

PRESS RELEASE

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City of Robins Calls for Special Levy Election to Sustain General Operating Funds

ROBINS – The City of Robins is asking citizens to support a return to the 2023 City Consolidated General Fund Levy (CGFL) rate, which is essential for sustaining city services in response to Robins’ growth. A special election will be held on **Tuesday, March 4, 2025**.

Historically, Robins’ Levy Rate has remained around \$7.00 per \$1000 in valuation. For the Fiscal Year 2024 budget, the city decreased its Regular General Levy rate (now referred to as CGFL) from \$6.57 to \$4.31. This reduction resulted in a revenue loss of more than \$350,000 annually for the City’s General Fund, which supports vital city services including the police and fire departments, parks and recreation and city administration.

The reduction in revenue, coupled with the May 2023 passage of Iowa House File 718 – which limits growth in property tax levies for general services – has created a significant shortfall for the city. For decades, the City of Robins has operated with a lean budget in order to maintain affordable services, while keeping taxes lower than surrounding communities. However, the City may be forced to decrease services due to the impacts of lowering the CGFL combined with the restrictions put in place by House File 718.

“We urge Robins residents to see this special levy as returning to previous levels and essential for maintaining the services that make our city great,” said Chuck Hinz, Robins Mayor. “Without this funding, we may need to reduce or eliminate vital services like leaf pickup, street sweeping and other city projects.”

To provide more information on the special election, an **Open House** will be held on **Tuesday, February 11, 2025**, from **5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** at **Community Savings Bank**, 101 Robins Square Ct., Robins. City Council Members and staff will be available to answer questions.

Where Can I Vote in Person?

Community Savings Bank, 101 Robins Square Ct., Robins

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

How Do I Request an Absentee Ballot?

Forms will be available at the Open House and are available online at [LinnCountyIowa.gov/Vote](https://linncountylowa.gov/Vote).

Completed forms must be submitted to the Linn County Election Services Office by 5:00 p.m. on February 17, 2025. Beginning February 12, individuals may vote in person at the Election Services Department of the Auditor’s Office. The office is located in the Linn County Public Service Center, 935 2nd St. SW in Cedar Rapids.