

Minutes from the Buffalo City Council on February 18, the FY27 Budget Workshop was called to order by Mayor Rodriguez at 5:08 p.m. due to technical difficulties.

Council and Staff Present

Council Members Rachel Teel-Vanderpool, Jesse Leonard, Sean Roman, Trent Adams, and Mary Moore were present. Also attending were Public Works Director Josh Ferkel, Fire Chief Doug Anderson, Administrative Captain Adam Sowell, Police Chief T.J. Behning, and City Clerk Tanna Leonard.

FY27 Budget Overview

The Clerk provided an overview of the initial FY27 draft budget, noting that it was prepared without the City's usual budgeting software and has not yet been fully reviewed.

Revenues

- Property tax revenue increased by \$15,000, while Ag Land revenue decreased by \$3,000.
- LOSST is budgeted with a 2.1% reduction based on the State's FY26 projection.
- Last year's deficit was partially offset using ATE, Community Development, and RUT funds; these one-time revenues have not been approved to use again this year.

Expenditures

- All full-time employees received a \$1.00/hour increase, except the Clerk at \$0.50/hour.
- Insurance is budgeted with a 12% increase, adding \$21,960.
- Police Department requests increased by \$49,700 due to squad repairs, fuel, and the annual squad proposal.
- Fire Department request decreased by \$8,000, though long-term equipment and that number was validated by Chief Anderson.
- Public Safety 140 requests include \$10,000 (this was removed FY26) for flood response and \$80,000 for street maintenance (this was reduced by \$50K in the general fund, with the remainder funded through Road Tax funds FY26).

Overall Budget Position

After revenue adjustments and expenditure updates, the FY27 draft reflects a projected shortfall of approximately \$167,000.

Council Direction

Motion by Moore, seconded by Adams to recommend that all council members and department heads review their budget numbers, contact the Clerk with any questions, consider options for alternative revenue, and reconvene next week to continue budget work. Motion carried.

Council will meet again on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 to finalize the Max Levy information and set the public hearing date.

Motion by Moore and seconded by Adams to adjourn the meeting at 6:46pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Mary Moore
Mayor Sally Rodriguez
Pro Tem Mary Moore

Attest:

Tanna Leonard
City Clerk Tanna Leonard