



CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

4th FLOOR

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025 — 1:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councilmember Turner, Chair of the Finance & Budgeting Committee, called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Chair Turner asked Clerk Richardson to call the roll. Councilmembers, Gallagher, Schleper, Conwell, Turner, Kelly, Sweeney, and Miller were in attendance, and a quorum was determined. Councilmember Casselberry was absent.

[Clerk's Note: Councilmembers Jones, Houser and Simon entered the meeting shortly after the roll call was taken].

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Jennifer Harrison, Chief Clinical Officer of Frontline Service, addressed Council regarding Resolution No. R2025-0293, adopting the 2026/2027 Biennial Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program, specifically regarding the Safe Haven Program.

4. MATTER REFERRED TO COMMITTEE/DISCUSSION:

- a) R2025-0293: A Resolution adopting the 2026/2027 Biennial Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective:
 - 1) Budget Amendments
 - 2) Approve Substitute & Referral to Council

Chair Turner gave brief opening remarks, acknowledging the due diligence that Departments brought to the process; public commenters and advocates, as well as the budgetary process.

Mr. Chris Costin, Manager of Business Services, Ms. Donna Kaleal, Finance Manager, Sheriff's Department, and Mr. Walter Parfiejewc, Director of the Office of Budget and Management (OBM), addressed Councilmembers regarding the Sheriff's Department's budget and stated that OBM agreed to add \$4.6M to the Sheriff Department's Budget. Mr. Costin added that his Department will meet

quarterly with Deputy Chief Katherine Gallagher to review their budget and determine what will be projected at the end of the year. Mr. Costin is requesting \$215 million dollars, based on the projected cost of \$23 million dollars in overtime.

Mr. Dale Armbruster, office of Innovation and Performance, Mr. Nestor Rivera, Chief of Corrections and Mr. Aaron Reese, Chief of Law Enforcement, addressed Councilmembers regarding identifying strategies to improve efficiencies that may exist within the Sheriff's Department budget. Discussion ensued.

Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Costin, Ms. Kaleal; Mr. Parfejewiec; Mr. Armbruster, Mr. Rivera and Mr. Reese pertaining to overtime costs, which they answered accordingly.

Mr. Walter Parfejewc, Director of the Office of Budget and Management, addressed Council and presented a list of the Administration's proposed technical amendments to Resolution No. R2025-0293. Discussion ensued.

Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Parfejewc pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

A motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Jones and approved by unanimous vote to adopt the proposed technical adjustments, with the exception of the \$1,170,000.00 Information Technology ERP Expenditure, which is not needed, and approve them to be incorporated into Resolution No. R2025-0293. Then call on staff and the Director to work through the actual technical amendment that would do so.

Mr. Miller stated that leadership will meet and compile a list of amendments that have consensus support. If Departments have additional amendments they would like to submit, he recommended the amendments be submitted in concept to Mr. Trevor McAleer by close of business Thursday, November 18.

5. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Ms. Turner introduced International Exchange Fellow Anne Figurado, who is part of the Professional Fellows Program. Ms. Figurado is in the United States to learn about Women empowerment and politics, and is seeking to gain knowledge from the personal experiences of women working in local government

6. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chair Turner adjourned the meeting at 2:58 p.m., without objection.