

City of Melbourne  
Budget Meeting  
February 9, 2026  
6:00 at Library basement

Melbourne City Council met for a budget meeting on February 9, 2026, at 6:00 pm at the Melbourne Library basement. Present were Council persons Josh Fuller, Gary Fricke, Beth Smith and Beth Opperman. Also in attendance were Mayor Mansager and City Clerk Pothast. Mayor Mansager called the meeting to order at 5:58 pm. Motion to approve the agenda made by Smith, with 2<sup>nd</sup> by Fuller. Vote was all ayes. Lucas Hauser arrived at 6:10.

With all the discussion at the state level on a new property tax bill, and uncertainty on what direction they will go, Council discussed all options thoroughly. The City receives roughly 30% of the entire city funding from property taxes, and some of the State legislative options could cut as much as 60% of that amount. General fund supports emergency services, culture and recreation (parks, pool, library, rec center), property insurance, and general running of the city. It covers anything that is not roads, water and sewer.

Pothast led the discussion of revenues for the 2026/2027 budget revenue. Three specific funding options were presented to keep property tax increases to a minimum. Residential property taxes are based on taxable value assessed by the County. Taxable value for 2026/2027 is 44.5345% of total assessed value. This means for a \$100,000 assessment on a home, only \$44,534 of its value is subject to property tax.

The 2025/2026 property tax rate for Melbourne was 10.52584 per thousand dollars of taxable valuation, or \$259,739 as received from Marshall County when property taxes are paid. For 26/27 fiscal year budget, Council requested an option that is 10.38015 per thousand dollars of taxable valuation, or \$262,224 total. That is an increase of \$2695 spread across all taxable parcels in Melbourne.

A truth in taxation letter will be mailed by Marshall County to all property owners March 15, showing rates for city, county, school districts and other taxing authorities that make up the tax rates.

Motion to adjourn by Opperman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Smith. Vote was all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 6:45.

PUBLISHED PRIOR TO APPROVAL.