<i>(Line 15 equals Line 13 minus line 2 &amp; 3, multiplied by line 15a)</i>			
		<u>5.17%</u>	
		(15a)	<u>33,838.57</u>
			Increase due to Inflation (15)

**Allowable Exceptions Utilized (§ 13-3404)**

**2025-2026 Property Taxes Budgeted For:**

Approved Bonds	(16)	-	
<i>(Cannot exceed property tax request for principal &amp; interest on bonds on cover page (page 1))</i>			
Response to a declared emergency in the prior year & certified to the Auditor <i>(Must agree to total on Schedule 2)</i>	(17)	-	
Public Safety Services, as defined in §13-320 <i>(Must agree to total on Schedule 3)</i>	(18)	-	
County Attorneys	(19)	-	
County Public Defenders	(20)	-	
Support of service relating to an imminent & significant threat to public safety that was not previously provided by the political subdivision & is the subject of an agreement or modification of an existing agreement executed after 8/21/2024	(21)	-	
Support of an interlocal agreement relating to public safety	(22)	-	
<b>Voter approved increase pursuant to § 13-3405</b>	(23)	-	
<i>(MUST attach sample ballot language and certified election results)</i>			
<b>Prior Year's Unused Property Tax Request Authority used this year</b>	(24)	-	
<i>(Cannot exceed amount on Supporting Schedule 1, line 1)</i>			
<b>Total Exceptions Utilized (Total lines 16 thru 24)</b>	(25)	-	
<b>2025-2026 Total Property Tax Request Authority (Total lines 12, 14, 15, 25)</b>	(26)	<b>782,204.56</b>	
<b>2025-2026 ACTUAL Property Tax Request (from Cover Page - Page 1)</b>	(27)	<b>677,558.89</b>	
<b>Unused Property Tax Request Authority Created for Future Years (To Schedule 1, line 3)</b>	(28)	<b>104,645.67</b>	
<i>(Line 26 - Line 27, MUST be greater than or equal to \$0.00)</i>			

**City of Friend**  
**2025-2026 PROPERTY TAX REQUEST AUTHORITY SUPPORTING SCHEDULES**

**Schedule 1 - Calculation of Unused Property Tax Request Authority Carryforward**

	Line No.		
Converted 2024-2025 Unused Restricted Funds Authority <i>(See instructions below for how to determine this amount)</i>	(1)	\$	32,725.89
Less: Amount used this year <i>(from Computation Form, line 24) (cannot exceed line 1)</i>	(2)		-
Add: Unused Authority created this year <i>(from Computation Form, line 28)</i>	(3)		104,645.67
<b>Total Unused Property Tax Request Authority available for future years <i>(cannot be less than \$0.00)</i></b>	(4)		<b>137,371.56</b>

**Schedule 2 - DECLARED EMERGENCY EXCEPTION CERTIFICATION**

If using a declared emergency response exception on the Property Tax Request Authority Computation Form, line 17, the following must be completed. Additionally, supporting documentation for the emergency declaration must be attached to the budget submission if the emergency was declared by the principal executive of the local government.

Description of Emergency (Column A)	Date of Emergency Declaration (Column B)	Emergency Declared by Who? (Column C)	Amount Used as Exception (Column D)
			\$ -
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
<b>Total Emergency Response Exception <i>(must agree to Computation Form, line 17)</i></b>			<b>-</b>

**Schedule 3 - DESCRIPTION OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES EXCEPTION**

If using a public safety services exception on the Property Tax Request Authority Computation Form, line 18, the following must be completed:

Description of Public Safety Services Exception (Column A)	Amount Used as Exception (Column B)
	\$ -
	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
<b>Total Public Safety Exception <i>(must agree to Computation Form, line 18)</i></b>	<b>-</b>

# Municipality Levy Limit Form

## City of Friend in Saline County

### Municipality Levy

Personal and Real Property Tax Request	(1)		677,558.89
Judgments (Not Paid by Liability Insurance)	(2)	0.00	
Pre-Existing Lease - Purchase Contracts-7/98	(3)	0.00	
Bonded Indebtedness	(4)	177,787.00	
Interest Free Financing (Public Airports)	(5)	0.00	
Benefits Paid Under Firefighter Cancer Benefits Act	(6)	0.00	
Total Levy Exemptions	(7)		177,787.00
Tax Request Subject to Levy Limit	(8)		499,771.89
Valuation	(9)		99,954,476
Municipality Levy Subject to Levy Authority	(10)		0.500000
Levy Authority Allocated to Others-			
Airport Authority	(11)		0.000000
Community Redevelopment Authority	(12)		0.000000
Transit Authority	(13)		0.000000
Off Street Parking District Valuation	(14)		
Off Street Parking District Levy (Statute 77-3443(2))	(15)	0.000000	0.000000
Other	(16)		0.000000
Total Levy for Compliance Purposes	(17)		0.500000 (A)

### Levy Authority

Municipality Levy Limit	(18)		0.450000
Municipality property taxes designated for interlocal agreements	(19)	50,000.00	0.050000
Total Municipality Levy Authority	(20)		0.500000 (B)
Voter Approved Levy Override	(21)		0.000000 (C)

**Note: (A) must be less than the greater of (B) or (C) to be in compliance with the Statutes**

This Form is to be completed to ensure compliance with the levy limits established in State Statute Section 77-3442. The levy limit applicable to municipalities is 45 cents plus 5 cents for interlocal agreements.

State Statute Section 86-416 allows for a special tax to fund Public Safety Communication projects, the tax has the same status as bonded indebtedness. State Statute 72-2301 through 72-2308 allows bonds to be issued for Public Facilities Construction Projects. Amounts should be included as Bonded Indebtedness on Line 7 above.

A municipality may exceed the limits in State Statute Section 77-3442 by completing the requirements of State Statute Section 77-3444 (Election or Townhall Meeting). **If an amount is entered on Line 21, a sample ballot and election results MUST be submitted with budget. If voter approved override was completed at a Townhall Meeting, minutes of that meeting, and a list of registered voters in the municipality must be submitted.** Please refer to the statutes to ensure all requirements are met.

City of Friend in Saline County

**2025-2026 ALLOWABLE GROWTH PERCENTAGE COMPUTATION FORM**

YES

This budget is for a **VILLAGE**; therefore the allowable growth provisions of the Property Tax Request Act **DO NOT** apply.

**CALCULATION OF ALLOWABLE GROWTH PERCENTAGE**

**Prior Year Total Property Tax Request** (1) 654,128.00  
*(Total Personal and Real Property Tax Required from prior year budget - Cover Page)*

**Base Limitation Percentage Increase (2%)** 2.00 % (2)

**Real Growth Percentage Increase**

$$\frac{13,541,110.00}{2025 \text{ Real Growth Value per Assessor}} \div \frac{94,048,016.00}{\text{Prior Year Total Real Property Valuation per Assessor}} = \underline{14.40} \% (3)$$

**Total Allowable Growth Percentage Increase (Line 2 + Line 3)** (4) 16.40 %

**Allowable Dollar Amount of Increase to Property Tax Request (Line 1 x Line 4)** (5) 107,276.99

**TOTAL PROPERTY TAX REQUEST (Line 1 + Line 5)** (6) 761,404.99  
*(Without needing to attend Joint Public Hearing, or be included on postcard notification)*

**ACTUAL PROPERTY TAX REQUEST**

**2025-2026 ACTUAL Total Property Tax Request** (7) 677,558.89  
*(Total Personal and Real Property Tax Required from Cover Page)*

**Property Tax Request is within allowable growth percentage. Political subdivision is NOT required to complete postcard notification requirements, or participate in the joint public hearing.**

If line (7) is **greater than** line (6), your political subdivision **is required** to participate in the joint public hearing, and complete the postcard notification requirements of §77-1633. You must provide your information to the County Assessor electronically by September 4th. You are not required to hold the Special Hearing to Set the Final Tax Request outlined in §77-1632. The joint public hearing is completed in lieu of this hearing.

If line (7) is **less than** line (6), your political subdivision **is not required** to participate in the joint public hearing, or complete the postcard notification requirements of §77-1633. You are required to hold the Special Hearing to Set the Final Tax Request outlined in §77-1632.

City of Friend  
IN  
Saline County, Nebraska

**NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING AND BUDGET SUMMARY**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Sections 13-501 to 13-513, that the governing body will meet on the 8th day of September 2025, at 7:30 o'clock P.M., at City Hall for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the following proposed budget. The budget detail is available at the office of the Clerk during regular business hours.

2023-2024 Actual Disbursements & Transfers	\$ 8,066,737.74
2024-2025 Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers	\$ 7,774,638.86
2025-2026 Proposed Budget of Disbursements & Transfers	\$ 14,209,179.64
2025-2026 Necessary Cash Reserve	\$ 5,141,674.00
2025-2026 Total Resources Available	\$ 19,350,853.64
Total 2025-2026 Personal & Real Property Tax Requirement	\$ 677,558.89
Unused Budget Authority Created For Next Year	\$ 137,371.56

**Breakdown of Property Tax:**

Personal and Real Property Tax Required for Non-Bond Purposes	\$ 499,771.89
Personal and Real Property Tax Required for Bonds	\$ 177,787.00

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL HEARING TO SET FINAL TAX REQUEST**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Section 77-1632, that the governing body will meet on the 8th day of September 2025, at 7:30 o'clock P.M., at City Hall for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request.

	2024	2025	Change
Operating Budget	13,104,056.48	14,209,179.64	8%
Property Tax Request	\$ 654,128.00	\$ 677,558.89	4%
Valuation	94,048,016	99,954,476	6%
Tax Rate	0.695526	0.677867	-3%
Tax Rate if Prior Tax Request was at Current Valuation	0.654426		



**CERTIFICATION OF TAXABLE VALUE AND GROWTH VALUE**

*{format for all counties and cities.}*

**TAX YEAR 2025**

*{certification required on or before August 20<sup>th</sup> of each year}*

**FRIEND CITY**

**TO:**

**TAXABLE VALUE LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF: SALINE**

Name of Political Subdivision	Subdivision Type (County or City)	Growth Value *	Total Taxable Value	Prior Year Total Property Valuation	Growth Percentage <sup>b</sup>
FRIEND CITY	City/Village	13,541,110	99,954,476	94,048,016	14.40

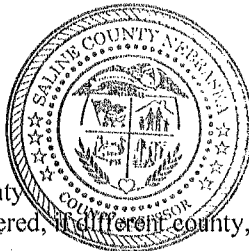
*\* Growth Value is determined pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 13-3402 and § 77-1631 which includes (a) improvements to real property as a result of new construction and additions to existing buildings, (b) any other improvements to real property which increase the value of such property, (c) annexation of real property by the political subdivision, (d) a change in the use of real property, (e) any increase in personal property valuation over the prior year, and (f) the accumulated excess valuation over the redevelopment project valuation described in section 18-2147 of the Community Redevelopment Law for redevelopment projects within the political subdivision in the year immediately after the division of taxes for such redevelopment project has ended.*

*Note: Growth Value and Real Growth Value mean the same when referring to the Property Tax Growth Limitation Act and the Property Tax Request Act.*

*<sup>b</sup> Growth Percentage is determined pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 77-1631 and is equal to the political subdivision's Growth Value divided by the political subdivision's total property valuation from the prior year.*

**I BRANDI KELLY, SALINE County Assessor hereby certify that the valuation listed herein is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the true and accurate taxable valuation for the current year, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 13-509 and 13-518.**

Brandi Kelly  
*(signature of county assessor)*



August 19, 2025  
*(date)*

CC: County Clerk, SALINE County  
CC: County Clerk where district is headquartered, different county, \_\_\_\_\_ County

*Note to political subdivision: A copy of the Certification of Value must be attached to the budget document.*

**CERTIFICATION OF VALUE  
FOR COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS OR TAX INCREMENT  
FINANCING PROJECTS (TIF) BASE AND EXCESS VALUE**

**TAX YEAR 2025**

*{certification required annually}*

**FRIEND RDVP AREA 2-5**

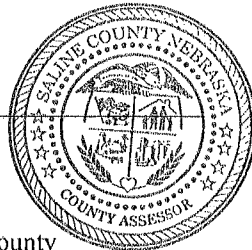
**TO City or Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA):**

**TIF Base & Excess Value located in the City of FRIEND CITY, in the County of SALINE.**

NAME of TIF PROJECT	TIF BASE VALUE	TIF EXCESS VALUE
FRIEND RDVP AREA 2-5	2,542,255	1,651,965

I **BRANDI KELLY**, SALINE County Assessor hereby certify that the valuations listed herein is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the true and accurate BASE VALUE and EXCESS VALUE for the Community Redevelopment/Tax Increment Financing Projects (TIF) for the current year, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 18-2148, 18-2149, and 13-509.

Brandi Kelly  
*(signature of county assessor)*



August 19, 2025  
*(date)*

CC: County Clerk, SALINE County

CC: County Treasurer, SALINE County

**CERTIFICATION OF TAXABLE VALUE AND ALLOWABLE GROWTH VALUE**

*{format for all political subdivisions other than (a) sanitary improvement districts in existence five years or less, (b) counties, (c) cities, (d) school districts and (e) community colleges.}*

**TAX YEAR 2025**

*{certification required on or before August 20<sup>th</sup>, of each year}*

**HOSPITAL**

**TO:**

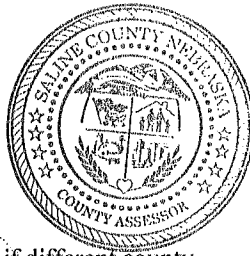
**TAXABLE VALUE LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF: SALINE**

Name of Political Subdivision	Subdivision Type (e.g. fire, NRD, ESU)	Allowable Growth Value	Total Taxable Value
HOSPITAL	Misc-District	15,129,125	547,246,689

*\* Allowable Growth Value is determined pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 13-518 which includes (a) improvements to real property as a result of new construction and additions to existing buildings, (b) any other improvements to real property which increase the value of such property, (c) annexation of real property by the political subdivision, (d) a change in the use of real property, (e) any increase in personal property valuation over the prior year, and (f) the accumulated excess valuation over the redevelopment project valuation described in section 18-2147 of the Community Redevelopment Law for redevelopment projects within the political subdivision in the year immediately after the division of taxes for such redevelopment project has ended.*

I **BRANDI KELLY**, **SALINE** County Assessor hereby certify that the valuation listed herein is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the true and accurate taxable valuation for the current year, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 13-509 and 13-518.

Brandi Kelly  
*(signature of county assessor)*



August 19, 2025  
*(date)*

CC: County Clerk, **SALINE** County  
CC: County Clerk where district is headquarter, if different county, \_\_\_\_\_ County

*Note to political subdivision: A copy of the Certification of Value must be attached to the budget document.*

Guideline form provided by Nebraska Dept. of Revenue Property Assessment Division (July 2025)

**CERTIFICATION OF TAXABLE VALUE AND ALLOWABLE GROWTH VALUE**

{format for all political subdivisions other than (a) sanitary improvement districts in existence five years or less, (b) counties, (c) cities, (d) school districts and (e) community colleges.}

**TAX YEAR 2025**

{certification required on or before August 20<sup>th</sup>, of each year}

**HOSPITAL BOND**

**TO:**

**TAXABLE VALUE LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF: SALINE**

Name of Political Subdivision	Subdivision Type (e.g. fire, NRD, ESU)	Allowable Growth Value	Total Taxable Value
HOSPITAL BOND	Misc-District	15,129,125	547,246,689

\* Allowable Growth Value is determined pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 13-518 which includes (a) improvements to real property as a result of new construction and additions to existing buildings, (b) any other improvements to real property which increase the value of such property, (c) annexation of real property by the political subdivision, (d) a change in the use of real property, (e) any increase in personal property valuation over the prior year, and (f) the accumulated excess valuation over the redevelopment project valuation described in section 18-2147 of the Community Redevelopment Law for redevelopment projects within the political subdivision in the year immediately after the division of taxes for such redevelopment project has ended.

I **BRANDI KELLY**, **SALINE** County Assessor hereby certify that the valuation listed herein is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the true and accurate taxable valuation for the current year, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 13-509 and 13-518.

Brandi Kelly  
(signature of county assessor)



August 19, 2025  
(date)

CC: County Clerk, **SALINE** County  
CC: County Clerk where district is headquarter, if different county, \_\_\_\_\_ County

Note to political subdivision: A copy of the Certification of Value must be attached to the budget document.

Guideline form provided by Nebraska Dept. of Revenue Property Assessment Division (July 2025)

**CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA**

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT FORECAST ASSUMPTIONS**

**For the Years Ending September 30, 2026 and 2025**

Forecast results for years ending September 30, 2026 and 2025, were based on actual results from previous years, determined or anticipated additional requirements for the years ending September 30, 2026 and 2025, and input from management.

The forecast presents, to the best of management's knowledge and belief, the expected revenue and expenditures of the City of Friend for the forecast periods. Accordingly, the forecast reflects management's judgment as of August 28, 2025, the date of this forecast, of expected conditions and its expected course of action. The assumptions disclosed herein are those that management believes are significant to the forecast. There will usually be differences between the forecasted and actual results because events and circumstances frequently do not occur as expected, and those differences may be material.