

# Notice of Special Election

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday the 9<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022 at the following polling places in the election precincts of Brown County, Nebraska, an election will be held. The polls will open at 8:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. Said election will be to present to the registered voters of the City of Ainsworth for approval pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 18-2713, the Economic Development Program and the associated local option sales tax for approval.

The polling place for the City of Ainsworth Precinct is:

<u>Precinct</u>	<u>Polling Places</u>
City of Ainsworth Precinct	Ainsworth Conference Center 606 E 4 <sup>th</sup> St (Use North Entrance Door)

## Proposition 1

*Shall the City of Ainsworth renew the Economic Development Program as described here by appropriating annually from a one-half percent (0.5%) local option sales tax approved by voters for a period of fifteen years?*

- Yes (for the Economic Development Program)*
- No (against the Economic Development Program)*

The goals of the Economic Development Program are to contribute to the community's economic and quality of life vitality by:

- Assisting business enterprises in Brown County to retain existing jobs and make existing businesses more competitive and profitable;
- Creating new jobs and generate employment opportunities;
- Expanding labor markets in Ainsworth and Brown County;
- Attracting new capital investment to the community;
- Broadening the tax-base;
- Supporting tourism related business in enhancing activities;
- Promoting the overall Brown County community;
- Developing and implementing city improvement plans;
- Coordinating efforts to provide for sustainable development and related infrastructure that supports the capacity for maintaining and growing Brown County;
- Discovering additional external funding (grant) resources to provide for additional community needs (housing, public facilities, etc.); and
- Providing economic diversification to ensure economic stability and vitality for the community of Ainsworth and Brown County

The program will include, but shall not be limited to the following activities: Direct loans or grants to qualifying businesses for fixed assets or working capital or both; loan guarantees for qualifying businesses; grants for public works improvements which are essential to the location or expansion of, or the provision of new services by, a qualifying business; grants or loans to qualifying businesses for job training; the purchase of real estate, options for such purchases, and the renewal or extension of such options; grants or loans to qualifying businesses to provide relocation incentives for new residents; the issuance of bonds as provided for in the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act; and payments for salaries and support of city staff to implement the economic development program or the contracting of such to an outside entity.

The program will be funded by a proposed local option sales tax of one-half percent (.5%). Upon approval by voters, the tax will remain in effect for fifteen years beginning January 1, 2023. Over the life of the program, it is estimated that \$3,216,576.00 will be collected and made available for local economic development and related city infrastructure improvements, intended to enhance business attractiveness and community quality of life standards. The full amount of such tax collected shall be subject to appropriation for program purposes, provided that appropriations in any one year shall not exceed the restrictions imposed by law (Neb Rev. Stat. § 18-2717, as amended). Currently, annual appropriations may not exceed four-tenths of one percent of the taxable valuation of the city, or a maximum of one million dollars. Any excess funds above this amount shall be appropriated to the general fund of the city on an annual basis. This transfer to the General Fund of the City on an annual basis is for infrastructure, parks, community promotion and public safety purposes.

Proposition 2


*Shall the City of Ainsworth continue to impose a sales and use tax of one-half percent (.5%) for a period of fifteen years upon transactions within the city which are subject to state sales tax, to be utilized for the Economic Development Program activities as described in Proposition 1 above?*

- Yes (for the tax for economic development)*
- No (against the tax for economic development)*

**The City of Ainsworth has filed a Resolution of the above question with my office.**

(Seal)



  
**Travis D. Hobbs**  
**Brown County Clerk**