

MINUTES
BUHL CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL BUDGET WORKING SESSION
BUHL CITY HALL
11/13/2025

Thursday, November 13, 2025

6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER by Mayor Matthews at 6:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Councilors: X Kealy X Loeffler X 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.

Administrator Jeffries indicated that the preliminary budget has been amended from a (10/30/25) preliminary proposed levy amount of \$455,000 to \$466,500, and re-presented the preliminary 2026 budget for consideration by the City Council.

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

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

The amended preliminary budget presented to the City Council on October 30, 2025 was:

Total Revenues –	\$ 946,939
Total Expenses –	\$ 1,401,892
Amended Preliminary Projected Shortfall -	\$ 454,953
Amended Preliminary 2026 Levy -	\$ 455,000

The further amended preliminary budget presented to the City Council on November 13, 2025 is:

Total Revenues –	\$ 946,939
Total Expenses –	\$ 1,413,195
Revised Preliminary Projected Shortfall -	\$ 466,256
Revised Preliminary 2026 Levy -	\$ 466,500

Amended General Fund Expense Line Items are presented as follows:

Department	10/30/25 2025 Amount (\$)	11/13/25 2025 Amount (\$)	Change
City Council	21,155	21,155	0
Mayor	6,435	6,435	0
Administration	226,035	237,338	11,303
Elections	6,710	6,710	0
Finance	20,195	20,195	0
Legal	10,750	10,750	0
Personnel	1,200	1,200	0
Planning & Zoning	3,500	3,500	0
City Hall	119,675	119,675	0
Law Enforcement	95,790	95,790	0
Fire Department	43,215	43,215	0
Fire Station	14,215	14,215	0
Building Inspector	6,500	6,500	0
Street Department	371,935	371,935	0
Snow & Ice	41,115	41,115	0
Public Works Buildings	12,595	12,595	0
Recreation	26,395	26,395	0
Campground	2,875	2,875	0
Senior Center	12,105	12,105	0
Community Center	14,580	14,580	0
Lake Leander	805	805	0
Cemetery	3,365	3,365	0
Community Development	27,400	27,400	0
Unallocated Expenses	20,290	20,290	0

Retiree Insurance Reserve	6,000	6,000	0
<u>Library Fund 211</u>			
Library	59,917	59,917	0
Library Building	87,060	87,060	0
<u>Debt Fund</u>			
TIF – Artesian	0	0	0
Fund 309 GO Bonds	55,256	55,256	0
<u>Designated Capital</u>			
City Hall	0	0	0
Fire	3,500	3,500	0
Street	60,000	60,000	0
Mining Effects Projects	1,324	1,324	
Capital – unallocated	0	0	0
Infrastructure	20,000	20,000	0

Informational only.

General discussion highlights included:

It was noted that the Administration expense line item increased \$11,303 from the last review period, due to health insurance cost validation and treating all employees under family coverage rates until additional information may be obtained, as well as adjustments for other employer benefits.

The council then continued reviewing the expense budget on a departmental line-by-line basis.

Further adjustments made from these discussions included:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Adjustment</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Elections	\$ 400.00	Decrease	Meal Expense
Street	\$ 1,500.00	Decrease	Gas & Oil
Recreation	\$ 500.00	Decrease	Event Expense
Campground	\$ 400.00	Decrease	Porta-Potty
Senior Center	\$ 500.00	Decrease	Repairs
Cemetery	\$ 400.00	Decrease	Maint./Repair

The total of the above adjustments results in a decrease in General Fund expenses of \$ 3,700.00.

It is anticipated that the acquisition of a new zero-turn riding lawn mower may have to be carried forward until the 2027 budget cycle –

Moving the entirety of the public relations and governmental consulting line item to BEDA was proposed (Community Development) -

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:

December 11; and
December 16 (if necessary).

Additional work will continue to be focused on all Departments effecting the City.

5. ADJOURN:

Working Session was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



James Matthews, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tony Jeffries, City Clerk