

Budget Hearing, Hearing to Set Tax Asking, Special Board of Education Meeting
Monday, September 22, 2025 6:30 PM as advertised in the *Pilot-Tribune/Enterprise* and
High School Media Center fortcalhounschoools.org

BUDGET HEARING

- Budget Hearing Called to Order: The Budget Hearing was called to order at 6:30 PM. There were 3 administrators present.
- Note Nebraska Open Meeting Laws: So noted
- Excused Absences: There were none---all present.
- Roll Call: Josh Christensen-Present, Tony Dowling-Present, Cassie Kelly-Present, Amanda Schrum-Present, Ryan Sevcik-Present, Ted Welchert-Present.
- Approval of the Agenda: Moved that the agenda be approved as presented. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Sevcik, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea
- Purpose of the Hearing: The purpose of this hearing is to study the proposed 2025-26 budget and receive public comment on that budget as it is being considered for adoption by the Board of Education.
- Review of Proposed 2025-26 Budget: Mr. Green and Derrick Blomstedt went through the proposed expenditure budget categories and explained them including questions regarding professional services. There were no changes to amounts however some monies were moved within them to better demonstrate the use; ie from textbooks to digital curriculum materials. He also went through the anticipated receipts noting valuations, and unused budget authority which is additional spending authority dictated by the state which may be used if the need arises. Our state aid was decreased but now qualifying for equalization aid resulted in a higher amount from the state. Overall expenses are the same and the building lease will be paid in full this year. He also spoke about upcoming negotiations and thanked the members for attending the joint public hearing. In conclusion, Mr. Green said no one likes an increase in taxes.
- Board of Education Comments: Ted Welchert said Fort Calhoun looked pretty good at the joint public hearing compared to others represented.
- Public Comments: There was no public in attendance.
- Adjournment of Budget Hearing: There being no further discussion the president adjourned the hearing at 6:39 PM.

HEARING TO SET FINAL TAX REQUEST

- Hearing Called to Order: The Hearing to Set the Final Tax Request was called to order at 6:45 PM. There were 3 administrators and no visitors present.
- Note Nebraska Open Meeting Laws: So noted.
- Excused Absences: There were none-all present.
- Roll Call: Josh Christensen-Present, Tony Dowling-Present, Cassie Kelly-Present, Amanda Schrum-Present, Ryan Sevcik-Present, Ted Welchert-Present.
- Approval of the Agenda: Moved that the agenda be approved as presented. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Sevcik, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea
- Purpose of the Hearing: The purpose of this hearing is to discuss setting the final tax request for 2025-26.

-Review of Proposed 2025-26 Final Tax Request: The tax request document was presented by Mr. Green along with Derrick Blomstedt. The levy will remain the same at 1.11 and this was achieved by moving .05 cents from the Bond Fund asking to the General Fund still having enough money to operate.

-Board of Education Comments: Josh Christensen asked if the Building Fund is the only fund we can use to transfer monies to the General Fund and it is. The board will need to put a plan in place on what needs to be expensed from the Building Fund. Bonds have been voted on and are done with payments being due per schedule. The goal is to keep the levy neutral or lower if possible.

-Public Comments: There was no public in attendance.

Adjournment of Hearing to Set Final Tax Request: There being no further discussion President Christensen adjourned the hearing at 6:50PM.

SPECIAL SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING

REGULAR AGENDA

-Call to Order: The Special September Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. There were 3 administrators and no visitors present.

-Excused Absences: There were none---all present.

-Roll Call: Josh Christensen-Present, Tony Dowling-Present, Cassie Kelly-Present, Amanda Schrum-Present, Ryan Sevcik-Present, Ted Welchert-Present.

-Note Nebraska Open Meeting Laws: So noted.

-Approval of Agenda: Moved that the agenda be approved as presented. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Kelly, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

-Public Participation: No one asked to address the board.

-Standing Committee Reports: No committees met.

-Budget Motions

•General Fund Budget: Moved that the General Fund Budget for the 2025-26 school year be set at \$13,600,553.00 with a property tax requirement of \$6,223,290.00 resulting in a tax rate of 0.86500. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Kelly, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

•Special Building Fund Budget: Moved that the Bond Fund Budget for the 2025-26 school year be set at \$1,800,000.00 with a property tax asking of \$863,346.00 resulting in a tax rate of 0.12000. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Sevcik, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

•Bond Fund Budget: Moved that the Bond Fund Budget for the 2025-26 school year be set at \$1,800,000.00 with a property tax asking of \$863,346.00 resulting in a tax rate of 0.12000. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Christensen, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea

•Qualified Capital Purpose Fund: Moved that the Qualified Capital Purpose Fund Budget for the 2025-26 school year be set at \$350,000.00 with a property tax asking of

\$179,864.00 resulting in a tax rate of 0.02500. This motion, made by Kelly and seconded by Sevcik, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea
-Set The Property Tax Requests:

RESOLUTION SETTING PROPERTY TAX REQUESTS

Moved that the board of education pass Resolution 2026-01 Setting the Property Tax Request- WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of Fort Calhoun Community Schools passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request; NOW THEREFORE, the Governing Body of Fort Calhoun Community Schools resolves that: 1. The 2025 property tax request be set at: General Fund: \$6,223,290.00, Bond Fund: \$863,346.00, Special Building Fund: \$719,457.00, Qualified Capital Purpose Fund: \$179,864.00. 2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 7.78 percent. 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 1.029912 per \$100 of assessed value. 4. Fort Calhoun Community Schools proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 1.11 per \$100 of assessed value. 5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of Fort Calhoun Community Schools will increase last year's budget by 2.38 percent. 6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2025. Motion by Schrum and seconded by Christensen to adopt Resolution #2026-01. Dated this 22nd day of September, 2025. This motion, made by Schrum and seconded by Christensen, Passed. Josh Christensen: Yea, Tony Dowling: Yea, Cassie Kelly: Yea, Amanda Schrum: Yea, Ryan Sevcik: Yea, Ted Welchert: Yea
-Board Member Reports: There was discussion regarding the upcoming American Civics open meeting and it was decided to hold it on October 8, 2025 at 5:00 PM. The Finance Committee will meet on October 8th at 4:00 PM.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, President Christensen declared the meeting adjourned at 7:08 PM.