

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK, WEEK 3-4 (15-26.1.2025)

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 239

### PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING 2025 – THEME: THE TOWN CENTRE

*In the Question of the Week the residents were asked: “Residents’ budget is a way for the town of Jakobstad to do participatory budgeting. Participatory budgeting is a way for the town of Jakobstad to involve the residents in discussions, planning, and decision-making about how to use tax revenues. The purpose of participatory budgeting is to give the residents a possibility to participate in the developing of the town and to encourage them to improve their environment.*

*The town executive has allocated 15 000 euro for participatory budgeting in 2025. The participatory budget is yearly and the town executive is deciding the amount.*

*The object of participatory budgeting changes from year to year, and in 2025 the funds will be used for the town centre.*

*In this week's question you can give suggestions for the development of the town centre and in a Question of the Week in February you can choose between five alternatives. Projects suitable for participatory budgeting are such that doesn't require continuous or considerable maintenance costs.*

*We will also consider the suggestions given in the Question of the Week about the Future Look and Use of the Town Square (week 43-44, 2024).*

*How would you use the allocated 15 000 euro for the development of the town centre? (You can give three suggestions if you like, place them in order)”*

### NEXT STEP

The decision-making process for the participatory budget proceeds as follows: the town council reviews the proposals submitted for the participatory budget for the town centre and also takes note of the report from the question of the week from weeks 43-44, 2024, when residents were asked about the future look and use of the town square. The town council then selects the five options that can be voted on in the second phase of the participatory budget, which will exceptionally be published on Monday, February 24, and will be open until Sunday, March 9.

*More information:*

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