

City of Melbourne  
Regular City Council Meeting  
March 9, 2026  
7:00 at Library basement

Melbourne City Council met in regular session on March 9, 2026, at 7:00 pm at the Melbourne Library basement. Present were Council persons Lucas Hauser, Beth Smith, Beth Opperman, Josh Fuller and Gary Fricke. Also present were Mayor Cynthia Mansager, Clerk Mary Pothast, resident Danny Smith and Fire Chief David Gibbs. Mayor Mansager called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion to approve the agenda, minutes and bills made by Hauser, second by Smith. Vote was all ayes.

Deputies Thomas and McMillen presented the Sheriff's report. Fricke asked about the speed sign, and they said it will be coming out of storage in the next couple of weeks. Mansager set the max property tax levy hearing for March 25, 2026 at 6:30 at the library basement.

The requirements for council members to take NIMS classes is on hold due to the partial government shutdown from the FEMA website. Clerk recommended an increase in Cyber insurance for the City for a minimum increase. Council agreed. Council discussed a quote for software and water meter replacements that was tabled from February. They had also investigated another company's meters. After discussion and informing all members about the products, Fricke made the motion to approve the ongoing search into finding water meters and software that fit Melbourne's needs with the intent to upgrade the system. Second by Smith, vote was all ayes. Funding must be built into the new budget.

Fire Chief Gibbs discussed a proposed 28E Agreement with State Center, Melbourne and Rhodes for working structure fires jointly to provide better coverage. Motion to approve the agreement by Hauser, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Opperman. Vote was all ayes in approval. The date for garage sales and spring craft sale is set for June 6. Signup sheets for the garage sale will be available closer to the date. Those interested in the craft sale should contact Jessica at the Melbourne Library. Clean up day will be discussed again in April, with members bringing ideas for the event. Clerk announced that Jessica Horn and the playground has secured a \$7000 grant from the Community Foundation of Marshall County. Presentation of the award is March 24<sup>th</sup>. Council reviewed the Melbourne Hazard Mitigation book and signed an acceptance form. Pothast, Smith and Fuller will attend a meeting Thursday regarding the documents. Mansager had information regarding the America's 250 Bicycle Relay with will run from coast to coast the summer of 2026. They asked for a commitment from a local group to meet the relay riders, possibly provide drinks or a meal in our community. Dates are uncertain. Council would like Melbourne to participate.

There are some drainage repairs that need to be made near 512 Main Street. Public works has been working with Rickens to get the work scheduled. The clerk will contact the homeowner after a timeline is reached. Council would like an April 15 completion date if at all possible. Needham Excavating is working on the property at 307 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to complete the demolition. There's some concern about piles of tires gathering in town. Clerk will contact the owners.

Motion to adjourn made by Hauser, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Opperman. Meeting adjourned at 8:00.

EXPENSES: General \$12,638.18, Road Use \$3008.02, Emp Benefits -\$3572.92, LOST Fire \$2035.31, LOST 1<sup>st</sup> Resp \$13.90, Water \$12,585.14, Sewer \$7815.78, Sanitary Sewer Lagoon \$10,500.37. TOTAL \$45,023.78.

REVENUES: General \$9028.35, Road Use \$7138.90, Emp Benefits \$49.99, LOST Fire \$1055.70, LOST 1<sup>st</sup> Resp \$1055.70, Pool \$1055.70, Lost Rec Center \$1055.69, Water \$20,999.02, Sewer \$27,506.37, Sanitary Sewer Lagoon \$10,500.37. TOTAL \$79,445.80.

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