



Bash Party

Hadley Conaway enjoys the Historial Society Back to School Bash that was held last Sunday at the Smith County Historial Society. This is a yearly event that is enjoyed by many children in the community.

Pam Gibble/SCP

Making a Splash



A child falls into a cattle tank at the Dunk Tank game set up at the Historial Society Back to School Bash.

Pam Gibble/SCP

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of  
City of Afton  
will meet on Sept. 8, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Afton Co-op Meeting Room 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 Smith 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		Current Year Estimate for 2025		Proposed Budget for 2026		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Estimated Tax Rate*
General	11,515	52.216	26,303	32.971	61,175	18,475	34.419
Library	5,557		8,000	3.305	14,000	7,826	14.580
Noxious Weed	1,654		1,700	14.447	1,800	1,538	2.865
Special Highway	403		500		4,425		
Totals	19,129	52.216	36,503	50.723	81,400	27,839	51.864
					Revenue Neutral Rate**		
					51.864		
Less: Transfers	0		2,000		2,000		
Net Expenditure	19,129		34,503		79,400		
Total Tax Levied	27,840		27,839		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Assessed Valuation	533,168		548,849		536,761		
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	9,258		7,560		5,719		
Total	9,258		7,560		5,719		

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

(Published in the Smith County Pioneer  
Thursday, August 14, 2025.)

Dianne Hrabec  
City Official Title: City Clerk

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of  
Banner Township  
Smith County  
will meet on August 27, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. at 21022 O Rd, Smith Center 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 Smith 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		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	5,255	2.090	8,100	2.229	11,100	5,327	2.297
Totals	5,255	2.090	8,100	2.229	11,100	5,327	2.297
					Revenue Neutral Rate**		
					2.340		
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	5,255		8,100		11,100		
Total Tax Levied	5,454		5,430		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Assessed Valuation:							
Township	2,609,660		2,435,551		2,319,364		
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

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Nancy Ceder  
Township Treasurer

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of  
Cedar Township  
Smith County  
will meet on September 8, 2025 at 9:30 A.M. at Kensington Senior Center 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 Smith 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		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	4,347	0.588	4,850	0.596	10,667	3,273	0.590
Totals	4,347	0.588	4,850	0.596	10,667	3,273	0.590
					Funds Supported by Township Only - Revenue Neutral Rate**		
					6.000		
					Funds Supported by Township and 3rd Class City - Revenue Neutral Rate**		
					0.590		
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	4,347		4,850		10,667		
Total Tax Levied	3,278		3,273		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Total Assessed Valuation	5,570,106		5,491,393		2,818,251		
Township Assessed Valuation Only							
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

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Diann Hrabec  
Township Treasurer

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NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of  
Rural Fire Protection District #1  
Smith County  
will meet on September 16, 2025 at 6:45 p.m. at Kensington Firehouse 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 Smith 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		Current Year Estimate for 2025		Proposed Budget Year for 2026		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	68,647	3.991	68,000	4.176	68,704	63,741	4.302
Totals	68,647	3.991	68,000	4.176	68,704	63,741	4.302
					Revenue Neutral Rate**		
					4.302		
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditures	68,647		68,000		68,704		
Total Tax Levied	63,745		63,745		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Assessed Valuation	15,971,979		15,262,504		14,815,154		

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 79-2988

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Martin Seeman  
Treasurer

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NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of  
German Township  
Smith County  
will meet on August 25, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. at 5022 F Rd, Kensington, KS 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 Smith 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		Current Year Estimate 2025		Proposed Budget 2026		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2025 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	2,152	1.739	6,337	1.829	6,612	2,243	1.840
Totals	2,152	1.739	6,337	1.829	6,612	2,243	1.840
					Revenue Neutral Rate**		
					1.840		
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditure	2,152		6,337		6,612		
Total Tax Levied	2,245		2,244		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Assessed Valuation:							
Township	1,291,159		1,227,157		1,219,296		
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

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Tammie Wheeler  
Township Treasurer

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NOTICE OF HEARING 2025-2026 BUDGET

The governing body of Unified School District 272 will meet on the 8th day of September 2025 at 5:45 PM at 708 Locust Street, Cawker City, KS 67430 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, including budget profile, building needs assessment and Board state assessments review is available at the USD 272 District Office or on the district website and will be available at this hearing.

The Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied and Expenditures (published below) establish the maximum limits of the 2025-2026 Budget. The 'Est. Tax Rate' (column 7), shown for comparative purposes, is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation.

	Code 99 Line	2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Actual	2025-2026 Proposed Budget				
		Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Budgeted Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)
OPERATING								
General	06	3,525,184	20.000	3,794,125	20.000	3,892,318	628,660	20.000
Supplemental General (LOB)	08	1,113,894	21.826	1,179,895	24.425	1,298,041	906,319	22.380
SPECIAL REVENUE								
Federal Funds	07	733,347		143,098		123,706		
Adult Education	10	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Preschool-Aged At-Risk	11	178		0		144,822		
Adult Supplemental Education	12	0		0		0		
At-Risk Education Fund	13	524,137		651,696		856,793		
Bilingual Education	14	0		484		763		
Virtual Education	15	0		0		0		
Capital Outlay	16	599,117	7.991	548,280	7.987	1,216,237	319,921	8.000
Driver Training	18	6,103		11,275		35,738		
Declining Enrollment	19	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Extraordinary School Program	22	0		0		0		
Food Service	24	316,638		295,319		444,482		
Professional Development	26	24,085		22,082		76,309		
Parent Education Program	28	0		0		0		
Summer School	29	0		0		0		
Special Education	30	669,302		680,160		971,465		
Cost of Living	33	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Career and Postsecondary Education	34	105,873		128,073		349,106		
Gifts and Grants	35	358,915		397,268		592,364		
Special Liability Expense Fund	42	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
School Retirement	44	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Extraordinary Growth Facilities	45	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Special Reserve Fund	47	0		268,773		303,041		
KPERs Special Retirement Contribution	51	283,749		0		0		
Contingency Reserve	53	0		432		0		
Textbook & Student Material Revolving	55	679		186,992		0		
Activity Fund	56	171,932		0		0		
DEBT SERVICE								
Bond and Interest #1	62	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Bond and Interest #2	63	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
No-Fund Warrant	66	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Special Assessment	67	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
Temporary Note	68	0	0.000	0	0.000	0	0	0.000
COOPERATIVES								
Special Education	78	0		0		0		
TOTAL USD EXPENDITURES	100	8,433,133	48.817	8,308,852	52.412	10,307,215	1,854,920	50.380
Less: Transfers	105	1,966,565		2,010,884		1,636,430		
NET USD EXPENDITURES	110	6,466,568		6,297,968		8,670,785		
TOTAL USD TAXES LEVIED	115	1,954,279		1,953,814		1,854,920		

1. Sponsoring District Only  
\*Tax Rates are expressed in Mills

Code 99 Line	2023-2024 Actual		2024-2025 Actual		2025-2026 Proposed Budget		
	Actual Expenditures (1)	Actual Tax Rate* (2)	Actual Expenditures (3)	Actual Tax Rate* (4)	Budgeted Expenditures (5)	Amount of 2025 Tax to be Levied (6)	Est. Tax Rate* (7)