



**Minutes**  
**Budget & Public Employees Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 20, 2025**  
**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 9:39 a.m.

**II. Roll Call**

The following members were present: Ms. Velazquez, Mr. Browning, Mr. Devoti and Chair Aldridge. 4 members were present. A quorum was established.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

The approval of minutes of Monday, May 12, 2025, Tuesday, May 13, 2025, Wednesday, May 14, 2025, and Thursday, May 15, 2025, committee meetings.

The Chair entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, May 12, 2025, Tuesday, May 13, 2025, Wednesday, May 14, 2025, and Thursday, May 15, 2025, committee meetings.

Mr. Devoti moved to approve the minutes of the Monday, May 12, 2025, Tuesday, May 13, 2025, Wednesday, May 14, 2025, and Thursday, May 15, 2025, committee meetings.

Seconded by Mr. Browning.

The following voted Aye: Mr. Browning, Ms. Velazquez, Mr. Sonnier, Mr. Devoti and Chair Aldridge, 4 Aye votes were cast.

The following voted No:

None

The following voted Present:

None

The following Abstained:

None

The following voted present but did not vote:

None

**A total of 4 Aye votes were cast. The motion carried.**

#### **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)

### **Item Number 1**

#### **City Counselor - 9:30am**

Committee members will discuss the FY2026 Budget of the City Counselor with representatives from this office.

The Chair recognized Michael Garvin, Interim City Counselor, for introducing his department's FY2026 budget.

Mr. Garvin gave an overview of his department's FY26 budget, outlining significant items requested judgment costs that occurred at the State level, funds for wrongful conviction cases, and experienced litigation attorneys.

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.

Mr. Jim Benoist, Deputy Budget Director, was available to answer questions.

Hearing no further questions or comments from members of the committee, at 10:08 a.m. the Chair entertained a motion to go into recess until 10:30 a.m.

### **Item Number 2**

#### **Information Technology Services Agency (ITSA) - 10:30am**

Committee members will discuss the FY2026 Budget of the Information Technology Services Agency with representatives from this office.

The meeting resumed at 10:31a.m.

The Chair recognized Cindy Riordan, Chief Information Officer, Director of Information Technology Services Agency (ITSA) for presenting her department's FY2026 budget.

Ms. Riordan presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining who and what they support. She discussed sustaining land property and infrastructure, supporting people, planning and development, taxes and utilities, legal courts, government administration, IT platforms, IT Connectors, and data analytics. She also discussed the current structure and the proposed structure, the positions that they have and what positions are needed, organizational structure/personal services and its impact. She continued to discuss the personnel budget, highlights, upgrades from older PCs to newer ones, computer equipment, computer services and professional services.

Ms. Riordan recognized Jason Riley, Data and Analytic Manager, for answering questions.

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, at 10:52 a.m. the Chair took a Stand at Ease until 11:00 a.m.

### **Item Number 3**

#### **Personnel Department - 11:30pm**

Committee members will discuss the FY2026 Budget of the Health Department with representatives from this office.

Resumed from Stand at Ease.

The Chair recognized Jamie McGeechan, Public Information Officer of the Department of Personnel, for discussing the department's FY2026 budget.

Mr. McGeechan presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining the department's key functions and FY2026 priorities. He gave an overview of staff and its wide range of functions, from recruitment, employee relations,

training, employee benefits/retirement to overseeing the Civil Service Commission etc. He also stated that their key priorities for FY2026 are to modernize their recruitment and expand community outreach to underrepresented groups and younger job seekers. He also discussed their proposed and requested budget for FY26. He recognized Brenda Haverly, Human Resources Specialist, who gave an overview of the department's functions. She stated that they manage personnel, benefit administration, contractual and other services and self-insured medical plans such as Cobra etc. He also recognized John Unnerstall, Interim Director of Personnel, to answer questions from members of the committee.

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 excused Alderwoman Sonnier for necessary absence. He also stated that Alderwoman Tyus was not excused from the meeting before making a motion to adjourn.

## **VII. Acknowledgment of Any Written Testimony**

None

## **VIII. Announcements**

None

## **IX. Excused Members**

The Chair excused Ms. Sonnier for necessary absence. The Chair did not excuse Mrs. Tyus.

## **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 Mr. Devoti

**The vote was carried by unanimous consent.**

**The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.**

**Minutes approved Wednesday, May 27, 2025**  
**Minutes prepared by Associate Clerk, Ora Heggs**

