CITY OF THOMPSON FALLS
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

Thursday, August 27, 2026

The City Council Public Hearing was held at the City Hall,
108 Fulton Street, Thompson Falls, MT

Council Members Present:
Raoul Ribeiro, City Council President
Katherine Maudrone, City Council Vice President
Larry Milner
Catherine DeWitt
Rusti Leivestad
Not present: Mike Shear
City Officials Present:
Gussie O'Connor, Mayor
Kelliann Barton, City Clerk/Treasurer
Others signed in: Sign-in sheet is attached.
Gussie O'Connor opened the Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m.
Kelliann Barton noted who was present.

ACTION:
The residents spoke and asked questions. The City's formal response document is attached to these minutes.
Motion to adjourn the public hearing. Ribeiro/Milner
The meeting was adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Gussie O'Connor

Gussie O'Connor, Mayor

ATTEST: Kelliann Barton

Kelliann Barton, Clerk/Treasurer

<u>City of Thompson Falls</u>
<u>Public Notice for Preliminary Budget Review</u>

Notice is Hereby Given That the City of Thompson Falls has completed its preliminary budget for fiscal year 2026-2027 and has set August 27, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the City Hall, 108 Fulton, Thompson Falls, Montana for the public hearing on approving a final budget. A copy of the preliminary budget has been placed on file and is open for inspection at the City Hall during regular office hours. Any taxpayer or resident of the City of Thompson Falls may appear at the hearing and be heard for or against any part of the proposed budget. Dated this 13th Day of August 2026
Kelliann Barton
City Clerk/Treasurer

<u>Publish on August 13, 2026</u>
<u>And August 20, 2026</u>

CITY OF THOMPSON FALLS

Budget Public Hearing
In the City Hall, 108 Fulton Street, Thompson Falls, MT
Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 5:00 P.M.

Sign-in Sheet

NAME	WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD, AND IF YES, WHAT AGENDA ITEM NUMBER?	STREET ADDRESS
Please Print	√ = yes	Please Print ~ thank you
KRISTIN LLYR	✓ Pool	108 ELK ST. TF
Mark Sheets		215 Grove St
Jonathan Haun		204 N Madison st.
STEFAUL [illegible]	N	100 ELK ST TF
Jodi Ramer	N	Sanders Loop Rd N.

August 27, 2026 Public Hearing Questions

1. Kristen Llyr,108 Elk Street, and I'm here about the pool. I got a copy of the budget, and I see that there's no line number for there's no money set aside for you know repair. So what's going on? I think that having the pool is a really wonderful thing that we have in this such a you know a small place. Everyone I've talked to this summer is really bummed. I was having my blood drawn at the clinic, and the nurse said that her kids, you know, always they're like in the tween age, early teen, and they, while she's at work, walk down to the pool and spend their days at the pool, and it's hard that there's not much for them to do. So I think it's a matter of public safety, and I think it really enriches our community. And I'd like to see the pool reopened. Thank you.
    - We have set aside $20,000 (460445 Swimming Pool / 360 Repair and Maintenance Services) this year to go towards repairs for the pool. We are hoping the pool can open as well.
2. Mark Sheets, 215 Grove Street. The first question I have is
    - How much cash was left at the end of this last fiscal year?
        - $337,695.16
    - Also, how much does the city have in reserves? What is the percentage of everything for this upcoming fiscal year?
        - $352,831.00
        - 30.88%
    - The date when the property assessments came from the county, because the budget has to be passed 30 days from that date, or the first Thursday after the first Tuesday in September, whichever is first.
        - August 3, 2026
        - MCA 7-6-4024 states: budget approved and adopted by resolution by the **later** of the first Thursday after the first Tuesday in September or within 30 calendar days of receiving certified taxable values from the Department of Revenue.
        - The budget was adopted September 3, 2026.
    - I'd like to see the worksheet that shows how the mill levies are calculated. That hasn't been shown anywhere. The only thing I was able to look at was, of course, the expenditure and revenue budgets.
        - Mark came in and received a hard copy of this on 9/1/26
        - See attached

- One of the things I noticed, especially on the expenditure, is that there's absolutely no capital gains, or not capital gains, but capital improvement funds in any of the areas there, and I know that last year, year before, it was $80,000 in one of the line items for capital improvements. I thought, what happened to that $80,000 that was there?
    - On our Cash Report it shows that we have $70, 954.24 in Capital Improvements.

- Again, looking at some of that ask is for like grant matching for the pool and for other things that have taken place. That money's not there anymore.
    - On the same Cash Report we have $25,588.91 in the Main Street Project account and $22,518.63 in the Ainsworth Park Project account.
- Also, independent audits. There's no money budgeted there for independent audit, and that has to have both a federal and state audit taking place for that due to the grant funding. And normally, that's like $10,000 that's been budgeted for it, and there was nothing in there that showed that.
    - We have budgeted for audits under Administration Professional Services object 350 divided up in General, Water, and Sewer Funds.
- Also, going through on city council at communications and training, and travel and training is, you know, like zero to 500 for travel and training. I mean, that's not much for anybody when before it was like 2500 was used in the prior year.
    - This was a decision made by the Budget Committee due to going over budget on training last fiscal year.
- Also, the court training and communication line was a zero
    - Court training object 370 was and is set at $1,300
- The mayor's salary had dropped from that, which was like 13,001.82, down to 4544 in a salary line for that, and then in the financial services again, a big drop in the salaries there, and then we had, you know, a tremendous amount of money into the professional services and other professional services that were present in there.
    - We are now allocating salaries of the mayor, council, and clerk to General, Water, and Sewer so they will look different on the budget this year.
    - Professional Services now covers the audit, any League services, BMS, website costs, and Univision costs. Divided over General, Water, and Sewer.

- I think that needs to be looked at for roads and streets and parks for machinery and equipment with zero.
    - We have budgeted for a new leaf vac under 430200 Road and Street Services 940 Machinery & Equipment.
    - We have not budgeted for any other equipment this year.

- The pool, we have salaries listed in there. And if the pool's not open, why are salaries even listed into that? And there's other for utilities and other things into the pool there, and if you're not operating it or anything, then why should that money even be there?
    - Our Public Works Director applies 4% of each public works employee's salary towards the pool. This covers basic checks on the facility throughout the year, whether it is open or not.
    - We also have the power that we still pay for the streetlights.
    - We have disconnected the landline that was at the pool until it is reopened.

3. Stephanie Martin, 108 Elk St, I would like to see a breakdown of how the state entitlement funds are allocated. There is no indication of how that is dispersed, according to state regulations, federal regulations, or even your own budget. Like to see that broken out. Thank you.
    - In Montana, local governments use state entitlement share funds as general, dedicated local revenue to support standard public services and day to day operations.

Determination of Tax Revenue and Mill Levy Limitations

Section 15-10-420, MCA

Aggregate of all Funds/or _______________ Fund,

FYE June 30, 2027

Reference Line		Enter amounts in yellow cells	Auto-Calculation (If completing manually enter amounts as instructed)
(1)	Enter Ad valorem tax revenue ACTUALLY assessed in the prior year (from Prior Year's form Line 17)	$ 528,021	$ 528,021
(2)	Add: Current year inflation adjustment @ 2.97%		$ 15,682
(3)	Subtract: Ad valorem tax revenue ACTUALLY assessed in the prior year for Class 1 and 2 property, (net and gross proceeds) (from Prior Year's form Line 20)- (enter as negative)	$ -	$ -
(4) = (1) + (2) + (3)	Adjusted ad valorem tax revenue		$ 543,703
	ENTERING TAXABLE VALUES		
(5)	Enter 'Total Taxable Value' - from Department of Revenue *Certified Taxable Valuation Information* form, line # 2	$ 2,350,293	$ 2,350.293
(6)	Subtract: 'Total Incremental Value' of all tax increment financing districts (TIF Districts) - from Department of Revenue *Certified Taxable Valuation Information* form, line # 6 (enter as negative)		$ -
(7) = (5) + (6)	Taxable value per mill (after adjustment for removal of TIF per mill incremental district value)		$ 2,350.293
	Subtract: 'Total Value of Newly Taxable Property' - from Department of Revenue *Certified Taxable Valuation Information* form, lines # 3A, #3B, #3C (enter as negative)		
(8)	Reserve (Yes or No)	Yes	
(9)	Class 4 Newly Taxable-from Department of Revenue Certified Taxable Valuation Information form, line # 3A (enter as negative)	$ (10,875)	$ (8.156)
(10)	All Other Newly Taxable-from Department of Revenue Certified Taxable Valuation Information form, line #3B (enter as negative)	$ (44,060)	$ (22.030)
(11)	Abated Newly Taxable-from Department of Revenue Certified Taxable Valuation Information form, line #3C (enter as negative)		$ -
(12)	Total Newly Taxable Per Mill		$ (30.186)
(13)	Subtract: 'Taxable Value of Net and Gross Proceeds, (Class 1 & 2 properties)' - from Department of Revenue *Certified Taxable Valuation Information* form, line # 5 (enter as negative)		$ -
(14) = (7) + (12) + (13)	Adjusted Taxable value per mill		$ 2,320.107
-15	CURRENT YEAR calculated mill levy		$ 234.344
(16) = (7) x (15)	CURRENT YEAR calculated ad valorem tax revenue		$ 550,777
	CURRENT YEAR AUTHORIZED LEVY/ASSESSMENT		
(17)	Enter total number of carry forward mills from prior year (from Prior Year's form Line 22)	0.11	0.11
(18) =(15) + (17)	Total current year authorized mill levy, including Prior Years' carry forward mills		234.45
(19) =(7) x (18)	Total current year authorized ad valorem tax revenue assessment		$ 551,026
	CURRENT YEAR ACTUALLY LEVIED/ASSESSED		
(20)	Enter number of mills actually levied in current year. This number should match either: - The total non-voted mills, or - A voted mill that was converted in FY2026 to the 15-10-420 formula. Indicate the name of the voted mill in the title of this form. The mills will include the number of carry forward mills actually imposed per the final approved current year budget document. Do Not include permissive mills imposed in the current year.	234.45	234.45
(21) =(7) x (20)	Total ad valorem tax revenue actually assessed in current year		$ 551,026
	RECAPITULATION OF ACTUAL:		
(22) '= (21) - (23)- (24)	Ad valorem tax revenue actually assessed		$ 543,949
(23)	Ad valorem tax revenue actually assessed for newly taxable property		$ 7,077
(24)	Ad valorem tax revenue actually assessed for Class 1 & 2 properties (net-gross proceeds)		$ -
(25) =(22) + (23) + (24)	Total ad valorem tax revenue actually assessed in current year		$ 551,026
(26)	Ad valorem tax revenue for large taxpayer reserve account		$ 1,033
(27) =(18) - (20)	Total carry forward mills that may be levied in a subsequent year (Number should be equal to or greater than zero. A (negative) number indicates an over levy.)		0.00

DRAFT