

LEGAL NOTICES

(First published in the Smith Co. Pioneer Thursday, July 30, 2021.)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SMITH COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Kenneth J. Vinsonhaler, Jr., deceased
SM-2026-PR-000018
NOTICE OF HEARING AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on July 20, 2026, a Petition for Issuance of Letters of Administration was filed in this Court by William R. Vinsonhaler, nephew of Kenneth J. Vinsonhaler, Jr., deceased, praying that William R. Vinsonhaler be appointed as Administrator of the Estate of Kenneth J. Vinsonhaler, Jr., deceased.

You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before August 25, 2026, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., of said day, in said court in the City of Smith Center, Smith County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

William R. Vinsonhaler, Petitioner
S. Scott Sage # 14529
SAGE & SAGE LAW OFFICES
620 Third Street, P.O. Box 243
Phillipsburg, Kansas 67661
(785) 543-2022
Attorney for Petitioner
August 13

(First published in the Smith Co. Pioneer Thursday, August 6, 2026.)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SMITH COUNTY, KANSAS.

In the Matter of the Estate of William D. Devlin, deceased.
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on July 30, 2026, a Petition For Probate Of Will And Issuance Of Letters Testamentary was filed in this Court by James M. Devlin, designated as the Executor named in the "Last Will and Testament of William D. Devlin", deceased, dated March 10, 2011.

All creditors of the decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of first publication of notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever

barred.

James M. Devlin
Petitioner
Richard E. Dietz
Dietz Law Office
115 South First Street
P. O. Box 326
Osborne, Kansas 67473
(785) 346-2157
(785) 346-5650 - Fax
staff@dietz-law.net
Attorney for Petitioner
August 20

(First published in the Smith Co. Pioneer Thursday, August 6, 2026.)
NOTICE OF HEARING
Jamie Schwandt is to be served reference case #SM2026LM3 regarding a limited actions chapter 61 suit. Jamie Schwandt-defendant-has been sued in the 17th Judicial District Court of Smith County, Kansas. The defendant must answer the petition or other pleading, or otherwise defend on Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 0900 a.m. at the Smith County District courthouse located at 218 S. Grant St. in Smith Center, Kansas. If the defendant does not answer or otherwise defend, the petition or other pleading will be taken as true, and judgment, the nature of which must be stated, will be rendered accordingly.

Respectfully,
Brandt Smith (plaintiff)
633 Copper Fox Pl.
Larkspur, Colorado 80118
720-238-1000

(First published in the Smith Co. Pioneer Thursday, August 6, 2026.)

RESOLUTION NO 26-05
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SMITH COUNTY, KANSAS.

WHEREAS on this 20th day of April, the Board of County Commissioners of Smith County, Kansas, meeting in regular session at the Smith County Courthouse, Smith Center, Kansas, at 9:00 a.m. pursuant to K.S.A. 68-102 et. seq. considers the vacation of alley ways in the unincorporated city of Bellaire in Smith County, Kansas, to wit:

Lots 1-8, Block 1
Lots 1-28, Block 4
Lots 1-5, Block 7
Lots 1-28, Block 2
Lots 1-34, Block 5
Lots 1-28, Block 3
Lots 1-19, Block 6

WHEREAS, said alley ways lies within the unincorporated city of Bellaire in Smith County, Kansas said alley ways was established by Plat filed of record in Book D, Page 17 in the Office of the Smith County Engineer's Smith County, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, notice to the public was published in the Smith County Pioneer on March 26, 2026 and April 2, 9, 17, 2026 and notice to adjacent landowners was given by certified mail, return receipt requested; and

WHEREAS, the Board if County Commissioners appointed themselves as viewers; and

WHEREAS, the viewers recommended that the Board of Smith County Commissioners determine that the alley ways in the unincorporated city of Bellaire, is NOT a public utility and should be vacated; and

WHEREAS, no written applications for damages were made by any owners of property adjacent thereto; and

WHEREAS, the said viewers requested no compensation for services as viewers.

WHEREAS, pursuant to K.S.A. 68-102 the Board of County Commissioners held a public hearing to consider the requested vacation; and

WHEREAS, the Board determined that the public would suffer no loss or inconvenience by the requested vacation and that no private rights will be injured or

endangered thereby; and

IT IS NOW, THEREFORE, HERBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Smith County, Kansas, that the alley ways in the unincorporated city of Bellaire, KS described above, is hereby vacated.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND RESOLVED THAT the vacation of said of alley ways is subject to the reservation of any currently existing easements for public utilities over and under, and across all

that portion of vacated alley ways for the repair, maintenance, and replacement of any existing utilities presently located within the vacated alley ways.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Clerk to be placed in the road records.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Appraiser.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect after its publication in the official County newspaper.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Smith County, Kansas this 27th day of July.

By:
Jim Gwennap, Commissioner

By:
Brady Peterson, Commissioner

By:
Kurt Ifland, Chairman

ATTEST:
Ashley Maxwell
Ashley Maxwell
Smith County Clerk
August 13

LEGAL NOTICES

A public hearing will be held on Monday, September 14th at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room at the Srader Center regarding a "Change in Zoning" application. The requested zoning change is to build a "private garage" closer to the property line than what is currently zoned. Legal description of the property: Beg 40'W & 40'N of SE Cor SE4 W140'N 160'E 160'S TO POB - City of Smith Center - Property is located on N Main Street.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend the hearing. All comments will be heard.

Smith Center Zoning Board
(Published in the Smith Co. Pioneer, Thursday, August 6, 2026)

ORDINANCE NO. 1299 SUMMARY

On July 17, 2026, the City of Lebanon, Kansas adopted Ordinance No. 1299 updating the regulations of sales for Cereal Malt Beverages and Beer containing not more than 6% alcohol by volume, repealing Ordinance No. 474. A complete copy of this ordinance is available at the city office located at 404 Main St, Lebanon, KS 66952.

(Published in the Smith Co. Pioneer, Thursday, August 6, 2026)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING						
The governing body of Blaine Township, Smith County						
will meet on August 20, 2026 at 5:00 P.M. at 22081 180 Rd, Lebanon, 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 2027 Expenditures and Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.						
Fund	Prior Year Actual 2025	Current Year Estimate 2026	Proposed Budget 2027			
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	8,394	1.823	9,950	1.708	11,753	1.662
Totals	8,394	1.823	9,950	1.708	11,753	1.662
Revenue Neutral Rate** 1.662						
Less: Transfers	0		0		0	
Net Expenditure	8,394		9,950		11,753	
Total Tax Levied	6,992		6,992		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	
Assessed Valuation:						
Township	3,836,104		4,093,474		4,205,476	
Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1	2024		2025		2026	
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						
(Published in the Smith Co. Pioneer, Thursday, August 6, 2026)						
Karen Baetz Township Officer						

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING						
The governing body of City of Cedar						
will meet on Sept 14, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. at Cedar Depo 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 2027 Expenditures and Amount of Current Year Estimate for 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.						
FUND	Prior Year Actual for 2025	Current Year Estimate for 2026	Proposed Budget for 2027			
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Estimate Tax Rate*
General	7,875	16.992	8,760	19.487	15,545	3.848
Special Highway			350		350	17.901
Totals	7,875	16.992	9,050	19.487	15,895	3,848
Revenue Neutral Rate** 17.901						
Less: Transfers	0		0		0	
Net Expenditure	7,875		9,050		15,895	
Total Tax Levied	3,848		3,848		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	
Assessed Valuation:	226,461		197,465		214,957	
Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1	2024		2025		2026	
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						
(Published in the Smith Co. Pioneer, Thursday, August 6, 2026)						
Rebecca Mueller City Official Title: Mayor						



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ORDINANCE NO. 1300 SUMMARY

On July 17, 2026, the City of Lebanon, Kansas adopted Ordinance No. 1300 requiring any Drinking Establishments to obtain a license from the City of Lebanon. A complete copy of this ordinance is available at the city office located at 404 Main St, Lebanon, KS 66952.

(Published in the Smith Co. Pioneer, Thursday, August 6, 2026)

ORDINANCE NO. 1301 SUMMARY

On July 17, 2026, the City of Lebanon, Kansas adopted Ordinance No. 1301 requiring any special event serving alcohol or CMB to obtain a local special event permit from the City of Lebanon. A complete copy of this ordinance is available at the city office located at 404 Main St, Lebanon, KS 66952.

(Published in the Smith Co. Pioneer, Thursday, August 6, 2026)

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING						
The governing body of Custer Cemetery District #3, Smith County						
will meet on August 20, 2026 at 7:30 P.M. at 22081 180 Rd, Lebanon, 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 Smith County Clerk's Office and will be available at this hearing.						
BUDGET SUMMARY						
Proposed Budget 2027 Expenditures and Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.						
FUND	Prior Year Actual 2025	Current Year Estimate for 2026	Proposed Budget Year for 2027			
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax
General	2,015	1.566	3,700	1.638	6,282	2,548
Totals	2,015	1.566	3,700	1.638	6,282	2,548
Revenue Neutral Rate** 1.665						
Less: Transfers	0		0		0	
Net Expenditures	2,015		3,700		6,282	
Total Tax Levied	2,549		2,547		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	
Assessed Valuation	1,627,766		1,555,365		1,529,984	
Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1	2024		2025		2026	
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						
(Published in the Smith Co. Pioneer, Thursday, August 6, 2026)						
Karen Baetz						

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING						
The governing body of Garfield Township, Smith County						
will meet on Aug 20th at 1:00 P.M. at 23062 260 Rd, Portis, 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 2027 Expenditures and Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.						
Fund	Prior Year Actual 2025	Current Year Estimate 2026	Proposed Budget 2027			
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax
General	6,485	1.921	8,800	1.980	11,766	3.191
Totals	6,485	1.921	8,800	1.980	11,766	3.191
Revenue Neutral Rate** 2.02						
Less: Transfers	0		0		0	
Net Expenditure	6,485		8,800		11,766	
Total Tax Levied	3,192		3,191		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	
Assessed Valuation:	1,661,230		1,611,250		1,550,746	
Township						
Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1	2024		2025		2026	
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						
(Published in the Smith Co. Pioneer, Thursday, August 6, 2026)						
Dennis Pletcher Township Treasurer						

Got a News Tip or a event you want covered?

Call us at 785-282-3371 or email us at pioneer@ruraltel.net and we will get on our calendar