



117 W. Duval Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Council Chamber, 1st Floor, City Hall

**Special Committee on
Duval DOGE
February 18, 2026
Meeting Minutes**

Attendance: Committee Members Salem (Chair), Diamond, Gay, and Miller; CM Lahnen

Also: Brian Parks and Kim Taylor, Auditor's Office; Mary Staffopoulos, OGC; Colleen Hampsey, Council Research

Meeting convened: 11:00 am

Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Salem convened the meeting and called for introductions.

Public Comment

John Nooney

Update on Telehealth

CM Diamond presented an update on the document requests regarding Telehealth. He said that the first batch of documents prompted additional inquiries, and that many of the subsequent documents and text/email records received were redacted. CM Diamond said that Telescope Health has indicated they will not respond to further document requests unless the City pays for their legal fees. CM Diamond said that contractually Telescope is obligated to comply with the requests, otherwise the next step may be to have a council standing committee, most likely Finance, issue a subpoena.

Update on the 2% Lapse

Ms. Taylor, Council Auditor, talked about Ordinance 2026-100, introduced at council on February 10th, that appropriates \$4,550,172. A portion of that appropriation (\$2,275,086) is from the Council 2% Extraordinary Lapse – Contingency account and will be used to provide part of the funding for the completion grant for the Gateway Jax Project. Ms. Taylor indicated that this appropriation reduces the roughly \$5.8 million in savings from the 2% lapse by half.

City's Group Health Plan Review - The Bailey Group

Mr. Bailey, Bailey Group, offered an update on the review of the City's Group Health Plan. Mr. Bailey spoke about the pharmacy analysis component of the plan review. He indicated that pharmacy costs per member per month for peer organizations are lower than the City's under the current plan. He highlighted the cost for specialty drugs, which are utilized by 3.8% of members. Mr. Bailey talked about the costs for various "indications" diseases/disorders, the top ten of which account for 78.2% of the total gross pharmacy costs. He also spoke about indications which require specialty drugs attributing to 38.5% of the total gross cost, and the most frequently prescribed medications representing 57.1% of the total gross cost. There was discussion about GLP-1 drugs prescribed for diabetes but also commonly used for weight loss.

Mr. Bailey talked about brand medications and patents, for which \$3,305,993 in brand drugs are losing patent protection by 2030. Mr. Bailey spoke about rebate practices, administrative fees, and potential savings from carved out pharmacy alternatives. There was discussion about the savings experienced by Police and Fire, due to the pharmacy carve out they implemented. Mr. Bailey said that changes made to the Group Health Plan would be internal contractual changes and will not impact members' premiums. CM Salem noted that the Administration is responsible for the negotiations with providers, and that council may only make recommendations. CM Lahnen asked about excluded drugs, and the contract term with Florida Blue which runs through 2027. CM Gay expressed support for pharmacy cost savings. CM Miller conveyed appreciation for the Bailey Groups' review.

Comments from Committee

Chair Salem said that at the next meeting there will be an update about homelessness from JFRD and a discussion about cultural service grants with Ms. Donovan from the Cultural Council. At the March 17th meeting, there will be an update from JTA. CM Diamond talked about his idea and upcoming legislation for the creation of a new standing committee to provide financial/audit oversight.

Chair Salem adjourned the meeting at 12:11 pm.

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research
CHampsey@coj.net 904.255.5151
Posted: 2.23.26 5:00 pm