



Minutes
Budget & Public Employees Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 21, 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 10:11 a.m.

II. Roll Call

The following members were present: Mr. Browning and Chair Aldridge. 2 members were present. A quorum was not 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)

Item Number 1

Corrections Division - 9:30am

Committee members will discuss the FY2026 Budget of the Corrections Division with representatives from this office.

The Chair recognized Doug Burris, Interim Commissioner of the Department of Corrections, to discuss the department's FY26 budget.

Mr. Burris introduced his staff, Tammy Ross, Deputy Commissioner, and Minyon Frazier-Foluke, Fiscal Operating Manager, to answer questions.

Mr. Burris presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining the funds for medical, vacancies, programming and partnerships with St. Louis Public Schools (SLPS), GED, and religious programs. He discussed the process and turnaround time for convictions and the transport of residents to and from the hospital and court. They also discussed the jail's population and the number of holding cells within the facility. He finally discussed the proposed budget and the requested 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 moved on to item number two of the agenda.

Item Number 2

Human Services Department - 11:00am

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

The Chair recognized Adam Pearson, Director of Human Services, for presenting the department's FY2026 budget.

Mr. Pearson presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining the departments' five active divisions and their function and how they contribute to the community: the Youth and Family, Homeless Services, STL Area Agent on Aging, Fiscal Division, and the Office of the Disabled. He stated that SLAAA serviced 6700 people as one of their contracted partners. He stated that the home delivers meals silver program has 2 electric cars to take the senior citizens to appointments. He stated that their focus for the 2026 fiscal year is to continue to bolster contract compliance, engage in human services, pursue more collaboration and continue to connect people with services that they need. He stated that his concerns are federal concerns such as senior services and how they will be affected, fall prevention program, ombudsman program services and infectious disease for seniors. He spoke about the department vacancies. He also discussed his department's proposed budget and the requested budget.

Mr. Pearson recognized Valarie Russell, Deputy Director for Human Services, who answered questions from committee members.

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

Members of the committee asked questions and made comments.

Hearing no further questions or comments from members of the committee, the Chair to a 10-minute Stand at Ease.

Item Number 3

Affordable Housing Commission - 12:00pm

Committee members will discuss the FY2026 Budget of the Affordable Housing Commission with representatives from this office.

The Chair recognized April Ford-Griffin, Executive Director of the Affordable Housing Commission, for presenting the department's FY2026 budget.

Ms. Ford-Griffin presented a PowerPoint Presentation outlining the department's functions, how it contributes to the community, most critical needs and vacancies. She discussed the proposed and requested budget.

The Chair recognized Jim Benoist, Deputy Budget Director, 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, the Chair excused Alderwoman Sonnier, Alderwoman Velazquez and Mr. Devoti for necessary absences. The Chair did not excuse Alderwoman Tyus.

After no further business to discuss the Chair adjourned the meeting.

VII. Acknowledgment of Any Written Testimony

None

VIII. Announcements

None

IX. Excused Members

The Chair excused Alderwoman Sonnier and Alderman Devoti for necessary absences. The Chair did not excuse Alderwoman 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. Aldridge

The vote was carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.