

**MINUTES**  
**BUHL CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL BUDGET WORKING SESSION**  
**BUHL CITY HALL**  
**10/16/2025**

Thursday, October 16, 2025

6:00 P.M.

**1. CALL TO ORDER** by Mayor Matthews at 6:00 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Councilors:      X   Kealy               Loeffler           Teska-Erickson      X   Towner  
Mayor:           X   Matthews

Administrator:                  X   Jeffries  
Public Works Foreman:              Pink  
Attorney:                             Kearney  
Engineer:                             Jamnick  
Fire Chief:                            Lehman  
Police Chief:                         Vukad  
Finance Manager:                X   Thronson

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/COUNCIL ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:**

None.

**4. BUSINESS:**

**A. Discuss, Evaluate, and Review Proposed 2026 Budget.**

Finance Manager Thronson and Administrator Jeffries indicated that the preliminary budget has been amended from a preliminary proposed levy amount of \$521,000 to \$497,000, and re-presented the preliminary 2026 budget for consideration by the City Council.

The original preliminary budget was presented to the City Council on September 16, 2025 as:

Total Revenues –	\$ 900,565
Total Expenses –	\$ 1,420,892
Preliminary Projected Shortfall -	\$ 521,000

The amended preliminary budget was presented to the City Council on October 16, 2025 as:

Total Revenues –	\$ 914,235
Total Expenses –	\$ 1,410,902

Amended Preliminary Projected Shortfall - \$ 497,000

Amended General Fund Expense Line Items are presented as follows:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount (\$)</u>	<u>2025 Amount (\$)</u>	<u>Change</u>
<b><u>General Fund 101</u></b>			
City Council	21,415	22,670	(1,255)
Mayor	6,435	7,265	(830)
Administration	225,785	195,535	30,250
Elections	6,710	300	6,410
Finance	20,195	18,850	1,345
Legal	10,750	8,250	2,500
Personnel	1,200	1,200	0
Planning & Zoning	3,500	5,000	(1,500)
City Hall	119,675	121,155	(1,480)
Law Enforcement	95,790	93,125	2,665
Fire Department	43,215	31,450	11,765
Fire Station	14,215	14,926	(711)
Building Inspector	6,500	6,500	0
Street Department	371,935	329,634	42,301
Snow & Ice	41,115	41,448	(333)
Public Works Buildings	12,595	10,334	2,261
Recreation	26,395	24,606	1,789
Campground	2,875	1,995	880
Senior Center	12,105	11,310	795
Community Center	14,580	17,645	(3,065)
Lake Leander	805	980	(175)
Cemetery	3,365	3,514	(149)
Community Development	36,400	56,205	(19,805)
Unallocated Expenses	20,290	19,417	873
Retiree Insurance Reserve	6,000	6,000	0
<b><u>Library Fund 211</u></b>			
Library	59,487	59,917	430
Library Building	12,490	87,060	74,570
<b><u>Debt Fund</u></b>			
TIF – Artesian	0	0	0
Fund 309 GO Bonds	55,526	54,986	270

**Designated Capital**

City Hall	0	0	0
Fire	3,500	3,500	0
Street	15,000	60,000	45,000
Mining Effects Projects	834	0	(834)
Capital – unallocated	6,000	0	(6,000)
Infrastructure	20,000	20,000	0

**Informational only.**

General discussion highlights included:

The council began reviewing the expense budget on a departmental line-by-line bases.

Medical insurance increase are the highest in the last 15+ years –

Street Department has some equipment which needs to be replaced –

- including but not limited to:

Grader tires (\$ 18K per set);  
New mower (\$ 12K each).

General Fund Expense departmental line items will continue to be taken up individually in the upcoming additional City Council Budget Working Sessions, tentatively scheduled for:

November 13;  
December 11; and  
December 16.

Additional work will be focused toward the Street Department and the Fire Department.

**5. ADJOURN:**

**Working Session was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.**

  
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James Matthews, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
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Tony Jeffries, City Clerk