2025-2026
STATE OF NEBRASKA
CITY/VILLAGE BUDGET FORM

City of Columbus

TO THE COUNTY BOARD AND COUNTY CLERK OF
Platte 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:

7,562,660.83	Property Taxes for Non-Bond Purposes
	Principal and Interest on Bonds
7,562,660.83	**Total Personal and Real Property Tax Required**

2,607,543,297.00	**Total Certified Valuation (All Counties)**

*(Certification of Valuation(s) from County Assessor **MUST** be attached)*

County Clerk's Use ONLY

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

Principal	58,850,000.00
Interest	15,765,931.52
Total Bonded Indebtedness	74,615,931.52

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?

[X] YES [ ] NO

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

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?

[X] 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

Questions - E-Mail: Jeff.Schreier@nebraska.gov

Submission Information

Budget Due by 9-30-2025

Submit budget to:

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

City of Columbus in Platte 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	60,604,400.00	62,859,290.00	71,376,740.00
2	Investments			
3	County Treasurer's Balance			
4	Beginning Balance Proprietary Function Funds **(Only If Page 6 is Used)**			-
5	**Subtotal of Beginning Balances (Lines 1 thru 4)**	**60,604,400.00**	**62,859,290.00**	**71,376,740.00**
6	Personal and Real Property Taxes **(Columns 1 and 2 - See Preparation Guidelines)**	6,642,524.00	6,992,700.00	7,487,783.00
7	Federal Receipts	3,678,329.00	1,258,160.00	1,448,759.00
8	State Receipts: Motor Vehicle Pro-Rate	17,673.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
9				
10	State Receipts: Highway Allocation and Incentives	3,408,986.00	3,551,310.00	3,447,412.00
11	State Receipts: Motor Vehicle Fee	243,191.00	230,860.00	230,865.00
12	State Receipts: State Aid		3,680.00	
13	State Receipts: Municipal Equalization Aid	32,780.00	56,060.00	40,765.00
14	State Receipts: Other	751,266.00	608,240.00	1,213,076.00
15	State Receipts: Property Tax Credit			
16	Local Receipts: Nameplate Capacity Tax			
17	Local Receipts: Motor Vehicle Tax	655,578.00	670,620.00	670,000.00
18	Local Receipts: Local Option Sales Tax	10,194,749.00	10,403,000.00	10,000,000.00
19	Local Receipts: In Lieu of Tax	271,096.00	287,660.00	270,000.00
20	Local Receipts: Other	36,895,500.00	38,796,570.00	36,801,294.00
21	Transfers In of Surplus Fees			
22	Transfers In Other Than Surplus Fees	16,995,586.00	15,332,730.00	29,647,189.00
23	Proprietary Function Funds **(Only if Page 6 is Used)**			-
24	**Total Resources Available (Lines 5 thru 23)**	**140,391,658.00**	**141,065,880.00**	**162,648,883.00**
25	**Total Disbursements & Transfers (Line 22, Pg 3, 4 & 5)**	**77,532,368.00**	**69,689,140.00**	**94,891,112.00**
26	**Balance Forward/Cash Reserve (Line 24 MINUS Line 25)**	**62,859,290.00**	**71,376,740.00**	**67,757,771.00**
27	Cash Reserve Percentage			147%

PROPERTY TAX RECAP

Tax from Line 6	7,487,783.00
County Treasurer Commission at 1%	74,877.83
Total Property Tax Requirement	7,562,660.83

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		$ 7,562,660.83
Bond Fund		$ -
_____ Fund		
_____ Fund		
Total Tax Request	**	$ 7,562,660.83

** 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
Library Foundation & Endowment	$ 2,241,032.47
Combined Utility Funds	$ 43,958,838.68
Debt Service & other Reserves	$ 11,001,888.83
Total Special Reserve Funds	$ 57,201,759.98
Total Cash Reserve	$ 67,757,771.00
Remaining Cash Reserve	$ 10,556,011.02
Remaining Cash Reserve %	23%

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: _____

Amount:

Reason:

Transfer From: _____ Transfer To: _____

Amount: _____

Reason:

Transfer From: _____ Transfer To: _____

Amount:

Reason:

City of Columbus in Platte 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	3,053,349.00	400,000.00	90,000.00			13,974,951.00	17,518,300.00
3	Public Safety - Police	6,773,730.00		665,000.00	780,869.00			8,219,599.00
3a	Public Safety - Fire	1,792,010.00		1,745,000.00	780,869.00			4,317,879.00
4	Public Safety - Other	1,953,408.00		35,000.00			8,387,410.00	10,375,818.00
5	Public Works - Streets	3,252,215.00	6,535,000.00	363,000.00			247,874.00	10,398,089.00
6	Public Works - Other				868,475.00			868,475.00
7	Public Health and Social Services	2,881,528.00	100,000.00	160,000.00				3,141,528.00
8	Culture and Recreation	6,567,895.00	844,500.00	259,600.00			202,500.00	7,874,495.00
9	Community Development	2,709,990.00			2,052,856.00		500,000.00	5,262,846.00
10	Miscellaneous	18,150.00					608,250.00	626,400.00
11	Business-Type Activities:							
12	Airport	353,124.00	468,000.00	146,000.00				967,124.00
13	Nursing Home							-
14	Hospital							-
15	Electric Utility						4,724,806.00	4,724,806.00
16	Solid Waste	2,010,450.00		520,000.00	233,556.00		185,271.00	2,949,277.00
17	Transportation							-
18	Wastewater	3,543,658.00	1,400,000.00	465,000.00	2,977,477.00		530,247.00	8,916,382.00
19	Water	3,006,720.00	4,155,000.00	14,000.00	366,349.00		274,271.00	7,816,340.00
20	Other	227,145.00	625,000.00	50,000.00			11,609.00	913,754.00
21	Proprietary Function Funds **(Page 6)**					-		-
22	**Total Disbursements & Transfers (Lns 2 thru 21)**	38,143,372.00	14,527,500.00	4,512,600.00	8,060,451.00	-	29,647,189.00	94,891,112.00

(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 Columbus in Platte 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	2,879,490.00	1,665,650.00	167,110.00			462,700.00	5,174,950.00
3	Public Safety - Police	6,475,200.00		458,400.00	779,985.00			7,713,585.00
3a	Public Safety - Fire	1,665,870.00		645,050.00	779,985.00			3,090,905.00
4	Public Safety - Other	1,921,580.00		132,200.00			7,335,800.00	9,389,580.00
5	Public Works - Streets	2,996,030.00	3,079,620.00	333,110.00			900,000.00	7,308,760.00
6	Public Works - Other				811,820.00			811,820.00
7	Public Health and Social Services	2,771,910.00	38,290.00	220,580.00				3,030,780.00
8	Culture and Recreation	6,322,910.00	2,542,850.00	341,450.00			12,480.00	9,219,690.00
9	Community Development	1,330,890.00			2,060,350.00		502,500.00	3,893,740.00
10	Miscellaneous	14,920.00					795,310.00	810,230.00
11	Business-Type Activities:							
12	Airport	273,650.00	835,750.00	10,340.00				1,119,740.00
13	Nursing Home							-
14	Hospital							-
15	Electric Utility						4,697,490.00	4,697,490.00
16	Solid Waste	1,862,580.00		165,660.00	236,040.00		120,830.00	2,385,110.00
17	Transportation							-
18	Wastewater	3,188,120.00	724,330.00	253,860.00	2,928,635.00		329,630.00	7,424,575.00
19	Water	2,559,690.00	149,770.00	49,110.00	458,415.00		168,150.00	3,385,135.00
20	Other	104,230.00	120,980.00				7,840.00	233,050.00
21	Proprietary Function Funds							-
22	**Total Disbursements & Transfers** (Ln 2 thru 21)	34,367,070.00	9,157,240.00	2,776,870.00	8,055,230.00	-	15,332,730.00	69,689,140.00

(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 Columbus in Platte 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	3,483,978.00	1,254,227.00	67,831.00			480,000.00	5,286,036.00
3	Public Safety - Police	6,640,177.00		350,712.00	563,768.81		-	7,554,657.81
3a	Public Safety - Fire	2,235,609.00		491,690.00	563,768.81			3,291,067.81
4	Public Safety - Other	1,549,304.00		162,622.00	5,119,876.38		8,833,335.00	15,665,137.38
5	Public Works - Streets	6,281,810.00	3,317,492.00	123,936.00				9,723,238.00
6	Public Works - Other				1,255,203.00		883,468.00	2,138,671.00
7	Public Health and Social Services	2,255,467.00		491,690.00				2,747,157.00
8	Culture and Recreation	5,840,926.00	1,343,741.00	484,016.00			524,092.00	8,192,775.00
9	Community Development	1,028,433.00			1,242,526.00		477,111.00	2,748,070.00
10	Miscellaneous	26,107.00					837,740.00	863,847.00
11	Business-Type Activities:							
12	Airport	260,467.00	76,779.00	31,332.00				368,578.00
13	Nursing Home							-
14	Hospital							-
15	Electric Utility	-					4,670,840.00	4,670,840.00
16	Solid Waste	1,872,621.00			233,245.00		49,000.00	2,154,866.00
17	Transportation							-
18	Wastewater	3,150,618.00	723,228.00		2,848,760.00		120,000.00	6,842,606.00
19	Water	2,608,913.00	1,870,640.00	69,635.00	383,054.00		120,000.00	5,052,242.00
20	Other	195,308.00	37,271.00					232,579.00
21	Proprietary Function Funds							-
22	**Total Disbursements & Transfers** (Ln 2 thru 21)	37,429,738.00	8,623,378.00	2,273,464.00	12,210,202.00	-	16,995,586.00	77,532,368.00

(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 Columbus in Platte County

2025-2026 SUMMARY OF PROPRIETARY FUNCTION FUNDS

NOTE: COMPLETE THIS PAGE ONLY IF A SEPARATE PROPRIETARY FUNCTION FUND BUDGET IS FILED WITH THE CLERK OF THE MUNICIPALITY.

THIS SPACE FOR USE OF PROPRIETARY FUNCTION FUNDS ONLY

Funds (List)	Beginning Balance	Total Budget of Receipts	Total Budget of Disbursements	Cash Reserve
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
				-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-
	(Forward to Page 2, Line 4)	(Forward to Page 2, Line 23)	(Forward to Page 3, Line 21)	

NOTE: State Statute Section 13-504 requires a uniform summary of the proposed budget statement including each proprietary function fund included in a separate proprietary budget statement prepared pursuant to the Municipal Proprietary Function Act. Proprietary function shall mean a water supply or distribution utility, a waste-water collection or treatment utility, an electric generation, transmission, or distribution utility, a gas supply, transmission, or distribution utility, an integrated solid waste management collection, disposal, or handling utility, or a hospital or a nursing home owned by a municipality.

CORRESPONDENCE INFORMATION

ENTITY OFFICIAL ADDRESS

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

NAME	**City of Columbus**
ADDRESS	**PO Box 1677**
CITY & ZIP CODE	**Columbus NE 68601-1677**
TELEPHONE	**402-562-4229**
WEBSITE	**www.columbusne.us**

	BOARD CHAIRPERSON	CLERK/TREASURER/SUPERINTENDENT/OTHER	PREPARER
NAME	Richard Jablonski	Shuraya Choat	Heather Lindsley
TITLE /FIRM NAME	Chairperson	City Clerk	Finance Director
TELEPHONE	402-270-5617	402-562-4227	402-562-4229
EMAIL ADDRESS	ward3rj2020@gmail.com	shuraya.choat@columbusne.us	heather.lindsley@columbusne.us

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

- [ ] Board Chairperson
- [ ] Clerk / Treasurer / Superintendent / Other
- [X] Preparer

City of Columbus

2025-2026 PROPERTY TAX REQUEST AUTHORITY COMPUTATION FORM

Calculation of Preliminary Property Tax Request Authority

2024-2025 Total Property Tax Request *(from prior year budget - Cover Page submitted to the State Auditor)*	(1)	**$ 7,062,703.76**	
Less: Prior Year Exceptions Utilized *(Will all be zero for 2025-2026 budget because first year of new cap)*			
Approved Bonds *(prior year line 16)*	(2)	-	
Emergency Response *(prior year line 17)*	(3)	-	
Public Safety Services *(prior year line 18)*	(4)	-	
County Attorneys *(prior year line 19)*	(5)	-	
County Public Defenders *(prior year line 20)*	(6)	-	
Response to Public Safety Threat *(prior year line 21)*	(7)	-	
Public Safety Interlocal Agreements *(prior year line 22)*	(8)	-	
Voter Approved Increase *(prior year line 23)*	(9)	-	
Unused authority used in the prior year *(prior year line 24)*	(10)	-	
TOTAL Prior Year Exceptions Utilized (total line 2 thru 10)	**(11)**	**-**	
Preliminary Property Tax Request Authority (line 1 - line 11)		(12)	**7,062,703.76**

Allowed Increases to Preliminary Property Tax Request Authority

2024 Property Taxes Levied (per Taxes Levied Reports from Department of Revenue)			7,063,876.01
See instructions below for where to find this amount			(13)
Growth Percentage per County Assessor			
46,267,464.00 / 2,425,351,485.00 =		1.91%	
2025 Growth Value / 2024 Total Valuation		(14a)	134,754.75
(Line 14 equals Line 13 minus line 2 & 3, multiplied by line 14a)			Increase due to Growth (14)
Inflation Percentage		5.17%	
(Line 15 equals Line 13 minus line 2 & 3, multiplied by line 15a)		(15a)	365,202.39
			Increase due to Inflation (15)

Allowable Exceptions Utilized (§ 13-3404)

2025-2026 Property Taxes Budgeted For:

Approved Bonds *(Cannot exceed property tax request for principal & interest on bonds on cover page (page 1))*	(16)	-
Response to a declared emergency in the prior year & certified to the Auditor *(Must agree to total on Schedule 2)*	(17)	-
Public Safety Services, as defined in §13-320 *(Must agree to total on Schedule 3)*	(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)	-
Voter approved increase pursuant to § 13-3405 *(MUST attach sample ballot language and certified election results)*	(23)	-
Prior Year's Unused Property Tax Request Authority used this year *(Cannot exceed amount on Supporting Schedule 1, line 1)*	(24)	

Total Exceptions Utilized *(Total lines 16 thru 24)*	(25)	**-**
2025-2026 Total Property Tax Request Authority *(Total lines 12, 14, 15, 25)*	(26)	**7,562,660.90**
2025-2026 ACTUAL Property Tax Request *(from Cover Page - Page 1)*	(27)	7,562,660.83
Unused Property Tax Request Authority Created for Future Years *(To Schedule 1, line 3)* *(Line 26 - Line 27, MUST be greater than or equal to $0.00)*	(28)	**0.07**

City of Columbus
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 *(See instructions below for how to determine this amount)*	(1)	$ 120,303.84
Less: Amount used this year *(from Computation Form, line 24) (cannot exceed line 1)*	(2)	-
Add: Unused Authority created this year *(from Computation Form, line 28)*	(3)	0.07
Total Unused Property Tax Request Authority available for future years ***(cannot be less than $0.00)***	(4)	120,303.91

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)
			$ -
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
Total Emergency Response Exception *(must agree to Computation Form, line 17)*			-

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)
	$ -
	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
	-
Total Public Safety Exception *(must agree to Computation Form, line 18)*	-

Municipality Levy Limit Form

City of Columbus in Platte County

Municipality Levy

Personal and Real Property Tax Request	(1)		7,562,660.83	
Judgments (Not Paid by Liability Insurance)	(2)	0.00		
Pre-Existing Lease - Purchase Contracts-7/98	(3)	0.00		
Bonded Indebtedness	(4)	0.00		
Interest Free Financing (Public Airports)	(5)	0.00		
Benefits Paid Under Firefighter Cancer Benefits Act	(6)	0.00		
Total Levy Exemptions	(7)		0.00	
Tax Request Subject to Levy Limit	(8)		7,562,660.83	
Valuation	(9)		2,607,543,297	
Municipality Levy Subject to Levy Authority	(10)		0.290030	
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)		0.290030	**(A)**

Levy Authority

Municipality Levy Limit	(18		0.450000	
Municipality property taxes designated for interlocal agreements	(19)		0.000000	
Total Municipality Levy Authority	(20)		0.450000	**(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 Columbus in Platte 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) 7,062,703.76
*(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

2025 Real Growth Value per Assessor	/	Prior Year Total Real Property Valuation per Assessor	=		(3)
46,267,464.00	/	2,425,351,485.00	=	1.91 %	(3)

Total Allowable Growth Percentage Increase (Line 2 + Line 3) (4) 3.91 %

Allowable Dollar Amount of Increase to Property Tax Request (Line 1 x Line 4) (5) 276,151.72

TOTAL PROPERTY TAX REQUEST (Line 1 + Line 5) (6) **7,338,855.48**
(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) 7,562,660.83
(Total Personal and Real Property Tax Required from Cover Page)

Property Tax Request exceeds allowable growth percentage. Political subdivision MUST complete the postcard notification requirements, and 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 Columbus
IN
Platte 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 2 day of September 2025, at 5:00 o'clock P.M., at Columbus Community Building, Community Room 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	$	77,532,368.00
2024-2025 Actual/Estimated Disbursements & Transfers	$	69,689,140.00
2025-2026 Proposed Budget of Disbursements & Transfers	$	94,891,112.00
2025-2026 Necessary Cash Reserve	$	67,757,771.00
2025-2026 Total Resources Available	$	162,648,883.00
Total 2025-2026 Personal & Real Property Tax Requirement	$	7,562,660.83
Unused Budget Authority Created For Next Year	$	120,303.91

Breakdown of Property Tax:

Personal and Real Property Tax Required for Non-Bond Purposes	$	7,562,660.83
Personal and Real Property Tax Required for Bonds	$	-

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 18 day of September 2025, at 6:15 o'clock P.M., at Ag Park 2nd Floor 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	92,417,151.00	94,891,112.00	3%
Property Tax Request	$ 7,062,703.76	$ 7,562,660.83	7%
Valuation	2,425,351,485	2,607,543,297	8%
Tax Rate	0.291203	0.290030	0%
Tax Rate if Prior Tax Request was at Current Valuation	0.270857		

RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of the City of Columbus 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 the City of Columbus resolves that:

1. The 2025-2026 property tax request be set at:

General Fund:	$	7,562,660.83
Bond Fund:	$	-

2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 7.51 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 0.270857 per $100 of assessed value.

4. The City of Columbus proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.29003 per $100 of assessed value.

5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of the City of Columbus will increase (or decrease) last year's budget by 2.68 percent.

6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2025.

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

Voting yes were:	Voting no were:
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2025

REPORT OF JOINT PUBLIC AGENCY AND INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS

REPORTING PERIOD JULY 1, 2024 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025

City of Columbus — SUBDIVISION NAME

Platte — COUNTY

Parties to Agreement (Column 1)	Agreement Period (Column 2)	Description (Column 3)
Columbus, Platte County, Colfax County, Humphrey, Duncan Rural Fire District, Creston, Creston Rural Fire District, Polk County, Platte Center, Stanton County, Monroe Fire District, Madison County, Lindsay, Lindsay Rural Fire Board, Platte Center Rescue, R02-150 R04-25, R04-38	N/A	E-911-Columbus is the Public Safety Answering Point for 911 for Platte County
Columbus, Columbus Rural Fire Protection District, R13-131	01-01-19 to current	Sharing of fire equipment and manpower
Big 8 Mutual Aid Columbus, Bellwood, David City, Rising City, Shelby, Osceola, Stromsburg, Duncan	02-01-90 to present	Sharing of fire equipment and manpower
Mid-Nebraska Mutual Aid Albion, Belgrade, Cedar Rapids, Creston, Columbus City and Rural, Duncan, Fullerton, Genoa, Humphrey, Leigh, Lindsay, Madison, Monroe, Newman Grove, Platte Center, Primrose, Silver Creek and St. Edward R-14-53	02-01-85 to present	Sharing of fire equipment and manpower
Columbus, Platte County, R00-146, R03-130	N/A	Law enforcement inside and outside of City limits
Columbus, Columbus Public Schools	N/A	School Resource Officer in schools provided by Columbus

Columbus, Platte County, R12-26, R16-29	03-16-20 to 03-16-26	Prosecuting Attorney services are provided by Platte County for the City of Columbus
Columbus, Counties of Boone, Butler, Merrick, Nance, Polk and Saunders, R13-111	10-1-13 to current	East Central Region 911 Emergency Communications Equipment sharing for installation of new E-911 equipment.

Columbus, East Central District Health Department, R06-100	N/A	Regulations to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, illnesses or poisoning.

Columbus, Platte County, R16-174	N/A	Approve the Columbus portion of the 2016 Platte County LEOP in an effort to provide for a coordinated response to disaster or emergency conditions.

Columbus, Platte County, R01-66	N/A	Agreement to participate in joint traffic selective enforcement.

Columbus, Platte County, Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network R15-144	1-1-16 to12-31-25	Provides for Columbus participation in Nebraska Interoperability Network

Columbus, Platte County, Law Enforcement Services R18-35	N/A	Provides County Law Enforcement Services for Property Maintenance within the City's Zoning Jurisdiction.

Columbus, Platte County, Joint Dispatch		Provides County Law Enforcement Services for

Columbus, Platte County, Joint Dispatch Services R17-132, R17-133, R18-75	N/A	Property Maintenance within the City's Zoning Jurisdiction.

End-Public Safety

Columbus, Norfolk, Fremont and many surrounding small communities, R98-82	N/A	Service agreement for disposal of solid waste at the Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition landfill
Columbus, Fremont R06-34	Program automatically renews	Used oil collection and Reuse program
Columbus, Platte County,R04-74, R04-113, and R09-66	06-07-04 to 06-07-29	Construction and paving of City's North Arterial Project including maintenance responsibilities, traffic regulation and enforcement
Columbus, Village of Silver Creek, R97-46	N/A	Allow disposal of waste at Transfer Station
Columbus, Village of Duncan, R97-41	N/A	Allow disposal of waste at Transfer Station
Columbus, Platte County, R98-04	N/A	Allow disposal of waste at Transfer Station
Columbus, Lower Loup Natural Resources District	N/A	Contribution by Lower Loup Natural Resource District toward the construction of recreational trails
Columbus, Platte County Agricultural Society	99 years	Rental of land where the Aquatic Center is located for $1 per year
Columbus, Beatrice, Fremont, Grand		Cooperation with one another to facilitate the management of storm water required

Island, Hastings, Kearney, Lexington, Norfolk, North Platte, Scottsbluff	Continuous	by the State of Nebraska and the United States of America
Columbus, Nebraska Dept. of Roads, Schuyler, Bellwood, Richland, Platte County, Colfax County, Butler County, Polk County, R09-88	N/A	Regional Transportation Planning Study
Columbus, Platte County, R12-96	N/A	Engineering assessment to address drainage issues in the Columbus Industrial
Columbus, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality R16-64	Ends 12-31-26	Storm Water Management Plan Program
Columbus, Central Community College R08-17		Extension of Water Service to College
Columbus, Lower Loup NRD, R97-11	N/A	Lost Creek Flood Control Improvement Project with City to mow and maintain area within City limits.
Columbus, Platte County R-5209	7/7/83 Forward	Construction and connection to City sewer system by Sanitary and Improvement District No. 7 of Platte County

End-Public Works

Columbus, Cornhusker Public Power District, R03-69	N/A	Permission to erect and maintain a "Welcome to Columbus" sign
Columbus, Loup River Power District, R00-93	N/A	Permission to erect and maintain a "Welcome to Columbus" sign

Columbus, Loup Power District R15-129	12-2-15 to 12-31-40	Distribution system lease and franchise agreement allowing District to operate an electric system within the City of Columbus
Columbus, Norfolk, Fremont, Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District, R99-01	N/A	Cooperate with cities, villages and counties in northeast Nebraska for creating and implementing economic development programs
Columbus, Norfolk, Fremont and many northeast Nebraska Communities, Northeast Nebraska Area Agency on Aging, Resolution No. 4524	N/A	Board represents 50 senior centers in 22 counties in rural northeast Nebraska
Columbus, Nebraska Cooperative Lottery and many Nebraska cities, counties and villages, R94-123	N/A	Cooperative Lottery provides Keno for many Nebraska locations
Columbus, East Central District Health Department, R06-100	N/A	Regulation to prevent the spread of communicable disease, illnesses or poisoning

End-General

Columbus, Norfolk , Northeast Community College, Central Community College, Wayne, Schulyer and Scottsbluff, R17-85	Continuous	OneLibrary Nebraska provides a cloud based shared on-line catalog and circulation system for member libraries

End-Library

Columbus, Columbus Public Schools, R00-24	N/A	Use of Pawnee Park baseball field by Columbus Public School
Columbus, Columbus Public Schools, R01-135	N/A	Use of Bradshaw Park softball fields by Columbus Public Schools
Columbus, Central Community College, R09-84	N/A	Use of Gerrard Park Softball Fields by the College

Columbus, Columbus Public Schools and East Central District Health Department, R11-104, R12-54 and R13-65	N/A	Subdivision Agreement for cost sharing for the installation of paving, storm sewer, water and sewer in the Discoverer Addition
Columbus, Columbus Public Schools R16-131	N/A	Design and specifications for Fiber Optic Network
Columbus, Columbus Public Schools R09-21	N/A	Construct and maintain infrastructure development at East 14th Ave and 29th St
Columbus, Columbus Public Schools, R09-20	N/A	Cost sharing for reconstruction of tennis courts in Pawnee Park and maintenance by the City

End-School

Total

REPORT OF TRADE NAMES, CORPORATE NAMES, BUSINESS NAMES

REPORTING PERIOD JULY 1, 2024 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025

City of Columbus	Platte County
SUBDIVISION NAME	COUNTY

List all Trade Names, Corporate Names and Business Names under which the political subdivision conducted business.

Columbus Area Transit

Columbus Municipal Airport

Columbus Cemetery

Roselawn Cemetery

Columbus Community Center

Qual Run Golf Course

Van Berg Golf Course

Columbus Aquatic Center

Pawnee Plunge Water Park

CERTIFICATION OF TAXABLE VALUE AND GROWTH VALUE

{format for all counties and cities.}

TAX YEAR 2025

{certification required on or before August 20th of each year}

TO: CITY OF COLUMBUS
CITY CLERK
PO BOX 1677
COLUMBUS NE 68602

TAXABLE VALUE LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF: PLATTE

Name of Political Subdivision	Subdivision Type (County or City)	Growth Value *	Total Taxable Value	Prior Year Total Property Valuation	Growth Percentage [b]
COLUMBUS CITY	City/Village	46,267,464	2,607,543,297	2,425,351,485	1.91

* *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.*
[b] *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 **KARI URKOSKI**, **PLATTE** 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.

Kari S. Urkoski
(signature of county assessor)

8-14-25
(date)

CC: County Clerk, **PLATTE** County
CC: County Clerk where district is headquartered, 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)

Assessor's Use Only

90,072,390 Pers Prior
108,549,064 Pers Value

2,335,279,095 Real Prior
2,498,994,233 Real Value

*** Proof of Publication ***

Newspaper: COLUMBUS TELEGRAM

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
County of Platte) SS.

CITY OF COLUMBUS, NE

PO BOX 1677
COLUMBUS, NE 68602

ORDER NUMBER 1261985

Jon Volcek, being duly sworn, deposes and says she/he is a Clerk of the Columbus Telegram, a legal newspaper printed and published daily Tuesday-Saturday in Platte County, State of Nebraska and of general circulation in Platte County; that said newspaper has a bona fide circulation published within said county for more than 52 successive weeks immediately prior to the first date of the published notice, and is produced in an office maintained at the place of publication.

This affidavit is a true and correct copy of notice which appeared in said newspaper. The notice was

Section: Class Legals
Category: 0099 LEGALS
PUBLISHED ON: 08/28/2025

TOTAL AD COST:	46.24
FILED ON:	9/4/2025

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 4th day of Sept, 2025

Michelle L Greeley Notary Public

GENERAL NOTARY - State of Nebraska
MICHELLE L. GREELEY
My Comm. Exp. June 7, 2028

City of Columbus
IN
Platte County, Nebraska

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Tax Rate	0.291203	0.290030	0%
Tax Rate if Prior Tax Request was at Current Valuation	0.270857		

August 28, 2025 ZNEZ

PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL
October 6, 2025

A regular meeting of the mayor and council of the City of Columbus, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session on October 6, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Columbus Community Building, Community Room, 2500 14 Street, Columbus, Nebraska. Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Columbus Telegram on October 1, 2025, with a copy of the proof of publication being on file in the office of the city clerk. Notice of this meeting was given simultaneously to the mayor and members of the city council, with a copy of the acknowledgment of receipt of notice being on file in the office of the city clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the mayor and city council of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

1. **STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETINGS ACT AND ROLL CALL:** Mayor Bulkley announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room. Present were Mayor James Bulkley and Council Members Cynthia Alarcòn, Charlie Bahr, Troy Hiemer, Rich Jablonski, Kat Lopez, AJ Palensky, Prent Roth, and Ron Schilling. City staff members included City Attorney Neal Valorz, City Administrator Tara Vasicek, Interim Police Chief Bret Strecker, Fire Chief Ryan Gray, Finance Director Heather Lindsley, Park and Recreation Director Betsy Eckhardt, Planning and Economic Development Coordinator Jean Van Iperen, Communications Manager Matt Lindberg, and Assistant City Clerk Linda Nickeson.

2. **PRAYER:** Jablonski led in prayer.

3. **NATIONAL ANTHEM AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The National Anthem was played and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA:** The following items are considered to be routine by the city council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a city council member or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from consent status and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. The items on the consent agenda were approved with a motion by Jablonski and a second by Schilling. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

4.A. **Minutes of September 15, 2025, City Council meeting.**

4.B. **Minutes of September 22, 2025, Civil Service Commission meeting certifying police captain candidates Heath Aldrich and Jaymee Levander.**

4.C. **Ratify all actions of James B. Bulkley, Larm representative, identified in the minutes of the Annual Members Meeting of the League Association of Risk Management on September 24, 2025, including election of nominees to the LARM Board of Directors.**

4.D. **Application from Walmart, Inc. for Jordan L. Blocker as manager in conjunction with liquor license.**

4.E. **Resolution No. R25-126 authorizing payment of various improvement projects.** Resolution No. R25-126 is entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA, TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THAT A CHECK BE ISSUED AND MADE PAYABLE TO THE RESPECTIVE CONTRACTOR(S) FOR LABOR, EQUIPMENT, AND MATERIALS FURNISHED FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN THE FOLLOWING DESIGNATED DISTRICTS AND PROJECTS WITHIN THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, ALL AS SET FORTH ON THE ATTACHED CERTIFICATES OF PROGRESS PREPARED BY THE RESPECTIVE SPECIAL ENGINEER TO WIT: GEHRING CONSTRUCTION & READY MIX CO., INC. ADA SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS 2025, $37,371.55; GEHRING CONSTRUCTION & READY MIX CO., INC., CONCRETE PAVING IMPROVEMENTS 2025, $85,619.96; SCREED TECH LLC, EIGHT-PLACE T-HANGAR AT COLUMBUS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, $238,707.33; SCREED TECH LLC, EIGHT-PLACE T-HANGAR AT MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, $89,137.82; WATTS ELECTRIC COMPANY, LOST CREEK PARKWAY TRAFFIC SIGNALS 2024, $198,391.13.

4.F. **Payroll and bills on file.** B=Bnd Pymnts; CP=Capt'l Proj; E=Expns; G=Grnts; I=Insrnc; L=Lic; M=Mbrshp; P=Pymt; R=Rfnd; RT=Rent; S=Srvc & Supp; T=Trng. 10/10/25 Payroll $871,508.03; 10/10/25 quarterly payroll $5,008.00; 911 Cstm 35.00 S; Ace Hdwr 1,207.36 S; A Ackman 30.72 R; Allo 135.06 S; Am Legal 30.00 S; G Anderson 574.61 R; Aqua-Chem 805.20 S; Arnold Mtr Sup 845.22 S; AT&T 2,197.95 S; Auxiant 232,077.88 I; A Benesch & Co 3,498.00 CP; R Berger 100.00 R; Big Eight Mutual 20.00 M; BK Floor 3,932.99 S; Blackstn Pub 238.08 S; BCBSNE 1,655.31 R; Bomgaars 1,302.73 S; D Borchers 701.00 R; Bound Tree Med 737.62 S; Brite 41,575.00 CP; J Bulkley 345.90 E; Bullseye Fire Spr 1,060.54 S; Buresh Golf & Equip 1,040.00 S; Burns & McDonnell 64,600.00 CP; Cap One-Walmart 305.81 S; Carolina Sftwr 828.66 S; F & J Cech 275.00 R; CCC 85.00 T; ChampVA 89.18 R; Chrome N' Steel 80.00 S; City of Col 9,936.99 S; Club Prpht 517.00 S; Cole-Parmer 6,512.45 CP; Col Area Chamber 1,060.00 S; Col Comm Hosp 3,528.52 S; Col Cstm Emrdy 137.00 S; Col Plmbng 642.00 S; Conner Psych Serv 825.00 S; Core & Main 438.55 S; Criminal Addctn 900.00 T; Crouch 1,397.00 CP; Culligan 584.75 S; Cutting Edge 85.00 S; D&K 235.00 S; D Johnson Trckng 546.23 S; DAS St Acctng 1,663.99 S; C Defreece 150.00 R; Dell 22,312.60 CP; Digital-Ally 42,456.00 S; AJ Divis 422.50 R; Dwny Drllng 28,485.75 CP; DWEE 500.00 S; Eakes 2,101.35 S; Edison Lghtng 927.51 S; Elect Pump 162,715.00 CP; Elect Eng 36.62 S; Electrnc Eng 49.47 S; Elemech 1,500.00 S; Elli Vnarg 107.08 R; Floors by Jake 2,250.40 S; Fort Dental 69.31 R; Forte 3,530.50 S; Frontier 194.43 S; Galls 186.66 S; Gehring Const 124,220.97 CP; Gerhold Cncrt 309.98 S; D Gosch 100.00 R; GPM Ent 12,695.00 S; Grainger 3,042.94 S; Granville 203.67 R; Grt Pln Comm 209.95 S; Grosch Irr 566.54 S; Gunslingers 486.00 S; Guth Lab 1,170.68 S; H & M Elec 300.00 S; Habitat for Hmnty 23.38 R; Hawkins 6,600.32 S; Healthy Blue 766.80 R; Heiman 498.46 S; H Holly 81.11 R; Holiday Inn 144.95 S; Hmtwn Lsng 708.59 S; D Humlicek 149.41 R; R Jablonski 447.30 E; Jackson Serv 3,350.47 S; J Jakub 50.00 R;

John Deere 386.08 S; Jones Auto 711.87 CP; K. Christensen Est 100.00 R; Kelly Sup 478.56 S; Kirkham Michael 22,004.29 CP; J Knapp 639.11 R; J Krumland 109.37 R; Lakeview Sm Eng 233.60 S; LARM 1,104,330.54 I; Lbry Mrkt 1,500.00 S; Lncln Jrnl Str 222.16 S; J Maschino 75.87 R; Matheson-Lnwld 52.38 S; P McCulloch 462.00 S; McMaster-Carr 240.65 S; Menards 2,568.13 S; MARC 1,430.00 S; Mid-State Eng 960.00 CP; Mdwst Ctngs Co 990.00 S; Mdwst Mchn 800.00 S; Mdwst Ptrlm Equip 1,107.00 S; Mdwst Tape 6,311.86 S; Mdwst Turf 2,994.00 S; M. Miller 24.56 R; C Mills 200.00 R; Moms & Mops 250.00 S; Motion Ind 13,139.80 CP; MPH Ind 187.33 S; K Mueller 131.61 R; Mueller Sprnklrs 1,286.56 S; K & S Muhle 130.16 R; Mun Pipe 71.97 S; Mutual of Omaha 98.38 R; NAPA 999.44 S; NE Glf & Trf 6,160.00 S; NE Hrvstr 1,700.00 CP; NE Pub Hlth 1,182.00 S; Norfolk Area Sclptr Wlk 300.00 M; Novicki Fire Prev 1,524.50 S; NWEA 1,165.00 T; Obrist 38,265.00 CP; Occptl Hlth 1,337.00 S; D & D Odgaard 265.00 R; Oliver Pckgng 183.84 S; Olsons 503.00 S; O'Reilly 371.77 S; Overdrive 531.00 S; Pacific Window 289.00 S; Paulsen 7,780.00 CP; Payrollorg 305.00 M; Pete Lien 7,018.28 S; D Pillen 763.00 R; Platte Vlly Humane Soc 21,000.00 P; Prefferred Pipeline 496.80 S; Prestox 146.32 S; Pub Sfty Dive Sup 2,242.50 S; Quadient 1,000.00 S; Quick Med Clms 5,744.48 S; Quill 73.08 S; Readon Lawn 868.37 S; River Vlly Tire 30.00 S; Rvrside Prtbl 110.00 S; R Robak Jr 98.62 R; Rowse Auto 313.90 S; Rutt's 508.09 S; S & S Homes 160.20 R; M Sargent 21.00 E; P & D Schmidt 105.04 R; Scotus 174.00 S; Screed Tech 327,845.15 CP; G Sealock 300.00 S; S Seckel 120.40 E; Security Equip 7,261.32 S; K Senften 3.52 R; Srvcmstr by Shevlin 2,559.00 S; Settje Plmbng 109.00 S; Sherwin Wllms 83.28 S; Shevlin Sup 329.85 S; M Spearman 71.43 R; Speedy Mtls 96.11 S; Stanley Pet 1,956.76; State of NE 50.00 P; State Treasurer 747.86 P; Stryker 213.75 S; Spr Svr 123.95 S; Superior Plant Rntls 4,754.00 S; Sysco 1,357.14 S; Teleflex 550.00 S; T Thalken 98.87 T; The Filter Shp 1,076.97 S; The Lfgrd Store 40.00 S; Tillotson Ent 3,230.00 CP; Tire Outlet 1,651.00 S; Transit Works 119.27 S; Tritech Sftwr 20,038.66 CP; Truck Cntr 1,322.33 S; True Ag 384.26 S; Trfwrks 601.98 S; Tweet's 94.98 S; UPRR 1,091.58 CP; United Hlthcr Ins 836.59 R; UPS 14.39 S; Van Wall 105.82 S; Vndnbrg Elec 309.00 S; T Vasicek 354.20 E; VWR Intrntl 8,370.46 CP; Waste Conn 691.53 S; Watts Elec 198,391.13 CP; Wemhoff Rfg 763.58 S; Wilson & Co 32,387.67 CP; WPS 159.31 R; Z & M Ent 1,458.33; B Zakrzewski 31.00 E; Zimco 8,635.60 S. Total $3,588,811.13

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Included in Consent Agenda

6. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:** None

7. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

8. **PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:** None

9. **REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES:** None

10. **REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:** None

11. **REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:** None

12. REPORTS ON LEGISLATION: None

13. NEW BUSINESS:

13.A. Quote from Midwest Turf & Irrigation in the amount of $144,909.16 for 16-foot mower for the airport. CIP #26-13 The quote from Midwest Turf & Irrigation for a 16-foot mower was accepted with a motion by Palensky and a second by Bahr. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

13.B. Quote from Midwest Turf and Irrigation in the amount of $114,873.22 for five-deck rough mower for Quail Run Golf Course. CIP #26-08 The quote from Midwest Turf & Irrigation for a five-deck rough mower was accepted wih a motion by Lopez and a second by Schilling. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

13.C. Purchase from Stryker in the amount of $78,433.61 after trade-in credit for five LUCAS CPR devices for the fire department. CIP #22-12 The purchase from Stryker for five LUCAS CPR devices was approved with a motion by Lopez and a second by Jablonski. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

13.D. Purchase from MacQueen Emergency Group in the amount of $940,000 for fire engine and $2,150,000 for ladder truck for the fire department, with funds to be disbursed over two fiscal years. CIP #26-18 & 26-20 Gray explained the desperate need for a new ladder truck as the current one is unreliable, as well as the need to replace the 2002 fire engine at the Charlie Louis Fire Station. He pointed out, that included in the deal, is a trade in of the ladder truck and that MacQueen will refurbish the current fire engine at Charlie Louis Station for the city, ultimately extending the life of the apparatus for 10-15 years. The purchase from MacQueen Emergency Group for a fire engine and ladder truck was approved with a motion by Jablonski and a second by Lopez. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

13.E. Quotes from Ace Hardware, Ed M. Feld Equipment Co., Inc., Stryker, White Cap, MacQueen, Bomgaars, and Heiman Fire Equipment in the total amount of $188,495.09 for fire apparatus equipment. CIP #26-24 The quotes from Ace Hardware, Ed M. Feld Equipment Co, Inc., Stryker, White Cap, MacQueen, Bomgaars, and Heiman Fire Equipment for fire apparatus equipment were accepted with a motion by Jablonski and a second by Bahr. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

13.F. Quote from MPH Industries in the amount of $27,736.12 for nine radar systems and two trafficstat systems for the police department. CIP #26-16 Strecker explained that trafficstat systems will provide data needed in determining dates and times when vehicles are traveling at a high rate of speed in a certain area. The data will be used to establish the most essential times for law enforcement to police those areas. The quote from MPH Industries for

radar and trafficstat systems was accepted with a motion by Roth and a second by Lopez. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

13.G. **Reallocate $16,100 from CIP #26-19 and purchase from Schieffer Signs, Inc. in the amount of $11,100 for fleet graphics and Idemia in the amount of $5,000 for mobile fingerprint systems for the police department.** Strecker confirmed that in order to provide uniformity throughout the department the decision was made to replace the graphics on all vehicles at the same time. The reallocation of $16,100 from CIP #26-19 and purchases from Schieffer Signs, Inc. for fleet graphics and Idemia for mobile fingerprint systems was approved with a motion by Jablonski and a second by Palensky. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

13.H. **Consideration of support for proposed merger of Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern.** Bulkley explained that the city was asked by Union Pacific Railroad to convey support of the merger as Columbus is an original town on their main line. He noted that Union Pacific had already received support from multiple entities and individuals including Senator Moser and Senator Fischer and confirmed that David Black, Union Pacific Senior Director of Public Affairs, apologized for being unavailable to attend the meeting. Jablonski expressed his disappointment in Union Pacific’s lack of safety concerns for Columbus residents noting that he cannot not support an entity that does not care to cooperate with Columbus. Support for the merger of Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern was approved with a motion by Bahr and a second by Schilling. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and Jablonski voted “Nay”.

13.I. **Comments from mayor and city council members.** Bulkley pointed out that 23rd Street is now open with miscellaneous items to be completed within the next month.

14. **RESOLUTIONS:**

14.A. **Resolution No. R25-127 setting the property tax request at $7,562,660.83.** Resolution No. R25-127 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA, SETTING THE 2025-2026 PROPERTY TAX REQUEST AT $7,562,660.83 was adopted with a motion by Bahr and a second by Lopez. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

14.B. **Resolution No. R25-128 approving Commercial Lease Agreement with Columbus Area Children’s Museum, Inc. for space in the Columbus Community Building for operation of a children’s museum.** Bret Kumpf, 3930 48 Avenue, questioned the dollar amount the city has received thus far from the museum and shared concerns regarding the lack of rental increases in the new five-year agreement and whether the number of memberships would lessen over time lowering the city’s profit. Vasicek explained that rent is based

on utilization and that the city council chose to support a children's museum being located in the building as a quality of life amenity rather than a money maker for the city. Kellie Ceder, Columbus Area Children's Museum Board vice president, stated the museum currently pays a quarterly average of $12,000-$15,000 to the city and that she foresees membership numbers rising instead of decreasing. She pointed out that since opening in February of 2024 they have welcomed over 53,000 people, issued 2500 memberships, welcomed over 2,000 children for field trips, and hosted numerous events. She thanked the council for their continued support pointing out that this is the only children's museum in northeast Nebraska. Ceder stated that the board is passionate and committed to the museum remaining a staple in the community for many years to come by continuing to secure grants and fundraise daily. Resolution No. R25-128 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA, APPROVING COMMERCIAL LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE COLUMBUS AREA CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, INC., TO RENT SPACE IN THE COLUMBUS COMMUNITY BUILDING; A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED HEREIN BY THIS REFERENCE; TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE SAME ON BEHALF OF THE CITY; AND TO REPEAL ALL RESOLUTIONS OR PORTIONS THEREOF IN CONFLICT HEREWITH was adopted with a motion by Lopez and a second by Palensky. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted "Aye" and none voted "Nay".

14.C. **Resolution No. R25-129 creating a Micro Tax Increment Financing (Micro-TIF) program for the City of Columbus.** Vasicek explained the Micro-TIF program noting this new process that was set by state legislation a couple years ago provides for smaller projects of owners wanting to update their property to meet minimum code. The process is much less intense and less expensive for the property owner than applying for traditional TIF; however, projects must still take place in blight and substandard areas. She clarified that Nebraska law states a project cannot receive tax increment financing of any kind unless the project absolutely would not happen without it. Vasicek stated that she will be attending the November Downtown Business Improvement District board meeting and the February Chamber of Commerce Lunch and Learn to provide public education on both TIF and Micro-TIF programs. Resolution No. R25-129 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA, AUTHORIZING AND ADOPTING A PROGRAM FOR THE EXPEDITED REVIEW OF CERTAIN TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PROJECTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 18-2155 OF THE NEBRASKA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LAW was adopted with a motion by Hiemer and a second by Schilling. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted "Aye" and none voted "Nay".

14.D. **Resolution No. R25-130 approving Reimbursement Agreement for Preliminary Engineering Services with Union Pacific Railroad Company for a quiet zone study.** Jablonski stated that he will be voting against this item as he feels a quiet zone will not fix the downtown safety and traffic issues. Bulkley pointed out that he initiated this process after the concept of a

downtown viaduct did not move forward, with the intent of providing a better environment without horns and whistles. Resolution No. R25-130 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA, APPROVING THE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT FOR PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING SERVICES WITH UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT ESTIMATED AT $50,000, A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED HERETO AND INCORPORATED HEREIN; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE SAME ON BEHALF OF THE CITY; AND TO REPEAL ALL RESOLUTIONS OR PORTIONS THEREOF IN CONFLICT HEREWITH was adopted with a motion by Roth and a second by Bahr. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and Jablonski voted “Nay”.

15. ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING:

15.A. Ordinance No. 25-15 adopting 2025-2026 Pay Plan. The rules were suspended and Ordinance No. 25-15 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA, REGARDING THE SALARIES OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES; PAY PLAN FOR ALL CLASSIFICATIONS WITHIN THE CITY; AND HOURLY SALARY RANGES FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL CLASSIFICATION was read by number only with a motion by Alarcòn a second by Lopez. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”. Ordinance No. 25-15 was adopted with a motion by Alarcòn a second by Schilling. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

15.B. Ordinance No. 25-16 adopting 2025-2026 Budget. The rules were suspended and Ordinance No. 25-16 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA, ADOPTING THE BUDGET STATEMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 TO BE TERMED THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BILL; TO APPROPRIATE SUMS FOR NECESSARY EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE was read by number only with a motion by Schilling and a second by Palensky. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”. Ordinance No. 25-16 was adopted with a motion by Schilling and a second by Bahr. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

15.C. Ordinance No. 25-17 amending Section 133.02 of Chapter 133 of Title XIII of the Columbus City Code regarding concealed weapons to conform with state law. The rules were suspended and Ordinance No. 25-17 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA AMENDING SECTION 133.02 OF CHAPTER 133 OF TITLE XIII OF ORDINANCE NO. 24-01 (COLUMBUS CITY CODE) REGARDING CONCEALED WEAPONS TO CONFORM WITH STATE LAW;

REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PORTIONS THEREOF IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM was read by number only with a motion by Palensky and a second by Bahr. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”. Ordinance No. 25-17 was adopted with a motion by Palensky and a second by Bahr. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

16. ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING: None

17. ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING:

17.A. Ordinance No. 25-14 amending Section 133.99 of Chapter 133 of Title XIII of the Columbus City Code regarding the penalty for discharge of fireworks in violation of city code. Ordinance No. 25-14 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA AMENDING COLUMBUS CITY CODE (ORDINANCE NO. 24-01) SECTION 133.99 OF CHAPTER 133 OF TITLE XIII, TO AMEND THE CODE REGARDING THE PENALITY FOR DISCHARGE FIREWORKS IN VIOLATION OF CITY CODE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PORTIONS THEREOF IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM was adopted with a motion by Bahr and a second by Palensky. Alarcòn, Bahr, Hiemer, Jablonski, Lopez, Palensky, Roth, and Schilling voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”.

18. PAYROLL AND BILLS ON FILE: Included in Consent Agenda

19. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

20. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Presented and approved this 20th day of October 2025.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
: Shuraya Choat