



**Minutes
Budget & Public Employees Committee
Monday, May 4, 2026
9:30 AM
Kennedy Room**

Minutes are preliminary and may change until finally approved

I. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:42am.

II. Roll Call

The Chair directed the Associate Clerk to call the roll, and the following members answered their names: Ms. Sonnier, Mr. Browning, Ms. Velazquez, Mr. Devoti, and Chair Aldridge. **5 members were present. A quorum was established.**

III. Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from Wednesday, March 25, 2026, committee meeting.

The Chair entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, March 25, 2026, committee meeting.

Ms. Sonnier moved to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, March 25, 2026, committee meeting.

Seconded by Ms. Velazquez.

The Chair directed the Associate Clerk to call the roll on the motion to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, March 25, 2026, committee meeting.

The Associate Clerk called the roll and the following votes were recorded. The following voted Aye: Ms. Sonnier, Mr. Browning, Ms. Velazquez, Mr. Devoti, and Chair Aldridge. **5 Aye votes were cast.**

The following voted No:
None

The following abstained:
None

The following were present but did not vote:
None

A total of 5 votes were cast. The motion carried.

IV. Board Bills for Review

(The committee will discuss and take public comment on the following)

Board Bill Number 1

Introduced by President Megan E Green, Rasheen Aldridge The proposed bill makes an appropriation for payment of Interest, Expenses and Principal of the City's Bonded Indebtedness, establishing City tax rates, and making appropriation for current year expenses of the City Government, Water Division, St. Louis Airport Commission, Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Health Care Trust Fund, Use Tax Excess Trust Fund, Building Demolition Fund, Assessor, Police Contracts Fund, Communications Division, City Employee Pension Trust Fund, Forest Park Fund, Child Support Unit (Circuit Attorney's Office), Circuit Attorney Training and Collection Fee Funds, Public Administrators Fund, Port Administration Fund, Fire Department EMS GEMT Fund, Peace Officer Training Fund, Capital Improvement Projects Fund, Capital Improvements Sales Tax Trust Fund, Metro Parks Sales Tax Fund, Centralized Mailroom and Equipment Services Fuel Internal Service Funds, Tourism Fund, Lateral Sewer Fund, Public Safety Trust Fund, Public Safety Sales Tax Trust Fund, Economic Development Tax Trust Fund, Local Parks Fund, Public Safety Sales and Use Tax Fund (Prop P), Neighborhood Parks Fund, BJC/City Trust Fund, Miscellaneous Special Funds, Trustee Lease Fund, Riverfront Gaming Fund, Various Grant Funds, Tax Increment District Special Allocation Fund, City Convention and Sports Facility Trust Fund, Judgment Fund, and Employee Benefits Fund (Department of Personnel) for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, amounting in the aggregate to the sum of One Billion, Four Hundred Fifteen Million, Two Hundred Twenty-Six Thousand, Seven Hundred Eight

Dollars (\$1,415,226,708) which sum is hereby appropriated from Revenue and Special Funds named for the purposes hereinafter enumerated and containing an emergency clause.

Chair Aldridge recognized Paul Payne, Budget Director, to present the Fiscal Year 2027 proposed Budget.

Mr. Payne presented a PowerPoint presentation before the committee outlining the Fiscal Year 2027 proposed budget.

After no further discussion, the Chair opened the discussion up to members of the committee for questions and comments.

Members of the committee asked questions and made comments.

Hearing no further questions or comments from members of the committee, the Chair held Board Bill Number 1 in committee.

Board Bill Number 9

Sponsored by Alderman Rasheen Aldridge An ordinance pertaining to compensation for employees under the classified service amending Ordinance 71963 was approved in February 2025, by amending the pay schedule in Section 2(c) and amending Section 7(a) by adding a new subsection of Section 7(a)(3). The provisions of the sections contained in this ordinance shall be effective with the start of the first pay period in which this ordinance is approved by the Mayor.

The Chair turned the meeting over to Vice-Chair Browning to introduce Board Bill Number 9 before the committee.

Mr. Aldridge spoke on Board Bill Number 9 and discussed details surrounding the legislation. He then recognized the Director of Personnel, Bob Knight, to address any questions from committee members regarding the legislation before requesting a Do Pass Recommendation.

After no further discussion, Vice-Chair Browning opened the discussion up to members of the committee for questions and comments.

Members of the committee asked questions and made comments.

Mr. Velazquez, Ms. Sonnier and Mr. Browning asked to be added as co-sponsors to Board Bill Number 9.

Hearing no further questions or comments from members of the committee, Vice-Chair Browning entertained a motion to pass Board Bill Number 9 out of committee with a **Do Pass Recommendation**.

Ms. Velazquez moved to pass Board Bill Number 9 out of committee with a **Do Pass Recommendation**.

Seconded by Ms. Sonnier.

The Chair directed the Associate Clerk to call the roll.

The Associate Clerk called the roll and the following votes were recorded. The following voted Aye: Ms. Sonnier, Mr. Browning, Ms. Velazquez, Mr. Devoti, and Chair Aldridge. **5 Aye votes were cast.**

The following voted No:
None

The following voted Present:
None

The following Abstained:

None

The following were present but did not vote.

None

A total of 5 Aye votes were cast. The motion carried.

After no further discussion, Vice-Chair Browning turned the meeting back over to Chair Aldridge to resume the meeting.

V. Resolutions for Review

None

VI. Committee Discussions

(The committee will discuss and take public comment on the following)

Item Number 1

Annual City Budget FY2027

The committee will receive a review of the Annual City Budget FY2027 from Mr. Paul Payne City Budget Director.

The Chair recognized the city's Budget Director, Paul Payne, to present the city's FY2027 Budget.

Mr. Payne presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining the Fiscal Year 2027 proposed budget.

After no further discussion, the Chair opened the discussion up to members of the committee for questions and comments.

Members of the committee asked questions and made comments.

Hearing no further questions or comments from members of the committee, the Chair opened the discussion up to members of the public to give public testimony.

Item Number 2

Public Comments

The committee will take public comments on the City's Annual Budget FY2027.

The Chair opened the discussion up to members of the public to give testimony on the FY2027 budget.

In Opposition

1. Marc Orihuela, 9th ward
2. Alicia Hernandez, online speaker
3. Julian Holt, 12th ward
4. Helen Baley, 11th ward
5. Kaitlyn Killgo, 7th ward
6. Tauren Taylor, 7th ward
7. Eda Taylor, 7th ward
8. Sarah Watkins, 7th ward
9. Kerry McCullen, 2nd ward
10. Dani Khan, 2nd ward
11. Kennard Williams, 9th ward

Not Determined/Undecided

1. Nate Lindsey, 3rd ward

Hearing no further testimony from members of the public, the Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting before he adjourned.

VII. Acknowledgment of Any Written Testimony

None

VIII. Announcements

None

IX. Excused Members

All members were present.

X. Adjournment

Having no other business to discuss, the Chair entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Velazquez moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Mr. Browning.

The vote was carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 12:26.



**Minutes
Budget & Public Employees Regular Committee
Wednesday, March 25, 2026
6:00 PM**

Kennedy Room

Minutes are preliminary and may change until finally approved

I. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

II. Roll Call

The Chair directed the Associate Clerk to call the roll and the following members answered with their names: Ms. Sonnier, Mr. Browning, and Chair Aldridge. **3 members were present. A quorum was established.**

Mr. Devoti joined the meeting after it began, bringing the total members present to four.

III. Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes from Wednesday, February 25, 2026, committee meeting.

The Chair entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, February 25, 2026, committee meeting.

Ms. Sonnier moved to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, February 25, 2026, committee meeting.

Seconded by Mr. Browning.

The Chair directed the Associate Clerk to call the roll on the motion to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, February 25, 2026, committee meeting.

The Associate Clerk called the roll: The following voted Aye: Ms. Sonnier,

Page 8 of 15

Minutes prepared by: Ora Heggs, Assoc. Clerk
Minutes approved:

Minutes prepared by: Ora Heggs, Assoc. Clerk
Minutes approved: June 3, 2026

Mr. Browning, and Chair Aldridge. **3 Aye votes were cast.**

The following voted No:

None

The following abstained:

None

The following were present but did not vote:

None

A total of 3 votes were cast. The motion carried

IV. Board Bills for Review

None

V. Resolutions for Review

None

VI. Committee Discussions

(The committee will discuss and take public comment on the following)

Discussion Item Number 1

Rams Settlement Interest Monies

The committee will discuss the use of Rams Settlement Funds and interest monies.

The Chair recognized Julian Nicks, Chief Recovery Officer, Mayor's Office.

Mr. Nicks presented a PowerPoint Presentation alongside Jennifer Brinkmann (Recovered Resident Lead), Laura Ginn (SLDC Repaired Property Lead), and Jim Hill (Chief Lost Recovery Officer). Each member presented their portion of the presentation.

After no further discussion, the Chair opened the floor to the committee members for questions and comments.

Minutes prepared by: Ora Heggs, Assoc. Clerk
Minutes approved:

Minutes prepared by: Ora Heggs, Assoc. Clerk
Minutes approved: June 3, 2026

Members of the committee asked questions and made comments.

Hearing no further questions or comments from members of the committee, the Chair opened the floor to members of the public to give public testimony.

Members of the public spoke about how they felt the RAMS Settlement Funds should be spent.

Not Determined/Undecided

1. Jamala Rogers, 13th ward
2. Kasey Fowler-Finn, 6th ward online speaker
3. Angel Flores, 2nd ward
4. Cynthia Jordan, Creve Couer online speaker
5. Gwen Gogshell, 10th ward
6. Melanie Marie, The People Response Action St. Louis
7. Keith Lofton, 14th ward
8. Topher Christopher Sudik
9. Erion Johnson, 10th ward
10. Michael Mclemore, 12th ward

After no further testimony from members of the public, the Chair opened the floor to members of the committee for questions and comments.

Hearing no questions or comments from members of the committee, the Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

VII. Acknowledgment of Any Written Testimony

None

VIII. Announcements

The Chair announced that the next meeting to discuss the RAMS Settlement Funds would be held at a location within the community that was heavily impacted by the May 16th tornado at the end of April.

IX. Excused Members

The Chair excused Ms. Velazquez for necessary absence.

Minutes prepared by: Ora Heggs, Assoc. Clerk
Minutes approved:

Minutes prepared by: Ora Heggs, Assoc. Clerk
Minutes approved: June 3, 2026

X. Adjournment

Having no other business to discuss, the Chair entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Sonnier moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Mr. Browning.

The motion was carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.

Minutes prepared by: Ora Heggs, Assoc. Clerk
Minutes approved: June 3, 2026

Minutes prepared by: Ora Heggs, Assoc. Clerk
Minutes approved: June 3, 2026