

Town of Melbourne Beach

SPECIAL TOWN COMMISSION MEETING February 26, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. COMMUNITY CENTER – 509 OCEAN AVENUE

MINUTES

Commission Members:

Mayor Alison Dennington
Vice Mayor Terry Cronin
Commissioner Anna Butler
Commissioner Tim Reed
Commissioner Sherri Quarrie

Staff Members:

Town Manager A. Marie Smith
Town Clerk Amber Brown

1. Call to Order

Mayor Alison Dennington called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Roll Call

Town Clerk Amber Brown conducted roll call.

Commission Members Present

Mayor Alison Dennington
Vice Mayor Terry Cronin
Commissioner Anna Butler
Commissioner Tim Reed
Commissioner Sherri Quarrie

Staff Members Present

Town Manager A. Marie Smith
Finance Manager Jennifer Kerr
Town Clerk Amber Brown

3. Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence, and Civility Pledge

Mayor Alison Dennington led the Pledge of Allegiance, moment of silence, and read the Civility Pledge.

Mayor Alison Dennington explained that she was not at the manatee meeting because she has had issues with the Town email and her personal phone, so she did not know it was happening.

4. Public Comments

5. New Business

A. Consideration of the Police Department purchases using funds from the 287(g) Federal Stipend Program – Police Chief Tim Zander

Police Chief Tim Zander spoke about how the Federal government gave ICE money to reward agents helping them, jumped on that opportunity and put in a request for \$167,500, which he received in January. Can put in a similar request every quarter going forward and will be requesting \$120,000 tomorrow. 15-20 illegal immigrants have been detained since October. This is a stipend not a grant, so there are not a lot of parameters. Got a great deal on two (2) unmarked vehicles for \$50k a piece. Not getting rid of any cars, so with the two (2) new cars, they will have ten (10) cars total. Referenced a list that showed other cost breakdowns.

Commissioner Sherri Quarrie asked about transportation services, so the officers did not have to take anyone to jail. - 15:00

Police Chief Tim Zander said they have a transportation service, but it does not run 100% of the time.

Commissioner Tim Reed confirmed they are only talking about the \$167,500 tonight. Said he thought there would be quotes or invoices. Stressed the importance of needing some kind of accounting for this money.

Police Chief Tim Zander said he has some of the quotes but not all. No matter where it is put in the budget, they will have a separate folder for all of these receipts.

Town Manager A. Marie Smith said the money is coming in as revenue to the general fund; it will be expended out of Department 21. The vehicles are capital items so they will come out of capital from Department 21, any other training equipment will come out of those line items.

Mayor Alison Dennington spoke about how she had spoken with Chief Zander and he addressed her concerns. Clarified that he had the purchase orders he just did not include that information. As for the accounting, even if it is not necessary, believes it would be prudent to go above and beyond normal tracking. After spending the money, it would be nice to have a running tally with the costs.

Town Manager A. Marie Smith suggested doing a separate fund for this money so everything coming in and going out would just fall under the ICE fund or whatever they wanted to call it.

Commissioner Anna Butler said she was comfortable with everything.

Vice Mayor Terry Cronin spoke about language to use for the motion.

Town Manager A. Marie Smith said everything would be tracked, even if it is \$1, it will be tracked and listed as a specific item.

Vice Mayor Terry Cronin made a motion to give Chief Zander the authority to pursue the expenditures in accordance with the outline in the packet, and the fund will be a separate fund that the Finance Manager will keep to itself; Commissioner Anna Butler seconded; Motion carried 5-0.

6. Adjournment

Commissioner Anna Butler moved to adjourn; Commissioner Sherri Quarrie seconded; Motion carried 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.



Alison Dennington
Mayor

ATTEST:



Rachel Pembrook (Sep 17, 2025 17:07:30 EDT)
Rachel Pembrook
Transcriptionist

