November 1, 2019

Omnibus budget amendment supports birthing moms pilot, violence interrupters, participatory budget initiative and more

The Finance and Personnel Committee yesterday (Thursday, October 31) considered more than 90 amendments to the proposed city budget. Among the amendments that were recommended for approval was amendment 42I, also known as the omnibus amendment, brought forward by Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs with the intent of tackling several key issues throughout the city.

“This amendment was a true collaboration amongst Council members with the intent of doing what is best for city residents. It helps us take one step closer to becoming the Milwaukee we all know is possible. I appreciate the effort of my colleagues and want to thank them for contributing to this amendment,” said Alderwoman Coggs. The amendment was co-sponsored by Council President Ashanti Hamilton, Alderwoman Chantia Lewis, Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II, Alderman José G. Pérez and Alderman Khalif Rainey.

The omnibus amendment allocates funding to support initiatives including; adding funding to the Health Department for a Birthing Moms Pilot Project; a trauma informed care marketing campaign; funding for additional Operations Driver Workers; restoring biweekly street sweeping; position authority and funding for a Healthy Food Access Coordinator; additional support for Earn and Learn; $100,000 for residents to participate in the budget process and determine its allocation; increased funding for litter cans; creation of a Reckless Driving Task Force recommendations special fund account; and funding for an Emergency Housing Program.

-More-
“The last couple of weeks have been a journey for us all as we figure out the best ways to remain fiscally responsible while still providing critical services to the community,” said Alderwoman Coggs. “The creative approaches taken in this amendment reflect the hard work and dedication of many Council members as we all work to address important issues that residents throughout the city face daily.”

The full Common Council will meet on Friday, November 8 to discuss and approve the final 2020 city budget.

-30-