

Joint Public Hearing

Required by §77-1633 and §77-1634

Stanton County Courthouse
804 Ivy St, Stanton NE 68779
Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 6:15 PM

Hearing Opened:

Announcements:

- Purpose of Joint Public Hearing is on the Political Subdivisions' intent to increase its property tax by more than the allowable growth percentage
- Valuations will not be discussed
- Sign the Attendance Sign-In sheet
- Presentations will be heard first
- Comments will be received, complete Sign-In Sheet if you wish to comment

Budget/Tax Rate Presentations:

- Stanton County

Public Comment Period:

- Those speaking from the public will be limited to two (2) minutes. The County Clerk or moderator may adjust the time limit depending on how many speakers are present.
- This hearing is not a back-and-forth exchange nor is this a Question and Answer. Tonight, is for Public Comment to the Political Subdivisions. Specific questions will have to be addressed directly to the Political Subdivisions at a later date.
- Written comments can be left – indicate which political subdivision comments are for

Hearing Closed/Adjournment:

- Thank you for your comments and attendance

Disclaimer: Stanton County assumes no liability for damages incurred directly or indirectly because of errors, omissions, or discrepancies.

Announcements

1. Welcome / Request for Civility:

Thank you for taking the time to attend this meeting which shall be conducted pursuant to the requirements established by the Legislature in the Property Tax Request Act. Like any public hearing or gathering, thank you for participating with Civility and Respect for everyone attending. Representatives of any political subdivision presenting the information required by statute will be introduced before their presentation. Before beginning we want to outline the statutory requirements and expectations.

2. Sign-In Sheet for all Attendees, including Elected Officials:

Everyone attending, including elected officials, must sign the Attendance Sign-In Sheet located by the entrance to the room. The County Clerk is required by statute to prepare a report which includes the number of individuals who attended. On the sign-in sheet, please print and complete all columns so the records are complete.

3. Elected Official from each participating Political Subdivision to Attend:

New to the law this year is a requirement that at least one elected official from each participating political subdivision shall attend. The elected official needs to be present in the room but may not be the designated representative making the presentation on behalf of the political subdivision. Although a quorum of the governing body may be present, this will not constitute a meeting subject to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act. If there is a quorum of the governing body present, no business may be conducted by the governing body.

4. Purpose of the Meeting is not to Protest Valuations:

As required by Section 77-1633, "there shall be no items on the agenda other than discussion on each political subdivision's intent to increase its property tax request by more than the allowable growth percentage." The purpose of this meeting is not to discuss property valuation or anything else. For more details about any political subdivision's budget, it is important to attend the budget hearing of the political subdivision. Budget hearings provide significant transparency and important information as required by Nebraska Budget Act which has been in effect for decades.

5. Public Comment will be after Presentations by Political Subdivisions:

Following presentations by the representative of each political subdivision, any member of the public will be allowed to speak for a designated period of time.

6. Presentations by Designated Representatives of Political Subdivision:

As provided by Section 77-1633, the designated representative of each political subdivision to introduce themselves and give a brief presentation on the political subdivision's intent to increase its property tax request by more than the allowable growth percentage and the effect of such request on the political subdivision's budget. After all the presentations of each political subdivision, there will be public comment.

7. Public Comment following Presentations by Political Subdivisions:

Please raise your hand if you intend to speak so we can determine a reasonable amount of time which will apply to everyone from the public wishing to speak. Those speaking from the public will be limited to two (2) minutes to comment (time limit may be adjusted depending on number of speakers). Due to the number of individuals wishing to speak, we will not be taking questions, but look forward to listening to your comments.

8. Please come forward if you wish to comment.

In addition to printing your name on the Attendance Sign-In Sheet when you entered the joint hearing, before speaking, please also complete the Sign-In Sheet for Citizens Speaking located near the microphone. When speaking state your name, address, school district you are in, and any organization(s) you may represent so our record of the joint hearing is complete.

9. Thank Everyone for Attending:

Thank you again for taking time to attend this joint public hearing. As stated earlier, the ultimate transparency and more details are provided at the budget hearing of every political subdivision pursuant to the provision of the Nebraska Budget Act which has been in effect for decades. Local elected and appointed officials sincerely appreciate your input and ideas.