



Minutes
Budget and Public Employees Committee Meeting
Regular Meeting
St. Louis Board of Aldermen
Tuesday, May 13, 2025 – 9:30am
Kennedy Room

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

Megan Green, President

Order of Business

I. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:39 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 the following. No public comment will be taken.)

Item Number 1

Office of Violence Prevention - 9:30am

Committee members will discuss the FY2026 Budget of the Office of Violence Prevention with representatives from this office.

The Chair recognized Cynthia Davis, Grants Manager

Ms. Davis gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining her departments FY2026 budget. She recognized Bret DeLaria, Public Information Officer and Jim Benoist, Deputy Budget Director to answer questions that the committee members might have.

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 11:00 a.m.

Ms. Sonnier moved to go into recess until 11:00 a.m.

Seconded by Ms. Velazquez.

The vote was carried by unanimous consent.

Item Number 2

Circuit Court - 11:00am

Committee members will discuss the FY2026 Budget of the Circuit Court with representatives from this office.

The Chair recognized Judge Chris McGraugh, presiding judge of the 22nd judicial circuit.

Mr. McGraugh discussed his department budget and why it was slightly higher than FY25 budget. He discussed court room modernization, upgrading audio and video presentation capability. He recognized Amanda Sodomka, Court Administrator, and Sean Rapp, Public Administrator to answer questions members of the committee might have.

Members of the committee asked questions and made comments.

Hearing no further questions or comments from members of the committee the Chair entertained recognized Sean Rapp to further discuss the budget.

Hearing no further discussion the Chair recognized Amanda Sodomka, Court Administrator.

Item Number 3

Juvenile Detention Services - 12:15pm

Committee members will discuss the FY2026 Budget of the Juvenile Detention Services with representatives from this office.

The Chair recognized Amanda Sodomka, Court Administrator, discussed the FY26 Budget. She gave an overview of the requested and proposed budget along with vacancies, hiring positions, staffing, salary increases, interpreters, contracted work, and function of the department.

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.

Break

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 Chair recessed the meeting at 12:13 p.m.

Item Number 4

Sheriff's Office - 1:00pm

Committee members will discuss the FY2026 Budget of the Sheriff's Office with representatives from this office.

The Chair recognized Alfred Montgomery, Sheriff for introducing his department's FY26 budget.

Mr. Montgomery gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining his FY2026 budget, after he introduced members of his staff to answer questions

Item Number 5

Medical Examiner's Office - 2:00pm

Committee members will discuss the FY2026 Budget of the Medical Examiner's Office with representatives from this office.

The Chair recognized Tara Rick, Director of Operations for presenting her FY2026 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 adjourned the meeting.

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. Sonnier moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Ms. Velazquez.

The vote was carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.