

City of Melbourne
Regular City Council Meeting
July 14, 2025
7:00 at Library basement

Melbourne City Council met in regular session on July 14, 2025, at 7:00 pm at the Melbourne Library basement. Present were Council persons Gary Fricke, Lucas Hauser, Beth Smith and Beth Opperman. Also in attendance were Mayor Mansager, City Attorney Tom Hillers, City Clerk Pothast, Angie Gibbs, David Gibbs, Eric Thoms and Kim Elder. Meeting was called to order at 7 pm, and the pledge was led by Mayor Mansager. Smith made a motion to approve the consent agenda with Hauser offering a second. Vote was all ayes.

Clerk had provided the law enforcement report in the packet, as no deputy was available. Mansager made two order changes to the agenda due to persons attending.

Mayor moved the discussion of LOSAP —new State authorized length of service award programs, with appropriations, for volunteer firemen and first responders to the top of the order. This is a new law passed by the legislature and enacted July 1, allowing the volunteer responders to be eligible for up to \$500 of tax- deferred benefit under the IRS code. The City would provide a portion to be matched (\$1 to \$3) by the State. Angie and David Gibbs have already registered the groups with the state and set the criteria for the awards. Motion was made by Smith with a 2nd by Fricke for the City to fund their share of the awards. Vote was all ayes.

Next on the agenda was the discussion of 307 2nd Street. City Attorney Hillers detailed the transfer of the property and permissible alterations. Mayor Mansager will provide a contact for an asbestos inspection, and specifics for the scope of work for the rebidding of the cleanup. Smith inquired about weed spraying and made a motion to allow it for the property. 2nd from Opperman, vote was all ayes. There were questions regarding other properties Hillers had dealt with in town, and the issuance of a municipal infraction with the court. He will proceed in that matter. Due to timing of the meeting in August, the monthly meeting may be changed to accommodate his attendance. Fricke asked Hillers if the tree ordinance in Melbourne was mandated by state code. His answer was if the Code of Iowa is cited in the ordinance, then it is. At 7:35 there were no more questions for Hillers, and he excused himself.

In building permits, Waterman's at 601 4th Street, proposed to relocate an old garage and move in a larger one to its current location. All changes will be done within correct property boundaries. Motion to approve made by Fricke, 2nd by Opperman. Vote was all ayes. Merrilee and Patrick Harris of 112 3rd Avenue proposed to move a shed onto their property behind the existing garage. All property boundaries will be observed. Motion to approve by Opperman, 2nd by Smith. Vote was all ayes.

At this time, the public comments section was opened. Kim Elder, Marshall County EMS, took ID badge photos prior to the meeting for Council and Clerk. They are for identification purposes for any city use. PW will have them taken during work hours. Kim briefly discussed training opportunities available for Council and the disaster handbook the City has prepared. A safety committee meeting will be scheduled to update contact information and other details.

Alcohol permit for Lucky Wife Wine Slushies for MHD at the lower level parking lot of the library was presented. All details were in order. Motion to approve by Hauser, 2nd by Opperman. Vote was all ayes. Pothast presented street closure maps she had requested from Tracey Beals of Melbourne Pub for Mousehole Days. Tracey Beals was not present. Council agreed to the request of use of the property with the exception of any use of Main Street during the hours of the car show; Melbourne Pub is not permitted use of Main Street during the duration of the car show and shall not block the street or set tables, chairs, coolers, or any other property or barricade on Main Street. Melbourne Pub may use the sidewalk on Main Street in front of its property during the duration of the scheduled car show and may use Main Street before and after the scheduled car show as permitted under approval of the Council. Clerk is to contact Beals with the information.

Clerk inquired about mosquito spraying by Schendel again this summer. Motion to approve by Fricke, 2nd by Hauser. Vote was all ayes. It will be scheduled according to their schedule to be done before Mousehole Days. Motion to approve the summer fill by New Century FS for the rec center made by Opperman, 2nd by Fricke. Vote was all ayes. Clerk presented 25-07-01 Resolution to Transfer Funds from city checking to a CD. The funds are from the First Responder Local Option Sales Tax account, with the objective of a better interest rate. Motion to approve by Hauser, 2nd by Fricke. Vote was all ayes.

Discussion moved to trees on the right of way (ROW). The trees that had been noted were still green and growing and may not comply with the wording of the City Ordinance. Clerk did not have the code book at the meeting for specific wording, so the issue will be tabled until August for further discussion.

The street committee, Fricke and Hauser, will get together to assemble a prioritized list of street repairs. It will be submitted to InRoads and Council will make the final decision once a quote is received. Completion of Ketchum will be the top priority on the list.

Motion to adjourn by Hauser, 2nd by Opperman. Vote was all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:20.

EXPENSES: GENERAL \$32,082.54, ROAD USE \$4482.53, EMP BENEFITS \$3456.57
LOST FIRE ASSN \$185.39, LOST 1ST RESP \$2703.04, WATER \$15,101.59, SEWER
\$60,964.14. TOTAL EXPENSES BY FUND: \$118,975.80.

REVENUES: GENERAL \$26,824.06, ROAD USE \$13,442.22, EMP BENEFITS \$196.75, LOST FIRE ASSN \$950.44, LOST 1ST RESP \$950.44, POOL \$957.38, LOST REC CENTER \$987.91, WATER \$26,255.25, SEWER \$22,148.54. TOTAL REVENUE BY FUND: \$92,712.99.

Cynthia Rae Mansager, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Mary L Pothast, City Clerk