



**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF FRONTENAC
JOINT BOARD OF ALDERPERSONS AND WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE
BUDGET REVIEW MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2025**

The May 28, 2025, joint meeting of the Board of Alderpersons and Ways & Means Committee meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. with Mayor Pat Kilker presiding.

The Alderpersons present were Dan Millman, Annie DiPasco, Tim Sant, Scott Mullis, Jamie Griesedieck, and Tom O'Brien.

The Ways and Means Committee members present were Tom Mug and John Kennedy.

Also, in attendance were City Clerk/Interim City Administrator, Leesa Ross; Police Chief, Craig Picha; Fire Chief, Floyd Blake; Assistant Fire Chief Kevin Halloran; Public Works Director, Jeff Wappelhorst; Finance Officer, Lea Ann Bennett, Building Commissioner, David Fairgrieve, and Administrative Clerk, Shari Cooper.

1. AGENDA ITEM:

Presentation of the budget for operations of the City of Frontenac, Missouri, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.

Ms. Bennett gave an overview of the budget. Ms. Bennett presented revenues and sales tax, were flat to budget in 2025-2026. She gave an overview of the general fund accounts.

Ms. Bennett stated the sales tax recovery was around \$210,000. Estimated that \$50,000 is from ambulance returns which are directly to the city. She stated that real estate numbers are over budget by 2% along with the road and bridge tax. She stated that the utility tax is going down ½% this year. She explained that Pilots were a 2% increase this year. Building permits and licensing were up 1 ½% but still down from what was budgeted. We will not have any WEP variances this year (2025-2026 no revenues) due to bi-annual billing.

Alderman Millman asked about the new MSD tax and questioned if the city would be receiving any of the funds. Ms. Bennett stated that we estimate around \$300,000 coming to the city this year.

Ms. Bennett stated the Police and Fire Protection is estimated at 3% per contract. We took ambulance revenues up a little from the estimate. Hoping to receive a bit more from Medicare billing this year.

Ms. Bennett stated court fines seem to be trending down so this was brought down to \$120,000 this year. Interest income was also brought down this year by ½%. Our cell tower will be less this year also, after losing one of our locates.

Ms. Bennett stated that the total general fund revenues is currently a little over \$11 million. Part of the interest income is allocated to stormwater. Alderman Millman asked if MSD has revenue for impervious surfaces, does any of this tax monies flow back to Frontenac? Mr. Wappelhorst confirmed it is done through the OMCI.

Alderman Millman stated this is a very conservative budget but stated this is the best way to categorize it.

Ms. Bennett stated that she met with PNC Account Manager and stated how they were not performing up to standard and we will be going out for bid this year to decide our monies handler. PNC Bank proposed a sweep account for around \$200 per month. This will not keep us at their bank but it is something we can add to our RFQ.

The Fund balance policy requires 50% of revenues, and the city projected reserves to be 102%. Triad Bank is writing a check from investments which will be put in MOSIP. 180-day return rate is 5.46%.

Alderman Mullis inquired about the senior tax freeze and when will it hit for Frontenac Residents. Ms. Bennett stated that it is a big topic but we should see something this year but don't know any specific details.

Ms. Bennett stated that capitol improvement and ½% sales tax remains flat. Road and Bridge tax are going with a 2% increase. Grant revenues is almost entirely from Geyer Phase 2 Project which shall be completed by June 30, 2026. Combination of the Geyer Road grant revenue and capitol stormwater will equal what we will receive from MoDOT.

Ms. Bennett stated that stormwater still doesn't have a number but will have one soon. Total revenue of all funds gives us \$16,220,000.

Ms. Bennett stated that on capitol purchases, we have a \$1,200 65" tv on a cart allocated to be purchased for the council room which was requested by a member of the Board. Fire Department is amending the purchase of a rescue pumper and putting it in next year's 2025-2026 budget. We will receive a \$17,000 grant for this purchase. Fire bay floor needs epoxy. Chief Blake spoke on the need and continued with confirming the need for new radios. Ms. Bennett stated that the last set of radios the city received were free of charge (used) from the St. Louis County. Chief Blake said if we don't purchase them now, we will lose the rebate.

Chief Picha spoke on the need for new access control and cameras. The original system has been in the building for 14 years now and is outdated. The new system will be more user friendly.

Mayor Kilker stated that when he and Leesa were at Villa the alarm/access system was very easy to access the doors throughout the building. Chief Picha also spoke on the radios, license plate readers, furniture updates, bullet-proof vests and rifle ballistic plates.

Mr. Wappelhorst spoke on Spoede Bridge construction and federal funding. Ms. Bennett stated they are also requesting a computer, calcium storage tank, snowplow, new commercial grade mower and salt spreader for one of the trucks. Ms. Bennett discussed engineering with on-going projects through our stormwater department. Mr. Wappelhorst explained the MSD involvement and the reasoning for this to be a specific line item to include DNR funding.

Ms. Bennett spoke on the city's personnel budget. She explained the reasoning of moving our rank/retention to go back to a four (4) step program instead of eight (8) and this doesn't include department heads. Bottom line would add an extra \$117,000 to include the change. Discussion was held on the step change.

Mayor Kilker asked for a motion to adjourn the public hearing.

MOTION: Alderperson Millman made a motion and Alderperson O'Brien made a second to the motion to adjourn the public hearing. All Aldermen present voted "Aye." The vote was unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**

2. ADJOURNMENT: Public Hearing adjourned at 5:50 p.m.