

*(The following is a synopsis of the minutes of the West Branch City Council meeting. A video recording is available for inspection at westbranchiowa.org. The minutes are not approved until the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.)*

**West Branch, Iowa  
Council Chambers**

**City Council  
Special Meeting**

**April 1, 2024  
6:00 p.m.**

Mayor Roger Laughlin called the West Branch City Council special meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.  
Roll call: Council members present: Mike Horihan, Jerry Sexton, Tom Dean, Nick Goodweiler. Absent: Jodee Stoolman. City Staff present: City Administrator Adam Kofoed, Finance Officer Heidi Van Auken, and Public Works Director Matt Goodale. City Staff attending via Zoom: Library Director Jessie Schafer.

### **APPROVE THE AGENDA**

Motion by Dean, second by Sexton to approve the agenda. Motion carried on a voice vote.

### **PRESENTATIONS / COMMUNICATIONS / OPEN FORUM**

### **PUBLIC HEARING / NON-CONSENT AGENDA**

#### Public Hearing –Setting the Maximum Property Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2025.

Mayor Laughlin opened the public hearing at 6:07pm. Enter public comments here: No Comments  
Mayor Laughlin closed the public hearing at 6:09pm.

A presentation was presented to the public by City Administrator Adam Kofoed. Highlights were

1. A 3.2% estimated property tax increase which is in line with inflation.
2. Roughly 90-95% of the increases are to add one police officer and increased wages for the police department.
3. West Branch, like many communities, have made hard budget cuts.
4. The city has been making strides to save reserve amounts which lower bonding interest rates.
5. Please contact the city office for budget and tax questions.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Dean, second by Sexton. Motion carried on a voice vote. City Council meeting adjourned at 6:45p.m.

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Roger Laughlin, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Adam Kofoed, City Administrator