Minutes
Budget and Public Employees Committee Meeting
Regular Meeting
St. Louis Board of Aldermen
Tuesday, May 6, 2025 – 9:30am
Kennedy Room

Alderman Rasheen Aldridge, Chair **Megan Green, President**
Alderman Michael Browning, Vice Chair
Committee Members:
Alderwoman Sharon Tyus
Alderwoman Alisha Sonnier
Alderwoman Daniela Velazquez
Alderman Matt Devoti

Order of Business

I. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

II. Roll Call

The following members were present: Ms. Sonnier, Mr. Browning, Ms. Velazquez, Mr. Devoti, and Chair Aldridge. **5 members were present. A quorum was established.**

III. Approval of Minutes

None

IV. Board Bills for Review

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

Board Bill Number 1
Introduced by President Megan Green
Cosponsors: Alderman Rasheen Aldridge
An ordinance making 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, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, amounting in the aggregate to the sum of One Billion, Four Hundred Eight Million, Eight Hundred Thirty-Nine Thousand, Four Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars ($1,408,839,432) which sum is hereby appropriated from Revenue and Special Funds named for the purposes hereinafter enumerated and containing an emergency clause.

V. Resolutions for Review

None

VI. Committee Discussions

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

Item Number 1

Mayor's Office – 9:30am

Committee members will discuss the Annual City Budget FY2026 and that of the Mayor's Office with representatives from the Mayor's Office.

The Chair recognized Mayor Spencer for introducing the Mayor’s Department annual budget for FY2026.

Mayor Spencer stated aside from the changes in positions and the addition of funds for office supplies, new computers, etc., the mayor's department budget is the same as last year's budget. A total of 14 of the 20 unoccupied positions are currently occupied, and there is an overall increase of $66,757 dollars for jobs across the board.

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 thanked Mayor Spencer and her staff for attending the meeting.

After no further discussion the Chair entertained a motion to go into recess for 15 minutes.

Ms. Velazquez moved to go into recess for 15 minutes.

Seconded by Ms. Sonnier.

The motion was carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting recessed at 10:05 a.m.

Item Number 2

Public Safety Department – 10:15am

Committee members will discuss the Annual City Budget FY2026 and that of the Public Safety Department with representatives from the Public Safety Department.

The Chair recognized Shawn Dace, Director of Public Safety for discussing the FY2026 annual budget for Public Safety.

Mr. Dace gave a brief background of himself before discussing the FY2026 annual budget for the Department of Public Safety, Mr. Dace introduced himself and his staff as the newly elected Director of Public Safety. Mr. Dace along with Carletta Fielder, Fiscal Manager presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining the department's budget. During his presentation, he talked about his expectations for CJC, summer youth programs, and his primary focus, the purchase and distribution of defibrillators within the city.

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 thanked Mr. Dace and his staff for attending the meeting.

<u>Item Number 3</u>
City Emergency Management Agency – 11am
Committee members will discuss the Annual City Budget FY2026 and that of the City Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) with representatives from CEMA.

The Chair recognized Ms. Sarah Russell, Commissioner of City Emergency Management Agency. (CEMA)

Ms. Russell presented a detailed PowerPoint presentation outlining the department's expected increases and the projected decreases due to loss of federal funding, as well as the required funds for the department to operate effectively for the FY2026 year.

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 thanked Ms. Russell and her staff for attending the meeting.

<u>Item Number 4</u>
Comptroller’s Office - 12pm
Committee members will discuss the Annual City Budget FY2026 and that of the Comptroller’s Office with representatives from the Comptroller's Office.

The Chair recognized Donna Barringer, Comptroller for discussing the FY2026 annual budget for Comptroller Office.

Ms. Barringer introduced herself as the newly elected Comptroller for the City of St. Louis and her staff. Ms. Barringer along with Jason Fletcher, Deputy Comptroller, and James Garavaglia, discussed the department’s budget, modernizing the department office, updated oracle system which will help to get RFP out sooner and help to get vendor paid sooner, and vacancies.

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 thanked Ms. Barringer and her staff for attending the meeting.

After no further discussion, the Chair stated that Ms. Tyus was not excused from the meeting before adjourning.

VII. Acknowledgement of Any Written Testimony

None

VIII. Announcements

None

IX. Excused Members

All members were present except for Ms. Tyus whom the Chair did not excuse.

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 Ms. Sonnier.

The vote was carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Ora Heggs
Minutes approved on May 12, 2025