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COMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT APRIL 11th, 2024

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City Council Rules of Order, the Committee on Workforce Development submits the following Monthly Rule 45 Report for Thursday, April 11th, 2024 .

Date, Time & Location of Meeting: On April 11th 2024, in room 201A of City Hall at 9:30am.

Member Attendance: The following members were present: Chairperson Rodriguez (22), Vice Chairperson Gutierrez (14), Alderman Yancy (5), Alderman Hall (6), Alderman Beale (9), Alderman Chico (10), Alderwoman Ramirez (12), Alderman Quinn (13), Alderman Coleman (16), Alderman Curtis (18), Alderman Taliaferro (29), Alderman Ramirez-Rosa (35), Alderman Sposato (38), Alderperson Vasquez (40), Alderwoman Clay (46)

Non-Member Attendance: Alderman Burnett (27), Alderman Villegas (36), Alderwoman Manaa-Hoppenworth

Chairperson Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 9:45am. There were two items on the Agenda.

- 1) Approval of March 14th Rule 45 Report
- 2) O2023-0002891 – An Amendment of Municipal Code Section 2-74-020 regarding veteran preference initiatives and requirements.

Chairperson Rodriguez conducted a roll call to establish a quorum.

After determining a quorum existed of present members, the Chair acknowledged non-members present at the meeting. Before moving on to public comment the Chair asked those members present to allow by Rule 59 for the remote participation of three members, Ald. Coleman, Ald. Clay, and Ald Ramirez-Rosa. A motion was made and accepted by Alderman Yancy to allow remote participation and those online were granted access to the meeting.

Chairperson Rodriguez then noted that there were three people who signed up for public comment. and that we would use the first thirty minutes to allow those members to speak.

The following members of the public spoke during public comment: Leon Carter spoke in support of having veterans preference in City hiring, Zoe Leigh spoke in support of having veterans preference in City hiring, and Tiwon Sims spoke about a dispute with Get Fresh produce.

Agenda Item 1 – Rule 45 Report

Following public comment, the Chairperson moved on to the first item on the agenda, approval of the March 14th report. Alderman Vasquez moved to accept the report and it was approved by a voice vote of the members present.

Agenda Item 2 – O2023-0002891

Chairperson Rodriguez acknowledged the ordinance sponsor, Alderman Villegas, as well as the presence of DHR Commissioner Blakemore and the City of Chicago's Director of Veterans Affairs Kevin Barszcz.

Before starting with questions, Chairperson Rodriguez asked that the substitute ordinance be approved with some clean up language. Vice Chair Gutierrez moved passage of the substitute and it was approved by voice vote of all members present.

Chairperson Rodriguez then asked for the ordinance's sponsor Alderman Villegas to speak to the purpose of the ordinance. Following comments from Alderman Villegas the Chairperson then asked for testimony from Commissioner Blakemore. Commissioner Blakemore answered a few questions about how hiring for the City works and how a veteran's preference would work in hiring.

Following questions directed to Commissioner Blakemore, the Chairperson then took testimony from Director Barszcz about the City's programs to support veterans currently employed and how the proposed ordinance would assist veterans.

With no other questions from the members present, Chairperson Rodriguez asked for a motion to approve the substitute ordinance, SO2023-0002891. Alderman Taliaferro moved to approve the substitute ordinance, and the substitute ordinance was unanimously approved by a voice vote.

The Chairperson then asked that there being no further business before the Committee, he get a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was moved by Alderman Chico, and with no objections the Committee was adjourned.