



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,
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**Legislative Liaison, Kathleen Brengosz, 414-286-3926,
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Friday, October 10, 2025

9:00 AM

Room 301-B, City Hall

2026 BUDGET HEARINGS

Amended 10/7/25 - Dept. of Administration added to agenda item 1 for 1 p.m.

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 9:24 a.m.

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

Also present:

William Christianson, City Comptroller

Nik Kovac, Budget Director

Kathy Brengosz, LRB Fiscal Planning Specialist

Keith Broadnax, LRB Manager

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

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

-Fire Department

Appearing:

Chief Aaron Lipski, Fire Dept.

Asst. Chief Joshua Parish, Fire Dept.

Amanda Lewis, Fire Dept.

Angelique Pettigrew, Budget Office

*An overview presentation on the Fire Dept. was given on the following topics:
Budget Summary, Positions & Salaries, Operating & Equipment Expenses, Special Funds, Special Purpose Accounts, Revenues, Capital, Budget by Service, Mission*

Statement, Org Chart, Demographics, Firefighter Recruit and Fire Cadet Stats, Civilian Demographics, Command Staff, L215 Demographics, Service Delivery, Impact from Cuts, Recovery/Collection of Fees, Environmental Impacts (Current & Ongoing Efforts), MFD's Commitment to Community Engagement, MORI, Key Performance Measures, 2026 Budget Proposal (Provide Daily Field-Staffing of 207), Annual Run Totals and Rigs in Service, Response Time Data Corrolates to the Complement of Apparatus, City Action App Feasibility, MFD Youth Apprenticeship Programs, Proclamation, 2025 Amendment Update

There was discussion on average response time, awards and recognition, youth apprenticeship (students, mentorship, recruitment, pay), fire engine trucks (capital funding, replacement, sustainability, investing more resources), determining capital funding for departments, residency of sworn and civilian personnel, fire 911 call and dispatch triage (low acuity calls, Medicare costs, tracking of ALS and BLS calls), community outreach and events, data analysis and reporting capacity (capacity/position needs), smoke alarm detectors (installation, State law requirements, landlords, inspection, app utilization), AI technologies and innovation (data research and reporting, language translation, funding sources), OMAP (use of civilians), ambulatory and paramedic runs (medical coverage), CPR training (schools), Narcan (training, resources, distribution, vending machines), accident recovery fee (exploration, RFQ process and timing), trauma referrals (students), patient care information collection, increasing women workforce, EMTs and Paramedics, opioid overdose (response training)

Information requests were made as follows:

Data on average response time and national averages (Ald. Coggs)

Further information on rate of pay for apprenticeships (Ald. Coggs)

Introduction of a communication file on ambulance BLS and rising costs (Ald. Spiker)

Data on EMTs and Paramedics (Ald. Spiker)

ALS and BLS number of runs and trends (Ald. Spiker)

This Communication was NOT ACTED ON

-Fire and Police Commission

Appearing:

Shaketa Winters, Budget Office

Leon Todd, FPC Director

Jay Pucek, FPC Deputy Director

Ryan Zollicoffer, Emergency Management Director

An overview presentation on the Fire and Police Commission was given on the following topics:

2026 Budget Summary, Salaries & Positions, Operating & Equipment Expenses, Special Fund, Org Chart, Core Services, Department Demographics, Board Demographics, Key Performance Indicators, 2026 Major Updates (FPC, Emergency Management), Upcoming Classes & Recruitments, Service Uniformity, Environmental Impact, MPD Recruits, MFD Recruits, 2025 Amendment Update

There was discussion on increased oversight due to Act 12, background checks (outsourcing, reassignment of police personnel), upcoming classes and recruitments (class numbers, comparison with other jurisdictions, challenges, applications, unused salary budgeted funds, Police Aides, incentives, referral program, female recruitment, exit interview, increasing more qualified candidates, sworn and civilian recruiters, schools - MPS, charter, choice), disciplinary appeals (increase in review time), Safe

Guard social media consultant (measuring their effectiveness), Act 12 compliance, complaints and resolution, auditors (Collins settlement, risk management, innovation and AI consideration for research and reporting), emergency management staffing level, community oriented policing (oversight authority)

Information requests were made as follows:

Attrition and retirement data for the Police Dept. (Ald. Burgelis)

Comparison of last year and this year's Police recruitment classes (Ald. Coggs)

Report on complaints for 2024 and 2025 and their resolution (Ald. Moore)

Arranging a meeting between Safe Guard and alders in Utah (Ald. Spiker)

This Communication was NOT ACTED ON

1 P.M.

Meeting recessed at 1:03 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:11 p.m.

-Dept. of Administration

Appearing:

Sarah Osborn, Budget Office

Preston Cole, DOA Director

Steven Mahan, DOA Deputy Director

Melissa Buford, OAAA Director

Darryl Davidson, OAAA

Pres. Ald. Jose Perez, 12th Ald. Dist.

Mary Reed, acting OEI Chief Equity Officer

Erick Shambarger, ECO Director

Mario Higgins, CDGA Director

Rhonda Kelsey, City Purchasing Director

Jordan Primakow, IRD Director

Adam Procell, OCWS Director

Ald. Mark Chambers, Jr., 2nd Ald. Dist.

An overview presentation on the Dept. of Administration was given on the following topics:

Salaries and Positions, Office of African American Affairs, Office of Equity and Inclusion, Budget & Management, Environmental Collaboration Office, Community Development Grant Administration, Purchasing, Intergovernmental Relations, Community Wellness and Safety

There was discussion on the Office of African American Affairs on the JUUL Labs settlement (vacancies, grant funding, youth prevention activities, courses, campaign, JUUL funded positions), measuring success, partnerships, funding source for the office, focus on data collection, past activities, overdose prevention activities, and annual reporting.

There was discussion on the Office of Equity and Inclusion on the Chief Equity Officer position (new appointment, confirmation authority), vacancies, Equal Rights Commission and ADA, workforce outreach and diversity recruiter roles, funding source for the office (grant funding portion), RPP program (tracking, retention, accountability, making improvements), and office independence and impartiality (Common Council member requests for equity analysis).

There was discussion on the Budget & Management Division on elimination of an analyst position and budget variance reporting.

There was discussion on the Environmental Collaboration Office on confirmation authority of the Director position, EV charging sites, federal grants (impounded grants, litigation, funded positions), and solar landfill project.

There was discussion on the Community Grant Development Administration on down payment assistance (more resources), supporting other agencies for CDBG funds (training, technical assistance), responsibilities and scope of the office (grant monitoring, compliance, reporting, cross department grant assistance), and noncompliance and resolution (missed deadlines).

There was discussion on the City Purchasing Division on contracting bid process (department responsibility, City Purchasing role, performance feedback), and social responsibility legislation.

There was discussion on the Intergovernmental Relations Division on the lobbying packet (prioritization), position pay reclassification, coordination with Legislative Affairs Division, and internships with universities (paid opportunities).

There was discussion on the Office of Community Wellness and Safety on the loss of Promise Keepers for 2026, need for additional funding and alternative resources, plans for 2026 (keep Promise Keepers, partnering with the business community), strategic plan for funding, resolving outstanding payments to organizations (conducting audit), expiring grants and positions, funding sources (ARPA, tax levy, grants), explore absorbing violence interruption work, finding innovation for additional resources, and need for collaboration.

Information requests were made as follows:

City Attorney letter on the confirmation authority for the position of Chief Equity Officer (Ald. Coggs)

List of outstanding contracts, length of overdue payments, and amount of overdue payments (Ald. Moore)

Follow-up information on the expiration on the grants and funding for the Promise Keepers and the role of the County (Ald. Dimitrijevic)

Amount of funding from ARPA and tax levy for OCWS in 2024 (Ald. Chambers, Jr.)

List of heads of departments with a direct report of one (Ald. Moore)

This Communication was NOT ACTED ON

A motion was made by ALD. SPIKER 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 3:58 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>.**