

City of Melbourne
Regular City Council Meeting
March 13, 2023
7:00 at Library basement

Melbourne City Council met in regular session on March 13, 2023, at 7 pm. Council members present were Carrie White, Beth Smith, Gary Fricke, Gaege Bracy and Lucas Hauser. Also present were Mayor Cynthia Mansager, City Clerk Mary Pothast, Jed and Paul Borton, Bill Daggett, Jerry Krause, Margaret Ratcliff, Gabe Golubosky and son. Mayor Mansager called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion to approve the January and February bills and add an emergency item to the agenda in regards to insurance quotes that need to be approved prior to the next meeting was made by White, with 2nd by Bracy. Vote was all ayes. There were no public comments or concerns.

First on the agenda was a building permit request for 405 4th Street to build a 26 x 36 garage on the east side of the property. Building will be 7' from the property line in accordance with the building ordinance. Paul Borton had questions about other requirements from the city. Jed Borton asked whether his sidewalk would have to be put back, as it ends at the end of his property and does not go anywhere. Clerk stated that previous council had approved another homeowner not rebuilding their walk when it was in the same situation. Council agreed that it did not have to be put back in. Public works had measured the pins along with Jed Borton and it appeared to agree with markings by neighbor Jerry Krause. They asked that PW be sent back to make another measurement to ensure it was correct. Both the existing old garage and shed will be removed when the new garage is built. Borton asked if they could go smaller on the building without securing an additional permit. The answer was yes. Motion to approve the permit by Fricke, 2nd by Bracy. Vote was all ayes. PW will come back to remeasure when footings are put in before concrete is poured.

Margaret Ratcliff and Gabe Golubosky presented the comparison between ICAP and EMC insurance. While each had their merits, it was, after much discussion, decided to stay with ICAP for the next year. There was a lot of good information that came out of the comparison as well as more understanding of the coverage secured by the City. Motion to stay with ICAP made by White, 2nd by Smith. Vote was all ayes.

Clerk asked Council to consider where the remaining ARPA funds of \$75,610.77 are to be spent. There is a report due April 30, and she was just asking for some input by then. There were several ideas, but nothing specific was decided.

Next was the topic of policing in Melbourne and the decision whether to go with the Marshall County Sheriff's Department or the Baxter Police Department. Items under discussion were cost, insurance, what would happen if they were unhappy after one year, etc. Motion made by White to approve a 28E agreement with Marshall County for the period of one year. At the end of the year, it will be revisited to see if they are pleased with the service. Vote was 4 aye, one nay. Motion was carried.

Clerk had placed item on the agenda to find inquire as to what the Fire and First Responder reps would be paid for attending the required safety meeting. Fire had not yet decided, but Bracy would check with the Chief. EMS had decided \$30 just like Council Members are paid to attend.

Clerk had presented a resolution to amend the policy for utility shutoffs for delinquent accounts. After much discussion Council would like to table it until next month's meeting to make changes to the ordinances regarding water and sewer payments so they coincide. Motion to table made by Fricke, 2nd by Bracy. Vote was all ayes.

Clerk went over the changes to the budget required by the changes made by the legislature. The max levy will go on record as being amended, but since it is lower due to changes, it is not required to be republished. The max levy rate proposed on the form is \$232,621 with is 2.43% less in dollars than last year's. The dollar amount in 2022/23 was \$238,422. Clerk went over the rest of the budget with Council that included a few budget cuts to account for the roughly \$4500 decrease in taxing ability. Mayor Mansager set a public hearing for the budget for April 10, 2023 for the library basement to give final approval to the 2023/24 budget. Full copies of the budget are available at City Hall for your review.

A meeting between Mayor Mansager, City Attorney Hillers, Steve Fields and his attorney has been set for March 30 for discussion about the wall at 102 Main Street.

In departmental information, the Safety Committee met on March 12 with discussion about emergency exits and plans. There were no incident reports to review. Next month's meeting is Sunday, April 2 at 5 pm at the fire station with the topic of First Aid. Nuisances are being handled. Mayor will stop in for a recheck on chickens at a resident's home. There was a complaint that workers were smoking in the city vehicles. It will be addressed at City Hall.

Motion to adjourn made by Hauser, with 2nd by White. Vote was all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

EXPENSES: GENERAL \$8491.93, ROAD USE \$1971.71, EMP BENEFITS \$967.40, WATER \$5399.21, SEWER \$5047.57. TOTAL \$21,877.82.

REVENUES: GENERAL \$8964.43, ROAD USE \$8987.17, EMP BENEFITS \$41.70, EMERGENCY \$7.48, LOST FIRE \$1218.69, LOST 1ST RESP \$1218.69, POOL \$1224.22, LOST REC CENTER \$1256.20, WATER \$13,700.45, SEWER \$17,119.69. TOTAL REVENUE \$53,738.72.

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