

**THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GERING CITY COUNCIL,  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2025**

A special meeting of the City Council of Gering, Nebraska was held on September 17, 2025 at 5:15 p.m. at Gering City Hall Council Chambers, 1025 P Street, Gering, NE. Present were Mayor Ewing and Councilmembers Shields, Gillen, Frye, Kinsey, Wiedeman, Morrison, Jackson. Absent was Councilmember O'Neal. Also present were City Administrator Pat Heath, Finance Director Lyndsey Mathews, City Clerk Kathy Welfl and City Attorney Jim Ellison. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Star-Herald, the designated method of giving notice. All proceedings hereafter were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public except as otherwise indicated.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ewing called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. A quorum of the Council was present and City business could be conducted.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call

**OPEN MEETINGS ACT - NEB.REV.STAT. CHAPTER 84, ARTICLE 14**

Mayor Ewing stated: As required by State Law, public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room. Agenda items may be moved up or down on the agenda at the discretion of the Mayor. As required by State Law, additions may not be made to this agenda less than 24 hours before the beginning of the meeting unless they are considered under this section of the agenda and Council determines that the matter requires emergency action.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**1. Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers and citizens relating to the City of Gering Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Proposed Budget**

Mayor Ewing opened a public hearing for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers and citizens regarding the City of Gering Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Proposed Budget at 5:16 p.m.

Mayor Ewing stated the following:

FY26 Budgeted Government-Wide Total Revenues net of transfers \$33,136,495 (decrease due to amount received from Municipal Equalization has decreased, Highway Allocation Revenue has decreased, Federal Grants has decreased due to projected grants to be applied for has decreased)  
FY25 Budgeted Government-Wide Total Revenues net of transfers \$33,690,272

FY26 Budgeted Revenues - General Fund only \$6,174,944 (includes enterprise transfer in of \$2,200,000, and \$712,500 sales tax revenue, no transfers in from sinking fund for capital purchases)

FY25 Budgeted Revenues - General Fund only \$5,944,530 (includes enterprise transfer in of \$2 Million, and \$687,500 sales tax revenue, no transfers in from sinking fund for capital purchases)

FY26 Budgeted Property Tax Revenues \$2,246,875

FY25 Budgeted Property Tax Revenues \$2,181,743

FY26 Municipality Levy 0.310520

FY25 Municipality Levy 0.320630

FY26 Budgeted Sales Tax Revenues \$2,625,000 (includes estimated LB357 sales tax of \$500,000)

FY25 Budgeted Sales Tax Revenues \$2,525,000 (includes estimated LB357 sales tax of \$475,000)

FY26 Budgeted Enterprise Transfers \$2,260,000

FY25 Budgeted Enterprise Transfers \$2,060,000

FY26 Budgeted Gov't Wide Total Expenditures \$48,035,018 (includes capital expenditures of \$9,591,010, debt service \$722,665, contingencies \$1,000,000)

FY25 Budgeted Gov't Wide Total Expenditures \$45,504,410 (includes capital expenditures of \$9,787,966, debt service \$855,256, contingencies \$1,000,000)

FY26 Budgeted Total Operating Expenses (excludes debt and capital expense) is \$37,721,343 (the largest increase was payroll and benefits with the COLA Increases of \$381,165). There is an increase of 20% increase in property insurance, 20.0% increase in liability insurance and a 26% increase in workers comp insurance.

FY25 Budgeted Total Operating Expenses (excludes debt and capital expense) is \$31,895,767 (the largest increase was payroll and benefits with COLA Increase of \$745,512). There is an increase of 12.2% increase in property insurance, 13.0% increase in liability insurance and a 29.6% decrease in workers comp insurance.

FY26 Budgeted Expenses - General Fund \$6,810,964 (includes \$56,550 in capital expenditures and \$69,127 in transfers out)

FY25 Budgeted Expenses - General Fund \$6,585,336 (includes \$147,000 in capital expenditures and \$45,421 in transfers out)

FY26 Budgeted operating expense General Fund without capital improvements or contingency \$6,754,414

FY25 Budgeted operating expense General Fund without capital improvements or contingency \$6,438,336

Fiscal Year 26 Budgeted Full-time employees authorized is 88

Fiscal Year 25 Budgeted Full-time employees authorized was 88

Mayor Ewing asked if there was anyone in the Council Chambers wishing to speak regarding the proposed FY26 Budget. Hearing none and with no further comments, the administrative record was closed and the public hearing closed at 5:24 p.m.

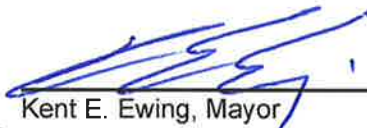
**CLOSED SESSION:** (Council reserves the right to enter into closed session if deemed necessary.) None.

**OPEN COMMENT:** Discussion or action by Council regarding unscheduled business will not take place. This section is for citizen comment only. None.

**ADJOURN:**

**Motion to adjourn by Councilmember Gillen. Second by Councilmember Kinsey. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Frye, Kinsey, Wiedeman, Morrison, Jackson. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: O'Neal. Motion Carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

  
Kent E. Ewing, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Kathleen J. Welf, City Clerk

