

PUBLIC NOTICE
Sigourney CSD • School Budget Summary

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed SIGOURNEY School Budget Summary
Fiscal Year 2025 - 2026

Location of Public Hearing: Sigourney Jr/Sr High Library 907 E Pleasant Valley St Sigourney, IA 52591		Date of Hearing: 04/09/2025	Time of Hearing: 06:00 PM		
The Board of Directors will conduct a public hearing on the proposed 25/26 school budget at the above noted location and time. At the hearing, any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget. This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of the revenues and expenditures on file with the district secretary. A copy of the details will be furnished upon request.					
		Budget 2026	Re-est. 2025	Actual 2024	Avg % 24-26
Taxes Levied on Property	1	2,618,349	2,543,830	2,398,021	% 4.5
Utility Replacement Excise Tax	2	46,912	48,799	50,845	% -3.9
Income Surtaxes	3	64,947	27,880	34,488	% 37.2
Tuition/Transportation Received	4	663,000	650,000	695,804	
Earnings on Investments	5	157,450	187,300	312,931	
Nutrition Program Sales	6	200,000	175,000	159,600	
Student Activities and Sales	7	331,200	306,000	234,388	
Other Revenues from Local Sources	8	230,250	245,440	227,174	
Revenue from Intermediary Sources	9	0	0	0	
State Foundation Aid	10	4,682,770	4,543,014	4,249,697	
Instructional Support State Aid	11	16,954	0	0	
Other State Sources	12	840,000	833,000	782,517	
Two Tier Assessment Limitation Replacement	13	57,909	57,909	54,682	
Title I Grants	14	153,000	150,000	144,458	
IDEA and Other Federal Sources	15	515,000	505,000	487,794	
Total Revenues	16	10,577,741	10,273,172	9,832,399	
General Long-Term Debt Proceeds	17	0	0	6,900,127	
Transfers In	18	734,921	741,101	401,885	
Proceeds of Fixed Asset Dispositions	19	0	0	0	
Special Items/Upward Adjustments	20	0	0	0	
Total Revenues & Other Sources	21	11,312,662	11,014,273	17,134,411	
Beginning Fund Balance	22	4,398,577	8,654,083	4,772,909	
Total Resources	23	15,711,239	19,668,356	21,907,320	
*Instruction	24	6,099,250	5,798,864	5,908,333	% 1.6
Student Support Services	25	144,200	140,000	137,811	
Instructional Staff Support Services	26	531,800	517,000	484,815	
General Administration	27	265,500	257,280	276,260	
School Administration	28	360,500	350,000	368,274	
Business & Central Administration	29	231,750	225,000	140,535	
Plant Operation and Maintenance	30	607,000	876,000	771,006	
Student Transportation	31	365,100	365,316	447,738	
*Total Support Services (lines 25-31)	31A	2,505,850	2,730,596	2,626,439	% -2.3
*Noninstructional Programs	32	560,000	500,000	486,581	% 7.3
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	33	325,000	4,530,000	3,079,977	
Debt Service (Principal, interest, fiscal charges)	34	734,921	741,096	495,958	
AEA Support - Direct to AEA	35	206,597	228,122	254,065	
*Total Other Expenditures (lines 33-35)	35A	1,266,318	5,499,218	3,830,000	% -42.5
Total Expenditures	36	10,431,418	14,528,678	12,851,353	
Transfers Out	37	734,921	741,101	401,884	
Other Uses	38	0	0	0	
Total Expenditures, Transfers Out & Other Uses	39	11,166,339	15,269,779	13,253,237	
Ending Fund Balance	40	4,544,900	4,398,577	8,654,083	
Total Requirements	41	15,711,239	19,668,356	21,907,320	
Proposed Property Tax Rate (per \$1,000 taxable valuation)		11.36867			

Published in The News-Review on March 26, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of What Cheer • Minutes 3.11.2025

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**
Tuesday March 11th 2025
The What Cheer City Council met in regular session at City Hall, Tuesday March 11th 2025. Mayor Darrell Wilkening called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Council Members answering roll call were: Sandra VanPatten, Christine Howard, Dwight Danner, Donna Rogers and Rick Shafranek. Also present was Richard & Faye Jones, Michael and Melissa MacCready, Kathy Shafranek, Adam Clark, Gary Joe Van Patten and City Clerk Melanie Vermillion.
Shafranek motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Howard. All in favor. Motion Carried.
Mayor Darrell Wilkening gave his mayors report. He informed the

council of a gas leak on Willow St, a sewer repair on East Porter that will cause some damage to the street that the property owner will be responsible for. He also let the council know that a good size water leak was found and the home owner may ask to be on the April agenda.
No Audience Comments
Van Patten made a motion to adopt a resolution 25-03-02 to set a special meeting and public hearing on April 8th at 7pm on the max tax levy. Rogers seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rogers, Aye; Howard, Aye; Shafranek, Aye; Danner, Aye; and Van Patten Aye. Motion Carried
Van Patten made a motion to purchase a Ferris 3300 zero turn mower. Rogers seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rogers, Aye; Howard, Nay, Shafranek, Nay, Danner, Nay,

and Van Patten Aye. Motion failed.
Howard motioned to look at mowers at Wellings Power Products, collect prices and further discuss the purchase at the April 8th meeting. Shafranek seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion Carried.
Van Patten made a motion to adopt a resolution 25-03-03 to set a public hearing on April 8th at 7:30pm on the 2025-2026 City Budget. Howard seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rogers, Aye; Howard, Aye; Shafranek, Danner, Aye; and Van Patten, Aye. Motion Carried.
Dwight Danner made a motion to not approve a liquor license submitted from Grant Ranch for the Opera House. Howard seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rogers, Nay; Howard, Aye, Shafranek, abstained, Danner, Aye; Van Patten,

Nay. With a tie vote Mayor Darrell Wilkening broke the tie with a Nay vote. Motion failed to pass.
Rogers made a motion to approve a liquor license submitted from Grant Ranch for the Opera House. Van Patten seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rogers, Aye; Howard, Nay, Shafranek, Abstained, Danner, Nay; Van Patten, Aye. With a tie vote Mayor Wilkening broke the tie with an Aye vote. Motion Carried.
Van Patten motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm, seconded by Howard.
Darrell Wilkening, Mayor
Melanie Vermillion, City Clerk
Published in The News-Review on March 26, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
Keokuk Co BOS • Minutes 3.10.2025

**KEOKUK COUNTY BOARD
PROCEEDINGS
MARCH 10, 2025**
The Keokuk County Board of Supervisors met in regular session, Monday, March 10, 2025, in the Board Room of the Courthouse. Present were: Michael C. Hadley, Daryl Wood, Kevin Weber and Christy Bates, County Auditor.
Wood moved, Weber seconded to approve the agenda. All ayes and motion carried. Casey Jarmes, News Review, was present.
Weber moved, Wood seconded to approve the minutes of March 3, 2025, as submitted. All ayes and motion carried.
Met with Engineer McGuire re-

garding the Keokuk County Highway Department update as follows: tree removal will begin next week on the Keskwick pavement project and an old motorgrader will be posted on an auction site for sale. McGuire traveled to Washington DC two weeks ago on behalf of the Iowa Engineering Association and spoke with the House Transportation Committee, Director for Public Assistance (FEMA), White House Staff Government Liaison and US Department of Transportation Secretary, further noting the importance of making personal contacts and face to face communication. Later this week he will present at the ISAC Spring School on local

project traffic control.
Various Board and Committee reports were held. Wood participated in a Pathfinders meeting. Hadley attended RHTF financial meeting. Weber had no scheduled meetings last week.
Discussion of old/new business and public comment was held. The Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) webinar presentation on Health and Human Services (HHS) regarding upcoming changes for mental health was reviewed.
Met with Jennifer McMillan, Iowa Governmental Health Care Plan (IGHCP) regarding annual renewal was held. Jennifer reviewed the health, dental, vision and life re-

newals, as well as additional services provided by the trust. No decision was made.
On vote and motion Hadley adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.
The above and foregoing information is a summary of the minutes taken at the above indicated meeting. The full and complete set of minutes is available at the Keokuk County Auditor's Office and www.keokukcounty.iowa.gov.
Approved
Disapproved
Michael C. Hadley, Daryl Wood, Kevin Weber
Published in The News-Review on March 26, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
Sigourney CSD • Minutes 3.12.2025

**SIGOURNEY COMMUNITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING**
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025
The Board of Directors of the Sigourney Community School District met in regular session on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 in the Sigourney Jr/Sr High Library. Board members present included: Allan Glandon, Mike Bensmiller, Tim Bruns, Adam Clark, and Steven Seeley. Board members not present included: Cody Branstad and Amy Wilcox. Also present were Kevin Hatfield, Angie Lamberson, Jessica Meier, Jenny Bell, Deanna Spence, Shannon Webb, Chris Shadduck, and Casey Jarmes.
PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2025-26 and 2026-27 CALENDARS
Call to Order/Determination of Quorum: President Seeley opened the public hearing at 6:02 PM and acknowledged a quorum of the board.
Approve/Amend Agenda: Director Bensmiller moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Director Glandon. Motion carried 5-0.
Public Hearing: Mr. Hatfield reviewed the calendar options - approval will include the option to adjust the start dates pending legislative action. No oral or written comments were received.
Adjournment: Director Bensmiller moved to adjourn the public hearing at 6:03 PM. Seconded by Director Clark. Motion carried 5-0.

REGULAR MEETING
Call to Order/Determination of Quorum: President Seeley called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM, acknowledged a quorum of the board, and led the group in the pledge of allegiance.
Approve/Amend Agenda: Director Clark moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Director Bensmiller. Motion carried 5-0.
Good News/Commentary from the Board: Hatfield shared that the Elementary Reading Night and Art Show were a success. Joleen Louwsma, HS English teacher, will be retiring and was honored for her years of service. Hatfield also congratulated the 57 concurrent enrollment Indian Hills students who are saving a lot in tuition.
Board Committees: The Board Finance Committee met to discuss setting of school tax levy for publication.
Welcome Visitors: None
Non-Action Items: Deputy Chris Shadduck, SRO at Cardinal, shared his experience being a SRO. Shannon Webb, Jenny Bell and Deanna Spence presented on the Savage Advantage Program for the 25-26 school year. The Administrative Team is very excited about this Work Based Learning opportunity. Jessica Meier an update on the School Budget and Tax Levy Notifications. Hatfield and Meier gave an update on the FY24 Audit. Administrative Reports: Spence shared the large turnout at the Art Show and Elementary Reading

Night. Spence also shared they are preparing for ISASP testing for 3-6 grade which will take place March 24-28. Webb shared the 2nd Tri Honor Roll and talked more on the 2 classes being offered next school year titled Savage Advantage and Freshman Seminar. The Athletic Director gave updates on the success all the winter sports teams had. Sigourney is 1A for Football for 25-26. Maintenance has been busy with cleaning walks as well as servicing lawn equipment for mowing season. The Tech Department has ISASP Testing all ready to go. They have also been working on audio and lighting for the play and E-rate implementation. Transportation is gearing up for vehicle inspections and the busy spring activity schedule. Jenny Bell has been working with Sinclair and KCHC on work based learning. She continues to work on the Savage Pledge and is gearing up for ISASP Testing. Nutrition has a new Kitchen Manager as of March 10.
Consent Agenda: Director Bensmiller moved to approve the following consent agenda items:
Minutes from Feb 14, 2025 Regular.
Financial Reports from Feb 2025. Payment of Bills: General Fund \$141,420.89; Activity \$48,717.98; Management \$8,445.97; SAVE \$15,446.97; PPEL \$957.30; Nutrition \$45,686.36
Open Enrollment
OUT to Oskaloosa HSAP - P Diment, S Diment
IN from Keota - E Weber, K Weber,

M Weber, R Weber
IN from Tri-County - G Primmer
IN from Pekin - A Echelberry, E Echelberry, I Echelberry
Personnel
Resignations: Stephanie Beinhart, HS Wrestling Cheer Coach
New Hires: Mackenzie Stoffer, 7-12 ELA Teacher; Josh Clubb, HS Asst Girls Track Coach
Volunteers: Peyton Leathers, JH Boys Track; Jina Heisdorffer, JH Girls Track; Dan Streigel, Trapshooting, Chris Gehrig, Trapshooting
Fundraisers: Baseball hats Mar 31-Apr 7 for batting cage needs
Seconded by Director Clark. Motion carried 5-0.
Board will Focus on Student Learning and School Improvement:
Moved by Director Clark to approve the 2nd reading of the 2025-26 and 2026-27 School Calendar. Seconded by Director Glandon. Motion carried 5-0.
Moved by Director Glandon to approve the District Uniform Replacement Plan as presented. Seconded by Director Bensmiller. Motion carried 5-0.
Board Will Focus on Finance, Business, and Policy:
Moved by Director Bensmiller to approve the FY24 Audit and Audit Letter to the Board. Seconded by Director Clark. Motion carried 5-0.
Moved by Director Bensmiller to approve the participation in Iowa Local Government Risk Pool (natural gas) for FY26 (July 2025-June 2026) at a cost of \$49,486.55 from Management Fund. Seconded

by Director Clark. Roll Call Vote: AYES: Clark, Bensmiller, Glandon, Seeley, Bruns; NAYS: None. Motion passes.
Moved by Glandon to approve the option 1 bid from Phillips Flooring Commercial Flooring for the cafeteria/gym floor project in the amount of \$64,630. Seconded by Bensmiller. Motion carried 4-1 with Bruns as a NO.
Moved by Clark to approve the bid by Sinclair for the new John Deere X750 riding mower in the amount of \$13,318. Seconded by Bruns. Motion carried 5-0.
Moved by Clark to approve the second reading of the Visitor Management System (VMS) Policy and Regulations as presented. Seconded by Glandon. Motion carried 5-0.
Moved by Clark to approve the second reading of the Visitor Management System (VMS) Policy and Regulations as presented. Seconded by Glandon. Motion carried 5-0.
Moved by Clark to approve the second reading of updated language regarding the issuance of a free activities pass to qualified early retirees should the Board enact an early retirement plan. Seconded by Glandon. Motion carried 5-0.
Moved by Bensmiller to approve the second reading of Full-Term Director Service policy with spouse changed to guest. Seconded by Clark. Motion carried 5-0.
Announcements/Suggestions

for Next Meeting: March 26, 4:30 pm, District Office-1st Public Hearing for Proposed District Tax Levy; Budget Hearing April 9, 2025 prior to regular meeting; Curriculum / Work-Based Learning Coordinator Presentation; Student Handbook Approvals; Staff Recognition Plans / Teacher Appreciation Week, May 6-10; Graduation Plans - Saturday May 17, 2025; Employee Handbook Approval; FMSC Contract Renewal for 2025-2026; Teacher Leadership & Compensation (TLC) Carry-over Plans
The next regular meeting will be April 9, 2025 in the Sigourney Jr/Sr High Library at 6:00 PM.
Exempt Session - Iowa Code 21.9 - Employment Conditions
The board went into exempt session at 8:05 PM. By general consensus the board went out of exempt session at 8:32 PM.
Superintendent Contract
Director Glandon moved to approve the superintendent's contract as presented. Seconded by Director Bensmiller. Motion carried 5-0.
Adjournment: Director Clark moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM. Seconded by Director Bensmiller. Motion carried 5-0.
Steven Seeley, Board President
Angie Lamberson, Board Secretary
Published in The News-Review on March 26, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
Sigourney CSD • Special Session 3.12.2025

**SIGOURNEY COMMUNITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING**
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025
The Board of Directors of the Sigourney Community School District met in special session on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 in the Sigourney Jr/Sr High Library. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct a work session. Board members present included: Allan Glandon, Mike Bensmiller, Tim Bruns, Adam Clark, and Steven Seeley. Board members absent included: Cody Branstad and Amy Wilcox.

Also present were Kevin Hatfield, Jessica Meier, Deanna Spence, and Angela Villhauer
Work Session: Angela Villhauer, Mercer, reviewed the district's health insurance plans for the board. The board asked questions and discussed the data throughout the presentation.
Adjournment: By general consensus the board ended the work session at 6:02 PM.
Steven Seeley, Board President
Jessica Meier, Secretary Pro-Tem
Published in The News-Review on March 26, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
Keokuk Co • Notice of Hearing

**VACATING COUNTY ROAD
NOTICE OF HEARING
RESOLUTION**
WHEREAS: The Keokuk County Board of Supervisors, acting under the authority of Iowa Code Chapter 306, proposes to close a highway and will consider abandoning highway easement rights, described as follows:
DESCRIPTION
A PORTION OF COUNTY RIGHT OF WAY ON COUNTY ROAD V45(200TH AVE) AS ESTABLISHED IN BOOK 65 ON PAGE 163 IN THE KEOKUK COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE.
Section 15, Township 76N, Range 12W, VanBuren Township, 200th Avenue
BEING LOCATED WITHIN SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 76 NORTH, RANGE 12 WEST OF THE FIFTH PRINCIPLE MERIDIAN, KEOKUK COUNTY, IOWA, AS SHOWN ON ROAD VACATION PLAT EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO WHICH BY THIS REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
THAT PORTION OF THE SOUTH 400 FEET OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 76, RANGE TWELVE

WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., KEOKUK COUNTY, IOWA LYING EAST OF 200TH AVE, EXCEPT THE WEST 50 FOOT THEREOF.
SAID PARCEL IS SUBJECT TO EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD.
A hearing on the proposed road closure and vacation of highway easement rights will be held in the Board Room, Keokuk County Courthouse, 101 South Main, Sigourney IA 52591 at 9:00 AM on April 07, 2025, in accordance with the Code of Iowa.
As authorized by Iowa Code Section 306.14 Objections - claims for damages any person occupying a homestead on land adjacent to that part of the road proposed to be closed, or who owns land which will be landlocked by the proposed road closure shall have the right to file, in writing, a claim for damages at any time on or before the date and time fixed for the hearing.
Passed and approved this 24th day of March, 2025.
Michael C. Hadley, Chairman, Keokuk County Board of Supervisors
ATTEST: Christy Bates, Keokuk County Auditor
Published in The News-Review on March 26, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
City of What Cheer • Bills 3.11.2025

**BILLS PRESENTED AT MARCH
11TH 2025 MEETING**
AFLAC.....\$69.03
WHAT CHEER FIRE DEPT...417.17
ALLIANT ENERGY.....4644.74
IPERS.....44.19
IPERS.....1826.40
WATER EX TAX.....438.63
941 TAX.....2526.56
MAPLE AVE SALES.....346.00
KEOKUK CO RECORDER...29.00
WALNUT 92.....76.90
HESLINGA LAW OFFICE ...160.00
HACH COMPANY.....731.20

H&M FARM AND HOME120.84
FAAS FEED314.58
WAPELLO RURAL WATER3174.54
WINDSTREAM362.41
AUDITOR OF STATE.....1200.00
COLUMN - PUBLICATIONS.....204.89
MICROBAC LAB.....451.25
WASTE MANAGEMENT ..6199.60
CASEY'S76.00
MCG6.42
Published in The News-Review on March 26, 2025

PROBATE
LEE J. OKONES ESPR038598

**THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
FOR KEOKUK COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
LEE J. OKONES, Deceased
CASE NO. ESPR038598
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL,
OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR,
AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Lee J. Okones, Deceased, who died on or about February 4, 2025:
You are hereby notified that on March 11, 2025, the Last Will and Testament of Lee J. Okones, deceased, bearing date of May 25, 2016, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Lance Justin Okones was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.
Dated March 11, 2025.
Lance Justin Okones, Executor of Estate
205 S Shuffleton St
Sigourney, IA 52591
John N. Wehr, ICIS#: 0008299
Attorney for Executor
John N. Wehr, Attorney at Law
116 E Washington
PO Box 245
Sigourney, IA 52591
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Probate Code Section 304
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