



City of Milwaukee

City Hall
200 East Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Meeting Minutes

FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

ALD. MARINA DIMITRIJEVIC, CHAIR

Ald. Peter Burgelis, Vice-Chair

Ald. Scott P. Spiker, Ald. Milele A. Coggs, and Ald. Sharlen P. Moore

**Staff Assistant, Chris Lee, 414-286-2232; Fax: 414-286-3456,
clee@milwaukee.gov**

**Legislative Liaison, Kathleen Brengosz, 414-286-3926,
kathleen.brengosz@milwauk**

Friday, October 3, 2025

9:00 AM

Room 301-B, City Hall

2026 BUDGET HEARINGS

This is also a virtual meeting. Those wishing to view the proceedings are able to do so via the City Channel - Channel 25 on Spectrum Cable - or on the Internet at <http://city.milwaukee.gov/citychannel>

Meeting convened at 9:14 a.m.

Present 5 - Dimitrijevic, Burgelis, Spiker, Coggs, Moore

Also present:

*William Christianson, City Comptroller
Nik Kovac, Budget Director
Keith Broadnax, LRB Manager
Kathy Brengosz, LRB Fiscal Planning Specialist
Bryan Rynders, Budget and Policy Manager*

1. [250001](#) Communication from the Mayor relating to the proposed 2026 budget.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

-Budget Overview

Director Kovac gave an overview presentation on the proposed 2026 budget on the following topics:

2026 Proposed Executive Budget, 2026 Proposed Budget Bottom Line, Proposed 2026 Budget Impact on Typical Household, 2026 Proposed Tax Levy: Distribution by Budget Section, Share of GCP by departments and categories, City of Milwaukee 2026 Revenue Sources: Tax Levy Supported Budget, Recent Budget Gap History, How the 2026 Gap was closed

There was discussion on the Transportation Fund, DNS Raze and Revive program, vehicle registration fee increase, City reserves, typical household net impact, general city employee 2% wage increase, fee increases, tax levy, capital debt, budget gaps going forward, increased employee health care costs, and departmental/service

reductions, and departmental service delivery models and innovation.

Information requests were made as follows:

DNS Raise and Revive information, map, and information on City lots (Ald. Coggs)

OEI report on the impact on vehicle registration fee increase (Ald. Dimitrijevic)

Budget to summarize debt service information (Ald. Spiker)

This Communication was NOT ACTED ON

-Capital Improvements

Appearing:

Mason Lavey, Budget Office

Mr. Lavey gave an overview presentation on Capital Improvements on the following topics:

Source of Funds Comparison, Capital Budget by Department, Levy-supported Borrowing, Infrastructure (Streets Program, Streets Outlook, Street Improvements, Street Lighting), Capital (Facility Improvements, Raze & Revive, Equipment, Private Side Lead Lateral Program, Port Milwaukee, Major Projects, Forestry Capital, Enterprise Funds, Looking Forward)

There was discussion on local roads, paving, alleys, street light pole damage recovery, snow plows, capital request for Police and Fire fleets, federal grant statuses, chosen MPD fleet types, City Hall facade renovation, Raze and Revive, lead laterals, garbage packers and garbage collection, capital purchase and service model innovation, economic equity consideration on borrowing, debt retirement, and the MRF recycling facility and site.

Information requests were made as follows:

Budget Office to provide source of funds comparison in percentages (Ald. Spiker)

Budget Office to provide capital equipment charts for Police and Fire (Ald. Burgelis)

Data on alleys in critical condition (Ald. Burgelis)

Success rate data on recovery of costs on downed street light poles (Ald. Burgelis)

Data on condition of snow plows and police and fire vehicles (Ald. Burgelis)

Further data on garbage packers and garbage collection (Ald. Moore)

The MRF recycling facility and site further information (Ald. Burgelis)

This Communication was NOT ACTED ON

-City Revenue/City Debt

Appearing:

Mason Lavey, Budget Office

Joshua Benson, Comptroller's Office

Mr. Lavey gave an overview presentation on City Debt on the following topics:

2026 Budget for City Debt, Public Debt Amortization Fund, Debt Repayment, Debt

Service Levy (Bond Rating, Tax Levy Impact)

There was discussion on debt retirement, \$116 borrowing limit, impact on bond rating due to increased debt and Act 12, and bond rating decrease and increase.

Appearing:

Nathaniel Haack, Budget Office

Mr. Haack gave an overview presentation on City Revenue on the following topics:

2026 Revenues Summary, 2026 Revenues for General City Purposes, 2026 Proposed Tax and Fee Increases, 2026 Proposed Fees & Forfeitures, Tax Stabilization Fund, Public Debt Amortization Fund

There was discussion on collection of revenues and outstanding debt (unpaid parking tickets), work group on collection of debt, TSF balances and withdrawals, decrease in revenue from permits and licenses, unrecognized revenue before the budget is finalized, PILOT revenue increase, charges for service, sales tax revenue decrease

*Information requests were made as follows:
Breakdown of fee increases (Ald. Spiker)
TSF balance and withdrawals data in percentages (Ald. Spiker)
List of permits waived by DNS (Ald. Coggs)
List of current PILOTS and their status (Ald. Dimitrijevic)*

This Communication was NOT ACTED ON

Meeting recessed at 12:09 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 12:24 p.m.

[250001](#)

Communication from the Mayor relating to the proposed 2026 budget.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

-Grant & Aid Fund

*Appearing:
Sarah Osborn, Budget Office*

Ms. Osborn gave an overview presentation on Grant & Aid Fund on the following topics:

2026 Budget Summary, Grants by Department, Grant Expenditures and CGBG & Home Awards (Millions), 2024 Expenditures

There was discussion on vulnerable grants (subject to nonreceipt) and exposure, funding and hiring/layoff of personnel funded by grants,

*Information requests were made as follows:
Detailed breakdown of cancelled grants (Ald. Burgelis)*

This Communication was NOT ACTED ON

-CC Contingent Fund

Mr. Rynders gave an overview presentation on the CC Contingent Fund regarding Purpose of Contingent Fund and 2026 Budget Summary.

There was discussion on vulnerable grants (subject to nonreceipt) and exposure, funding and hiring/layoff of personnel funded by grants, carryover

*Information requests were made as follows:
Detailed breakdown of cancelled grants (Ald. Burgelis)
Information on ability to carryover (Ald. Coggs)
10-year history of CC Contingent Fund (Ald. Spiker)*

This Communication was NOT ACTED ON

-Tax Stabilization Fund

Appearing:

Nathaniel Haack, Budget Office

Overview of the TSF was covered during the City Revenue presentation.

There was discussion on vehicle registration fee increase (implementation, timing on approval, impact on TSF withdrawal, spending of revenue generated, loss of revenue without an expedited approval, City Attorney opinion, and collaborative approach to review)

This Communication was NOT ACTED ON

A motion was made by ALD. BURGELIS that this Communication be HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Dimitrijevic, Burgelis, Spiker, Coggs, and Moore

No 0

Meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

**Chris Lee, Staff Assistant
Council Records Section
City Clerk's Office**

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety through the City's Legislative Research Center at <http://milwaukee.legistar.com/calendar>.