Minutes
Budget and Public Employees Committee Meeting
Regular Meeting
St. Louis Board of Aldermen
Wednesday, May 7, 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 meeting to order at 9:36 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 the following. No public comment will be taken)

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 the following. No public comment will be taken)

<u>Item Number 1</u>

Building Division - 9:30am

Committee members will discuss the Annual City Budget FY2026 and that of the Building Division with City's Building Commissioner and other representatives from the Building Division.

The Chair recognized Ed Ware, Commissioner of the Building Division for discussing his division's FY2026 budget. He gave a detailed PowerPoint Presentation outlining the requested budget amount and the proposed budget amount. He spoke on several topics such as the Healthy Home Repair program and how its funded, funding for active employees, the department's function, zoning, fire safety unit, plan exam section, code enforcement for wards and the inspectors, trade inspectors, demolition, and commercial contractors.

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 recognized Excise Commissioner, Myles McDonnell.

<u>Item Number 2</u>

Excise Division - 11:30am

Committee members will discuss the Annual City Budget FY2026 and that of the Excise Division with representatives from the Excise Division.

The Chair recognized Myles McDonnell, Excise Commissioner for discussing the Excise Departments FY2026 Budget.

Mr. McDonnell discussed the requested budget and the proposed budget for his department. He spoke on the need of purchasing updated vehicles which would be part of the capital improvement, hiring of Liquor Control Officers and its function, application process for obtaining a liquor license and its cost and the fees, consequences of businesses that operate without a liquor license, 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 entertained a motion to go into recess until 1:00 p.m.

Ms. Velazquez moved to go into recess until 1:00 p.m.

Seconded by Ms. Sonnier.

The vote was carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting recessed at 11:56 a.m.

Break
The meeting recessed at 11:56 a.m. and resumes at 1:07 p.m.

Item Number 3
Circuit Attorney's Office - 1:00pm
Committee members will discuss the Annual City Budget FY2026 and that of the Circuit Attorney Office with the City's Circuit Attorney and others from this office.

The Chair recognized Gabriel Gore, Circuit Attorney for introducing his department's FY2026 budget.

Mr. Gore presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining several topics. He spoke on building his trial staff, community engagement and investing in the people, competitive wages, vacancies, updated technology and training, staff and the importance of staff support, the December raises, technology investment, network stabilization to improve trial presentation, laptop upgrades, striving toward data driven prosecution and its benefit, diversion improvement and why it matters, and the citizen academy program.

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 stated that Chair Tyus was not excused from the meeting.

After no further discussion the Chair adjourned the meeting.

VII. Acknowledgement of Any Written Testimony
None

VIII. Announcements
None

IX. Excused Members
All members were present except Ms. Tyus whom was not excused.

X. Adjournment

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

Mr. Browning moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Ms. Sonnier.

The vote was carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

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