

## **RESOLUTION 25-11286**

### **A RESOLUTION MAKING THE MILL LEVIES FOR ALL-PURPOSE MILL LEVY AND MILL LEVIES FOR LIBRARY OPERATING, TRANSIT OPERATING, AND PUBLIC SAFETY AND GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026.**

WHEREAS, pursuant to law, the City of Billings is required to make annual mill levies, and,

WHEREAS, the City of Billings Charter limits the maximum number of mills that may be levied by the City Council, and,

WHEREAS, the 2025 State of Montana Legislature passed House Bill 231, which “supersede[s] local government charters that fix mill levy limits for the limited purpose of exercising the power to tax while also maintaining local government revenue sources without raising taxes on residential taxpayers.” (HB 231, Section 29) Further, it states that the local government “shall levy the number of mills in fiscal year 2026 and subsequent tax years that will generate the amount of property taxes assessed in fiscal year 2025, without amending or revising the charter.” (HB 231, Section 29).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BILLINGS, MONTANA:

1. That an All-Purpose Annual Mill Levy in the amount of 74 Mills is hereby imposed on all taxable property within the City of Billings, Montana, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. (HB 231 of the 2025 Montana Legislature)

2. That additional Mill Levies in the amounts stated are hereby imposed on all taxable property within the City of Billings, Montana, to provide payment for the following:

- A. 5.00 Library Operating (HB 231 of the 2025 Montana Legislature)
- B. 10.00 Transit Operating (231 of the 2025 Montana Legislature)
- C. 20.00 Public Safety (HB 231 of the 2025 Montana Legislature)
- D. 60.00 Public Safety II (HB 231 of the 2025 Montana Legislature)
- E. 34.00 Public Safety III (HB 231 of the 2025 Montana Legislature)
- F. 34.71 HB231 Compliance – GF/PS/LIB/TRA (HB231 of the 2025 Montana Legislature)

3. That the mill levies in the amounts stated are hereby imposed on all taxable property within the City of Billings, Montana, to provide payment for the following:

- A. 3.34 mills - General Obligation Debt Service Library (Resolution 12-19191)
- B. 3.34 mills - General Obligation Debt Service Baseball Stadium Series A (Resolution 07-18572)

4. The total number of mills authorized in the City of Billings Charter (Article I, Sections 1.02-1.05.2) is 203 mills. In fiscal year 2025, the City of Billings levied 201.99 of those authorized mills, assessing approximately \$54,421,000 in Real Property tax revenue (excluding General Obligation debt service).

The total of the mills in sections 1 & 2 above (excluding G.O. debt service mills in section 3) equals 237.71 mills, an increase of 34.71 mills over what was previously authorized in the City of Billings Charter.

For fiscal year 2025, the additional 34.71 mills that are a result of HB 231 will be allocated in the following way for the City of Billings:

12.71 – General Fund
0.86 – Library
3.41 – Public Safety
10.22 – Public Safety II
5.80 – Public Safety III
<u>1.71</u> – Transit
34.71 – Total HB231 Compliance

The total Real Property tax revenue estimated to be generated by 237.71 mills in fiscal year 2026 is \$54,421,000 based upon the 2025 Certified Taxable Value from the Montana Department of Revenue, which is the same amount that was assessed and levied in fiscal year 2025 by the City of Billings.

The increased mills to be levied in fiscal year 2026 by the City of Billings is a result of the passage of HB 231 by the 2025 legislature. This bill explicitly supersedes local government charters that fix mill levy limits for the limited purpose of exercising the power to tax while also maintaining local government revenue sources without raising taxes on residential taxpayers. The effect of this bill is an increase in the number of mills to be levied but does not increase the total dollars levied by the City.

5. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025.



CITY OF BILLINGS:

BY:



William A. Cole, Mayor

ATTEST:

BY:   
Denise R. Bohlman, City Clerk