

Public Hearing and Special Meeting
Kearney Public Schools Board of Education
Monday, September 16, 2024 at 5:30 PM
2nd Floor Staff Development Room, Administration Building
320 W 24th Street
Kearney, NE 68845

1. Annual Budget Hearing

1.A. Convene Hearing

- Hearing convened at 5:31 PM.

1.B. Discussion and Public Input

- Dr. Chris Loofe, Associate Superintendent and Finance Director, presented the proposed budget for the 2024-2025 school year: Kearney Public Schools General Fund Budget in the amount of \$82,822,585; the Special Building Fund Budget in the amount of \$19,361,897; the Bond Fund Budget in the amount of \$17,801,474; the Depreciation Fund Budget in the amount of \$525,000; the Employee Benefit Fund Budget in the amount of \$42,354; the Activity Fund Budget in the amount of \$4,062,641; the School Nutrition Fund Budget in the amount of \$4,941,540; the Student Fee Fund Budget in the amount of \$457,399; the Cooperative Fund Budget in the amount of \$914,960; and the Qualifying Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund Budget in the amount of \$12,564,466.
- There was discussion about the changing demographics within KPS and the impact that this will have on the budget.
- Clarification was requested as to where the motor vehicle tax was designated on the anticipated income slide. It is included in the local receipts category and not in property tax.
- It was noted that this year's budget includes a cushion for the possibility of paying off some debts (possibly QCPUF) from cash reserves, should the Board decide to do so.
- This proposed budget includes a 5 cent reduction in the levy from \$1.193 for 2023-2024 to \$1.14254 for 2024-2025.
- A brief discussion took place regarding potential products for enhancing security measures in the buildings, along with associated costs, given for consideration to the Board as possible future expenses.
- It was noted that KPS is the 7th lowest spending school district in the state per formula student.
- Mr. Blessing suggested that the compensation information be broken down to show our new senator the real impact that the 3% cap will have on our community.

1.C. Close Hearing

2. Final Property Tax Request Hearing

2.A. Convene Hearing

2.B. Discussion and Public Input

- Dr. Chris Loofe, Associate Superintendent and Finance Director, presented the property tax request proposal for the 2024-2025 school year: Kearney Public Schools General Fund be set at \$43,356,559; the Bond Fund be set at \$7,448,348; the Special Building Fund be set at \$5,490,334 and the Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund be set at \$1,494,949 with the total property tax request to be set at \$57,790,190.

2.C. Close Hearing

3. **Routine Business**

3.A. **Call to Order**

- President Gaasch called the meeting to order at 6:23 PM.

3.B. **Open Meetings Act Announcement**

3.C. **Board Meeting Decorum Expectations**

3.D. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3.E. **Roll Call**

Attendance Taken at 6:24 PM.

John Icenogle:	Absent
Amy Barth:	Present
Drew Blessing:	Present
Steve Gaasch:	Present
Kathy Gifford:	Present
Paul Hazard:	Present

- John Icenogle joined the meeting via zoom.
3.E.I. Excuse Absent Board Member

Move to excuse absent Board member John Icenogle from the meeting. This motion, made by Kathy Gifford and seconded by Amy Barth, Passed.

John Icenogle: Absent, Amy Barth: Yea, Drew Blessing: Yea, Steve Gaasch: Yea, Kathy Gifford: Yea, Paul Hazard: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

3.F. **Approval of the Agenda**

Move to approve the agenda for the meeting, as presented. This motion, made by Kathy Gifford and seconded by Drew Blessing, Passed.

John Icenogle: Absent, Amy Barth: Yea, Drew Blessing: Yea, Steve Gaasch: Yea, Kathy Gifford: Yea, Paul Hazard: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

4. **Public Participation/Comment**

5. **Agenda**

5.A. Adoption of Budgets for the Kearney Public Schools for the 2024-2025 School Year

Move to adopt the Kearney Public Schools proposed budget for the 2024-2025 school year as presented. This motion, made by Drew Blessing and seconded by Kathy Gifford, Passed.

John Icenogle: Absent, Amy Barth: Yea, Drew Blessing: Yea, Steve Gaasch: Yea, Kathy Gifford: Yea, Paul Hazard: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

5.B. Approval of Property Tax Requests for the 2024-2025 School Year

Move to approve the proposed Resolution to set the property tax request for the 2024-2025 school year as presented. This motion, made by Kathy Gifford and seconded by Drew Blessing, Passed.

John Icenogle: Absent, Amy Barth: Yea, Drew Blessing: Yea, Steve Gaasch: Yea, Kathy Gifford: Yea, Paul Hazard: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

6. **Adjournment**

- Meeting was adjourned at 6:33 PM.

Move to adjourn the meeting. This motion, made by Kathy Gifford and seconded by Paul Hazard, Passed.

John Icenogle: Absent, Amy Barth: Yea, Drew Blessing: Yea, Steve Gaasch: Yea, Kathy Gifford: Yea, Paul Hazard: Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

Notice of Meeting

This meeting was publicized in the Kearney Hub on September 10, 2024; radio stations KGFW and KKPR; and KSNB and KHGI T.V.

Kathy Gifford, Secretary



RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST

Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1601.02 provides that the Governing Body of the Kearney Public Schools passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

The Governing Body of the Kearney Public Schools resolves that:

1. The 2024-25 property tax request will be set at \$57,790,190.00. The General Fund tax request is \$43,536,559.00, the Building Fund tax request is \$5,490,334.00, the Bond Fund tax request is \$7,448,348.00, and the Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund tax request is \$1,494,949.00.
2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's by 7.91%.
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property, would be \$1.105487 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. The Kearney Public Schools proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be \$1.142535 per \$100 of assessed value.
5. Based on the proposed tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of the KPS will exceed last year's by (26.86%).
6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2024.

Motion by _____,seconded by _____ to adopt this Resolution.

Voting yes: _____

Voting no: _____

Dated this 16th day of September, 2024

Secretary