

**Council Meetings**

Van Meter United Methodist Church  
100 Hazel St, Van Meter, IA 50261

**Joe Herman, Mayor**

**Council Members**

**Travis Brott, Mayor Pro Tem**

**Joel Akers**

**Blake Grolmus**

**Quin Pelz**

**Penny Westfall**

**City Staff**

Liz Faust, City Administrator

Jess Drake, City Clerk

Drew McCombs, Public Works Director

Sam Chia, Parks & Rec Director

Jonatha Basye, Library Director

Michael Brown, Police Chief

Mark Schmitt, Fire Chief

John Fatino, Whitfield & Eddy, PLC

Randy Johnson, Veenstra & Kimm, Inc.

*NOTE: All public comments require that an individual sign in at the beginning of the meeting. **Comments will generally be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes per person.** Under Iowa law, the City Council is prohibited from discussing or taking any action on an item not appearing on its posted agenda. Any issue raised by public comment under the Citizen Hearing will be referred to staff for a decision on whether it should be placed on a future agenda. All comments from the public, Council, and Staff shall address the presiding officer, and upon recognition by the presiding officer, shall be confined to the question under debate, avoiding all indecorous language and references to personalities and abiding by the following rules of civil debate. • We may disagree, but we will be respectful of one another. • All comments will be directed to the issue at hand. • Personal attacks will not be tolerated.*

**SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA:**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
- 3. PUBLIC HEARING**
  - a. FY26 Proposed Property Tax Levy
- 4. ADJOURNMENT**

Posted: Friday, March 28, 2025

# Agenda Item #1

## Call to Order

Mayor: *The time is 6:00pm on Monday, March 31, 2025.*

*I hereby call this special meeting of the Van Meter City Council  
to order.*

# Agenda Item #2

## Approval of the Agenda

Submitted for: **ACTION**

Recommendation: **APPROVAL**

Mayor: *Do I hear a motion to approve the agenda?*

Sample Language: **Motion to approve the agenda as presented.**

City Councilmember: \_\_\_\_\_ **So moved.**

City Councilmember: \_\_\_\_\_ **Second.**

Mayor: *Roll Call Please.*

City Clerk: Akers \_\_\_\_\_ Brott \_\_\_\_\_ GroImus \_\_\_\_\_ Pelz \_\_\_\_\_ Westfall \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor: *The agenda is adopted as presented.*

# Agenda Item #3

## Public Hearings

**a) - Proposed FY26 Property Tax Levy - This is a statutory requirement as a result of HF718/SF2442. The hearing has to be held in a stand alone special meeting and no earlier than March 20, 2025. The proposed City tax rate is \$14.16402/\$1000 valuation, down from \$14.20839 in FY25. The full budget adoption public hearing is set for April 10, 2025.**

**Mayor:** I would entertain a motion to open the public hearing.

**City Councilmember:** \_\_\_\_\_ So moved.

**City Councilmember:** \_\_\_\_\_ Second.

**Mayor:** All in favor? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

**Mayor:** The public hearing is open as of \_\_\_\_\_pm. Has City staff received any comment to be heard regarding this matter?

**City Clerk:** Provides summary of matter for hearing.

**Mayor:** Does anyone present wish to comment on this matter?

**Mayor:** I would entertain a motion to close the public hearing.

**City Councilmember:** \_\_\_\_\_ So moved.

**City Councilmember:** \_\_\_\_\_ Second.

**Mayor:** All in favor? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

**Mayor:** The public hearing is closed as of \_\_\_\_\_pm.

## Resolution #2025-20

### "A Resolution Setting the Date of Public Hearing for the FY26 Property Tax Levy Hearing"

**Whereas**, notice of public hearing for the proposed FY26 Property Tax Levy hearing is required; and

**Whereas**, the hearing can be no earlier than March 20, 2025; now

**Therefore, Be It Resolved** by the Van Meter City Council that the Public Hearing for the FY26 Property Tax Levy Hearing is set for March 31, 2025 at 6:00pm at Van Meter City Hall located at 310 Mill Street, Van Meter, IA 50261; and

**Be it Further Resolved** that the City Clerk is directed to publish notice of the hearing as required by law as well as online at [www.vanmeteria.gov](http://www.vanmeteria.gov).

Passed and approved this 10th day of February, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Herman, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTEST – Jessica Drake, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**CITY NAME: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF VAN METER - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY**      **CITY #: 25-239**  
**VAN METER**      **Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026**

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:

**Meeting Date: 3/31/2025 Meeting Time: 06:00 PM Meeting Location: Van Meter City Hall 310 Mill Street Van Meter, IA 50261**

**At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed city budget.**

City Website (if available)  
 www.vanmeteria.gov

City Telephone Number  
 (515) 996-2644

<b>Iowa Department of Management</b>	<b>Current Year Certified Property Tax 2024 - 2025</b>	<b>Budget Year Effective Property Tax 2025 - 2026</b>	<b>Budget Year Proposed Property Tax 2025 - 2026</b>
Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service	55,750,527	69,399,166	69,399,166
Consolidated General Fund	453,040	453,040	547,526
Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit	0	0	0
Aviation Authority	0	0	0
Liability, Property & Self Insurance	65,172	65,172	80,878
Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm.	0	0	0
Unified Law Enforcement	0	0	0
Police & Fire Retirement	0	0	0
FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit)	104,969	104,969	106,805
Other Employee Benefits	148,706	148,706	62,905
Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve)	0	0	0
Taxable Value for Debt Service	69,150,981	83,213,264	83,213,264
Debt Service	25,102	25,102	221,653
<b>CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX</b>	<b>796,989</b>	<b>796,989</b>	<b>1,019,767</b>
<b>CITY REGULAR TAX RATE</b>	<b>14.20839</b>	<b>11.42408</b>	<b>14.16402</b>
Taxable Value for City Ag Land	1,689,639	1,715,985	1,715,985
Ag Land	5,075	5,075	5,155
<b>CITY AG LAND TAX RATE</b>	<b>3.00360</b>	<b>2.95749</b>	<b>3.00375</b>
<b>Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed</b>			
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$100,000/\$110,000	<b>Current Year Certified 2024/2025</b>	<b>Budget Year Proposed 2025/2026</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
City Regular Residential	658	739	12.31
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$300,000/\$330,000	<b>Current Year Certified 2024/2025</b>	<b>Budget Year Proposed 2025/2026</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
City Regular Commercial	2,906	3,302	13.63

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and Commercial properties have the same Rollback Percentage at \$100,000 Actual/Assessed Valuation.

**Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:**  
 Proposed tax rate does not exceed the current tax rate.

## PUBLICATION DATE CALCULATOR

Earliest Publication Date 3/11/2025

Latest Publication Date 3/21/2025

Proposed Hearing Date **3/31/2025**

# Agenda Item #4

## Adjournment

Submitted for: **ACTION**

Recommendation: **APPROVAL**

Sample Language:

Mayor: *With no further business, do I hear a motion to adjourn?*

City Councilmember: \_\_\_\_\_ *So moved.*

City Councilmember: \_\_\_\_\_ *Second.*

Mayor: *Roll Call Please.*

City Clerk: Akers \_\_\_\_\_ Brott \_\_\_\_\_ GroImus \_\_\_\_\_ Pelz \_\_\_\_\_ Westfall \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor: *This meeting is adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_pm. Thank you.*