CERTIFICATE 2026

To the Clerk of Morris County, State of Kansas
We, the undersigned, officers of
Township Five
certify that: (1) the hearing mentioned in the attached publication was held;
(2) after the Budget Hearing this budget was approved and adopted as the maximum expenditures for the various funds for the year 2026; and (3) the Amount(s) of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax are within statutory limitations for the 2026 Budget.

Table of Contents:		Page No.	2026 Adopted Budget: Budget Authority for Expenditures	2026 Adopted Budget: Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	2026 Adopted Budget: Final Tax Rate (County Clerk's Use Only)
Alloc of MVT, RVT, and 16/20M Vehicles Tax		2			
Schedule of Transfers		3			
Statement of Indebt. & Lease/Purchase		4			
Fund	K.S.A.				
General	79-1962	5	1,450	1,040	0.167
Debt Service	10-113				
Library	12-1220				
Road	68-518c				
Special Road	80-1413				
Noxious Weed	2-1318				
Fire Protection	80-1503				
Special Machinery					
Totals		xxxxxx	1450	1040	0.167
Budget Hearing Notice		6			
Combined Rate and Budget Hearing Notice					
Rate Hearing Notice					
Neighborhood Revitalization Rebate					

Final County Assessed	County Clerk's Use Only
Township Five	3,216,602
White City	3,036,621
0	
Nov 1, 2025 Total Assessed Valuation	6,253,223

Township Only Funds Revenue Neutral Rate	0.000
Township/3rd Class City Funds Revenue Neutral Rate	0.167

Assisted by:
Morris County Clerk
Chelsey Schmidt
Address:
501 West Main Street
Council Grove, KS 66846
Email:
cschmidt@morriscountyks.org

Attest: October 23, 2025
Chelsey Schmidt
County Clerk

COUNTY CLERK SEAL MORRIS COUNTY, KANSAS

Jamie Schmidt Jamie Schmidt
Chris Rhodes
Governing Body

Special Road Election held for Mills for years.
First levy in .

CPA Summary

Township Five

2026

Allocation of MV, RV, 16/20M, Commercial Vehicle, and Watercraft Tax Estimates

	Budgeted Funds for 2025	Tax Levies in the 2025 Budget	Allocation for Year 2026									
			MVT - Township	MVT - City	RVT - Township	RVT - City	16/20M - Township	16/20 - City	CommVeh - Twnshp	CommVeh - City	Wtrcraft - Township	Wtrcraft - City
***	General	0.177	36	67	1	1	7	3	0	0	0	0
***	Debt Service	0.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
***	Library	0.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Road	0.000	0		0		0		0		0	
	Special Road	0.000	0		0		0		0		0	
	Noxious Weed	0.000	0		0		0		0		0	
	Fire Protection	0.000	0		0		0		0		0	
***		0.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
***		0.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
***		0.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
***		0.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
***		0.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	0.177	36		1		7		0		0	
	Total - 3rd Class City Levies (***)	0.177		67		1		3		0		0

2026

Township Five

Schedule of Transfers

Expenditure Fund Transferred From:	Receipt Fund Transferred To:	Actual Amount for 2024	Current Amount for 2025	Proposed Amount for 2026	Transfers Authorized by Statute
General	Special Machinery	-	-	-	
General	Special Machinery	-	-	-	
Road	Special Machinery	-	-	-	
NONE					
	Total	0	0	0	
	Adjustments*				
	Adjusted Totals	0	0	0	

*Note: Adjustments are required only if the transfer is being made in 2025 and/or 2026 from a non-budgeted fund.

Township Five
Morris County

2026

STATEMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS

Type of Debt	Date of Issue	Interest Rate %	Amount Issued	Amount Outstanding Jan 1, 2025	Date Due		Amount Due 2025		Amount Due 2026	
					Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal
G.O. Bonds										
NONE										
Total G.O. Bonds				0			0	0	0	0
Other										
NONE										
Total Other				0			0	0	0	0
Total				**0**			**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

STATEMENT OF CONDITIONAL LEASE-PURCHASE AND CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION*

Items Purchased	Contract Date	Term of Contract (Months)	Interest Rate %	Total Amount Financed (Beginning Principal)	Principal Balance On Jan 1, 2025	Payments Due 2025	Payments Due 2026
NONE							
				Total	**0**	**0**	**0**

***If leasing/renting with no intent to purchase, do not list--such transactions are not lease-purchases.

Township Five 2026

FUND PAGE FOR FUNDS WITH A TAX LEVY

Adopted Budget **General**	Prior Year Actual for 2024	Current Year Estimate for 2025	Proposed Budget Year for 2026
Unencumbered Cash Balance January 1	467	336	295
Receipts:			
Ad Valorem Tax	1,010	1,040	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Delinquent Tax	39		
Motor Vehicle Tax	110	113	103
Recreational Vehicle Tax	2	2	2
16/20 M Vehicle Tax	10	8	10
Commercial Vehicle Tax	1	1	0
Watercraft Tax			0
LAVTR			0
Gross Earnings (Intangibles) Tax			0
Interest on Idle Funds			
Neighborhood Revitalization Rebate			0
Miscellaneous			
Does miscellaneous exceed 10% of Total Rec			
Total Receipts	**1,172**	**1,164**	**115**
Resources Available:	**1,639**	**1,500**	**410**
Expenditures:			
Officers Pay	200	200	300
Donation- White City Alumni Assoc.	200		
Donation- American Legion	600		
Donation- Senior Center	200		
Budget Publications	103	105	105
Donations		900	1,045
Cash Forward (2026 column)			
Transfer to Spec. Mach.(No Levy)			
Does the General Fund have a tax levy			
Transfer to Spec. Mach.(Gen has Levy)			
Transfer can not exceed 25% Resources Avai			
Miscellaneous			
Does misc. exceed 10% of Total Expenditures			
Total Expenditures	**1,303**	**1,205**	**1,450**
Unencumbered Cash Balance Dec 31	336	295	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx
2024/2025/2026 Budget Authority Amount:	1,500	1,592	1,450
		Non-Appropriated Balance	
		Total Expenditure/Non-Appr Balance	1,450
		Tax Required	1,040
	Delinquent Comp Rate:	0.0%	0
		Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	1,040

CPA Summary

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
Township Five
Morris County
will meet on August 12th, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. at 104 W Mackenzie St., White City for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax.
Detailed budget information is available at Morris County Clerk's Office and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

	Prior Year Actual 2024		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
Fund	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	1,303	0.179	1,205	0.177	1,450	1,040	0.166
Debt Service							
Library							
Road							
Special Road							
Noxious Weed							
Fire Protection							
Special Machinery							
Totals	1,303	0.179	1,205	0.177	1,450	1,040	0.166
*Funds Supported by Township Only - Revenue Neutral Rate***							*0.000*
*Funds Supported by Township and 3rd Class City - Revenue Neutral Rate***							*0.167*
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	1,303		1,205		1,450		
Total Tax Levied	1,035		1,040		xxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Total Assessed Valuation	5,781,050		5,871,162		6,258,640		
Township Assessed Valuation Only					3,219,981		

Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1	2023	2024	2025
G.O. Bonds	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Lease Purchase Principal	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

***Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988*

Chris Rhodes
Township Five Treasurer

Notice of Revenue Neutral Rate Intent

THE GOVERNING BODY OF TOWNSHIP FIVE, HEREBY NOTIFIES THE MORRIS COUNTY CLERK OF INTENT TO EXCEED THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE;

_____ Yes, we intend to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate and our proposed mill levy rate is _____. The date of our hearing is _____ at _____ AM/PM and will be held at _____ _____ address in _____, Kansas.

__x__ No, we do not plan to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate and will submit our budget to the County Clerk on or before October 1, 2025.

WITNESS my hand and official seal on 7-20-, 2025.

(Seal)

Janice Schultz
Clerk or Officer of Governing Body

THE Prairie Post

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Joann Kahnt
Publisher/Editor

Gloria Smith
Assistant Editor/
Advertising Mgr.

State of Kansas:

County of Morris:

July 31, 2025

Affidavit of Publication

Joann M. Kahnt, of lawful age, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the publisher of The Prairie Post, which is a newspaper printed in the State of Kansas, published in and of general paid circulation on a weekly, monthly or yearly basis in Morris County, Kansas, is not a trade, religious or fraternal publication, is published at least weekly fifty (50) times a year, has been so published continuously and uninterrupted in said County and State for a period of more than one year prior to the first publication of the notice attached, and has been entered at the post office as Periodicals Class mail matter. That a notice was published in all editions of the regular and entire issue for the following subject matter: Township Five Notice of Budget Hearing: published on July 31, 2025.

Joann M. Kahnt
Publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1 day of August, 2025.

Notary Public Brooke Hirt

My commission expires: 12/19/27

Brooke Hirt
Notary Public-State of Kansas
Appt. Exp. 12/19/27

Published in the July 31, 2025 issue of *The Prairie Post*

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
Skiddy Cemetery
Geary County
will meet on 08/11/2025 at 7:00pm at Larry Stillwell Residence 237 S 2650 White City KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied.
Detailed budget information is available at Geary County Clerks Office 200 E 8th St Junction City KS and will be available at this hearing.

SUPPORTING COUNTIES
Geary County (home county) Morris County

BUDGET SUMMARY
Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Prior Year Actual 2024 Expenditures	Prior Year Actual 2024 Actual Tax Rate*	Current Year Estimate 2025 Expenditures	Current Year Estimate 2025 Actual Tax Rate*	Proposed Budget Year for 2026 Budget Authority for Expenditures	Proposed Budget Year for 2026 Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Budget Year for 2026 Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	6,272	2.815	7,137	2.895	11,595	4,834	2.759
Debt Service							
Totals	6,272	2.815	7,137	2.895	11,595	4,834	2.759
						Revenue Neutral Rate**	2.760
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	6,272		7,137		11,595		
Total Tax Levied	4,843		4,567		xxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Assessed Valuation	1,720,274		1,669,795		1,752,336		

Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1,

	2023	2024	2025
G.O. Bonds	0	0	0
Revenue Bonds	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Lease Pur. Princ.	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.
**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-3568*

Carol Stillwell

Published in the July 31, 2025 issue of *The Prairie Post*

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
Township Five
Morris County
will meet on August 12th, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. at 104 W Mackenzie St., White City for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax.
Detailed budget information is available at Morris County Clerk's Office and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY
Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

Fund	Prior Year Actual 2024 Expenditures	Prior Year Actual 2024 Actual Tax Rate*	Current Year Estimate 2025 Expenditures	Current Year Estimate 2025 Actual Tax Rate*	Proposed Budget 2026 Budget Authority for Expenditures	Proposed Budget 2026 Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Budget 2026 Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	1,303	0.179	1,205	0.177	1,450	1,040	0.166
Debt Service							
Library							
Road							
Special Road							
Noxious Weed							
Fire Protection							
Special Machinery							
Totals	1,303	0.179	1,205	0.177	1,450	1,040	0.166
					Funds Supported by Township Only - Revenue Neutral Rate**		0.000
					Funds Supported by Township and 3rd Class City - Revenue Neutral Rate**		0.167
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	1,303		1,205		1,450		
Total Tax Levied	1,035		1,040		xxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Total Assessed Valuation	5,781,050		5,871,162		6,258,640		
Township Assessed Valuation Only					3,219,981		

Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1

	2023	2024	2025
G.O. Bonds	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Lease Purchase Principal	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

*Tax rates are expressed in mills.
**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988*

Chris Rhodes
Township Five Treasurer

Published in the July 31, 2025 issue of *The Prairie Post*

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of
City of Latimer
will meet on August 13th, 2025 at 6:30 P.M. at Lutheran Zion Church, Latimer, Kansas for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax.
Detailed budget information is available at Morris County Clerk's Office and will be available at this hearing.

BUDGET SUMMARY
Proposed Budget 2026 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2025 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2026 budget.
Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

FUND	Prior Year Actual for 2024 Expenditures	Prior Year Actual for 2024 Actual Tax Rate*	Current Year Estimate for 2025 Expenditures	Current Year Estimate for 2025 Actual Tax Rate*	Proposed Budget for 2026 Budget Authority for Expenditures	Proposed Budget for 2026 Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Budget for 2026 Estimate Tax Rate*
General	2,897	8.096	3,200	7.829	12,844	765	7.472
Debt Service							
Library							
Special Highway	1,294				1,704		
Totals	4,191	8.096	3,200	7.829	14,548	765	7.472
						Revenue Neutral Rate**	7.473
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	4,191		3,200		14,548		
Total Tax Levied	765		765		xxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Assessed Valuation	94,502		97,723		102,387		

Outstanding Indebtedness, January 1,

	2023	2024	2025
G.O. Bonds	0	0	0
Revenue Bonds	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Lease Purchase Principal	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

*Tax rates are expressed in mills
** Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988*

Mitchell Peck
City Official Title: Latimer City Treasurer

Mail, *cont. from pg. 1*

take it to Council Grove where it will sit for another day before it continues on to Kansas City. How long it will sit in Kansas City, well that is a good question.

These changes made by the U.S. Postal Service is part of their Delivering for America Plan with the Regional Transportation Optimization (RTO) initiative nationwide which will result in longer delivery times especially in our small rural communities.

We do know this is a plan that didn't include opinions of local postmasters and probably didn't even include opinions of anyone who had actually worked in any local post office, especially a rural one.

The Postal Regulatory Commission has reviewed the changes and found that rural communities are going to be disproportionately affected. In other words, when I mail something to my grandkids in Ottawa that used to take 2-3 days to get there, it will now take 4-6 days. And just to think, when Keith was stationed in Thailand in the late 1960's, he would receive a letter (10¢ air mail stamp) from me in 3-4 days and that is halfway around the world!!

Also, keep in mind that newspapers are mailed at what is called periodicals class. Our fee depends on the weight of the newspaper, the percentage of the paper that is advertising and if it is mailed within our county or out of our county. We have to pay a company to guarantee we are sending our newspapers in the correct order and in the correct tubs. Our weekly fee for mailing The Prairie Post has doubled in the last few years.

So, when you receive your paper later than usual, it isn't how we mail it or how our local post offices disperse it, it is the United States Postal Service who has forgotten that service is part of their name.

Community Thrift Store Board Held July Meeting at Community Christian Church

President Catherine Hutchinson opened the July 14 Community Thrift Store Board meeting at the Community Christian Church. Following Rita Buchanan's prayer and the roll call, the minutes were read and corrected. Larry Rose then presented the treasurer's report. He stated that sales in June were very good and that the 12 scholarship checks have been mailed.

Vice President Frances Davies read thank-you notes from scholarship recipient Holden Ziegler and from Calvary Lutheran, Care &Share, and ECKAN for recent donations.

Vicki Elstun co-coordinator stated that Jackson Kryger will soon set up a Facebook page for the store. She added that Amanda Craige has designed a flyer for the August 9 pool event and that copies will soon be made and distributed.

Sharmon Richardson reported that her son Travis has only to add the doors to complete the new free Bible display case. It will then be painted and erected near the main entrance.

Those attending included Barb Adams, Rita Buchanan, Frances Davies, Vicki Elstun, Marc Evans, Susan Graham, Catherine Hutchinson, Kathy Like, Kathy McMilan, Kathy Montgomery, Gayla Morgan, Sharmon Richardson, Larry Rose, Mary Rowley, Penny True, and Jeanne Weeks. Jackson Kryger was a guest.

The next meeting will be August 11.

Obituary

Julie Janine Lehiy

Julie Janine Lehiy, née Mattoon, passed away peacefully on July 3, 2025, in Manhattan, Kansas, surrounded by loved ones. Born on November 24, 1975, in Chehalis, Washington, Julie's precocious personality became quickly evident, earning her the nickname "Unruly Julie." Her wit and spirit touched everyone she encountered. She will be missed by all who were fortunate enough to know her.

Julie was a devoted animal lover. As a little girl she was notorious for "rescuing" neighbors' pets! She enjoyed learning to ride horses at her grandparents' home in Nederland, CO as a teen. She especially loved visiting local and regional zoos with her parents. In her lifetime she rescued dogs, cats, ferrets, rabbits, and even pigeons.

Even with her declining health, she made a point of making her family and their needs a priority. In the last several years, Julie enjoyed quality time with her loved ones above all else. She called her mom almost every morning and sang "you are my sunshine" to brighten her day. She was very proud when her father Alan adopted her and even prouder when she became a big sister to Jocelyn. Her child Zephyr was her ultimate pride and joy. The recent arrival of her nephew, Callum, brought joy to Julie's life and she relished the role of doting aunt.

Julie graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology from Kansas State University, managing her academic pursuits with a full-time job and raising her child. Her commitment to furthering her knowledge continued as she pursued a master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix.

Professionally, Julie found administrative work especially fulfilling. She worked at AJRS in Manhattan for many years as a bookkeeper. Prior to that, she brought warmth and efficiency to her role in soldier in-processing at Fort Riley for several years.

She was a creative soul who enjoyed crafting, including crocheting, calligraphy, coloring, and diamond art. She was known for her beautiful handwriting and journaling.

Julie was the leader of a kindred clan for a few years. She enjoyed learning the teachings of many religions and especially enjoyed studying the Bible.

Above all, Julie's heart was devoted to her family. She is survived by her partner Jason Kidd (Manhattan, KS), child Zephyr (Lawrence, KS), parents Alan and Janine Mattoon (Dwight, KS), sister Jocelyn Mattoon, brother-in-law, Cody Schickedanz and nephew Callum (Manhattan, KS), grandmother Geri Stiers (Mission Viejo, CA), as well as several aunts and uncles. She was predeceased by her maternal grandfather Ron Stiers and paternal grandparents Clifton and Loretta Mattoon, as well as her half sister, Lisa and her biological father.

Julie's ashes will be scattered in Oahu, Hawaii, which she considered home as a military child. A memorial stone will be placed in the Stiers family plot in Ohio.

A celebration of life is planned for November 15, 2025, at 2 pm at Sunset Zoo, 2333 Oak Street, Manhattan, KS.



You find hope the way you find happiness — you give it to someone else and borrow a little of it back.
~Robert Brault, rbrault.blogspot.com

A good speech has a beginning, a middle and an end, the best example being, "I love you."
~Robert Brault, rbrault.blogspot.com



Greetings from a Little Farther East
by Norma West

Abeautiful sunset last evening.... piky-orangey color that reached to the white clouds all around the sky.... often just coloring the edges of the clouds.

Then tonight, we were in a room with floor to ceiling windows tothe northwest and we saw clouds gather, lightening, trees blowing in the wind (I was very uncomfortable) but the clouds settled down, the rain poured and the air cooled. There was still rain on the sidewalks and streets this morning..... and a lovely, cool weather walk.

I hope you continue to have lovely rains!

God Bless!