

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY SPECIAL MEETING-  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026-MUNICIPAL BUILDING – 6:00 PM**

The Special Meeting was called to order by Mayor Ben Holien. Present Council: Jeannie Czaplewski, Hank Rollinger and George Fuller. Absent: Kim Beseler. Also present City Superintendent Eric Mann. Public in attendance: Carol McDonough, Janet Laduke, Lance Laduke, Buz Mertes, Jamie Bjerke, Chad Bjerke, Karen Solverson, Jason Nichols, Joy Nichols, Chris Pope, Dick Brommerich, Dave Duellman, Derek Olson, Lora Johansen, Carol Burmeister, Bruce Burmeister, Lisa Bremer, Joe Sobkowiak, Barry Auer, Ceilie Peck, Jeff Peck, Kim Serjogins, Linda Clark, Brach Seitz, Kay Seitz, Eric Latham, Joan Esser, Bruce Husser, Megan Husser, Tery Sobotta, Cindy Sobotta, Michael Kube, Yvette Kube, Jesse Bollinger, Jason Lockington, Frank Lemcke, Ron Bronwell, Lisa Palkowski, Shawn Squires. Also Present via Zoom: Thom Pawlak, Shelley Milek, Jolleen Nichols, Ryan Avila, Susan Slaby, Lori Neff, Kaylin Wiemer, Tracy Blum, Kelly Nichols

Holien clarified that the project is a county-led initiative funded by a grant already awarded, but final design and approval remain open. The city emphasized its limited control over the project but committed to compiling and forwarding residents’ feedback to the county and engineering firm. The City council would like to gather community input on the proposed County Highway (CTH) OO reconstruction project, which includes potential road widening and the addition of a bike/pedestrian trail and associated right-of-way changes. The meeting focused on residents’ concerns regarding property impacts, costs, environmental effects, and the overall necessity of the project.

Citizens who spoke at the meeting expressed opposition to plans that would remove homes or encroach on private property. They raised questions about environmental impact, long-term maintenance costs, and the logic of adding a bike trail when a state-designated bike route already exists nearby.

County representative Lee Engfer reassured attendees that the presented designs were preliminary and that public input would shape future revisions. Environmental assessments and more public input will be used before any plans are finalized. Engfer said property acquisition, if needed, would be compensated per state formula. He added that the county will not proceed if costs or public opposition make the project unfeasible. Additional public meetings are expected later in 2026 after revised plans are developed.

Motion Fuller, second Czaplewski to adjourn. All yes, motion carried.

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Ben Holien, Mayor

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Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk

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