



CITY OF CHICAGO

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY HALL-ROOM 200  
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

ALDERMAN JASON C. ERVIN  
CHAIRMAN

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COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT  
APRIL 2<sup>nd</sup> AND 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026

(Amended with Clerical Correction)

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City Council Rules of Order, the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations (CBGO) submits the following Monthly Rule 45 Report for APRIL 2026 Meeting.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup>**

Date, Time & Location of Meeting: On April 2, 2026, at 10:00 A.M., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a meeting in City Hall, Council Chamber, 121 N. LaSalle Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

Attendance: The following members were present: Chairman Ervin (28), Vice Chair Lee (11), Dowell (3), Robinson (4), Yancy (5), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Beale (9), Quinn (13), Lopez (15), Moore (17), O'Shea (19), Mosley (21), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Taliaferro (29), Cardona (31), Conway (34), Villegas (36), Sposato (38), Nugent (39), Knudsen (43) and Hadden (49).

The following members attended virtually: Ramirez (12), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Quezada (35) and Vasquez (40).

The following members were absent: La Spata (1), Rodriguez (22), Mitts (37), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42), Martin (47) and Silverstein (50).

Internal witnesses present: **Office of Budget and Management (OBM)**: Chloe Belczak, Deputy Budget Director; **Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH)**: Laura Cowling, Projects Administrator, Madeline Shea, Assistant Commissioner; **Department of Planning and Development (DPD)**: Antionette W. Maxwell, Financial Planning Analyst and Kyle Brandon, Assistant Commissioner.

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations addressed the following items:

- **Approval of the Monthly Rule 45 Report of March 2026.**

1. **Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2026 amendment within Fund 925.**  
(O2026-0024352)
2. **Transfer of funds within Committee on Finance for Year 2026.**  
(O2026-0023902)
3. **Transfer of funds within 40<sup>th</sup> Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2026.**  
(O2026-0023902)
4. **Call on Mayor and administration to implement 2026 budget package.**  
(R2026-0023372)

Chairman Ervin called meeting to order at 10:36am, took roll call, and recognized a quorum was present. He then opened the floor for public comments. The following speakers were acknowledged and given three minutes each for commentaries:

- Jessica Jackson
- George Blakemore
- Lanetta Thomas

The Chair concluded the public comment period and then made a Motion to allow Committee Members Aldermen Sigcho-Lopez, Rodriguez-Sanchez, Quezada and Vasquez to join virtually pursuant to Rule 59, so moved by [inaudible]. Chairman queried all in favor to signify by saying Aye, any opposed? Hearing no objections, the Chairman decreed the Ayes have it, duly recorded the Aldermen added to the roll for quorum and verbally checked to confirm Alders' presence. Aldermen Vasquez and Quezada confirmed their attendance. Chairman Ervin proceeded to the approval of the Rule 45 Report of March 2026, which report was transmitted electronically to the Membership. The Chair asked if there were any requests for discussion. Hearing no such requests, Alderman Yancy moved to approve the report. A vote was taken, and the report was approved.

The Chairman then continued to Item #1 on the agenda (a direct introduction), a communication recommending the adoption of an Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2026 amendment within Fund 925. Chloe Belczak, Deputy Budget Director, was acknowledged and provided a narrative on the ordinance amending the Fund 925 Appropriation, an additional \$10,052.00 in Federal and State grant awards for the Chicago Department of Public Health and Department of Planning and Development. The Deputy Budget Director concluded, and the Chair opened the floor for questions and comments, recognizing Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Lopez moved to recess until 11:30a. Alderman Hadden then made a motion for an explanation. Chairman Ervin moved to an immediate roll call on the tabling of the motion to recess. Alderman Hadden withdrew her motion, and Alderman Lopez proceeded to explain why he would like to recess, stating that there were three iterations of the agenda issued on March 31<sup>st</sup> which included a resolution sponsored by Alderman Nugent with regards to the full implementation and execution of the fiscal year 2026 budget. Then yesterday a different variation of today's agenda was published that excluded that said resolution. He further reiterated that they would like to recess until 11:30a, when the amended agenda with the resolution was properly noticed, so there can be a discussion on the resolution. The Chair then called Alderman Hadden who asked if we could hear more about the items that our colleagues want to have heard and if there was a threat of taking action against items already on the agenda if you don't get what you want? The Chair then provided a point of clarification, saying the initial resolution was intended to be on the February agenda and was not, I did put it on the March agenda after a discussion with the

Budget Director who was prepared to move forward with the discussion on that. Unfortunately, there were some family matters that prevented her from being present, so that is why it was taken off the agenda which I informed the maker of the resolution this morning. I thought that it was important to have the person that is doing the implementation be here for that conversation. Chairman Ervin then acknowledged Alderman Nugent who noted that the Chairman did relay that to her this morning and said she doesn't believe we need the Budget Director to pass this resolution but if we feel it's imperative to have somebody from the budget office, I'm sure that there is somebody from the team that could be here. She then requested that we move on the motion to recess until 11:30a to come back and deal with this matter. Alderman Nugent concluded and the Chair recognized Alderman O'Shea who voiced his comments on the matter. The Chair then stated that the motion to recess was on the floor, a roll call vote was taken, by a vote of 15 to 5, the motion to recess passed and Chair declared recess, and acknowledged meeting to resume at 11:30a.

The Chairman called the meeting back to order at 11:30a, he then made a motion to accept Item #1 of the agenda, so moved, requested all in favor signify by saying Aye, any opposed? Recorded that in the opinion of the Chair the Ayes have it, the matter was approved and would be reported out at the next City Council Meeting on April 15, 2026.

Chairman Ervin proceeded to address Items #2-3 of the agenda which were Transfer of Funds within the Committee on Finance and the 40<sup>th</sup> Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2026. He called for a Motion to Pass. Chairman Dowell was called and briefly explained the transfer of funds for the Committee on Finance which is being used to update the system so that claims and small claims can be filed online. She thanked the Chairman then concluded. The Chair asked if there were any questions. Alderman Rodriguez-Sanchez informed the Chairman that she was present virtually. He replied that she will be recorded as present for purposes of quorum. Chair queried the members for additional questions, seeing there were none, acknowledged Alderman Dowell's Motion for Move Do Pass on Items#2-3, requested all in favor signify by saying Aye, any opposed? Recorded that in the opinion of the Chair the Ayes have it, the matter was approved and would be reported out at the next City Council Meeting on April 15, 2026.

The Chairman took a moment to ask if there are any other members that were not here earlier that is here now? Alderman Ramirez replied. He then made a motion to allow Alderman Ramirez to participate virtually, so moved by [inaudible], Chairman queried all in favor to signify by saying Aye, any opposed? Hearing no objections, the Chairman decreed the Ayes have it, duly recorded the Alderman added to the roll for quorum. He then proceeded to Item#4, a resolution calling on Mayor and administration to implement 2026 budget package. Further, explaining that per Assistant Corporation Counsel Rey Phillips Santos, we can have a discussion on this, however we're unable to take final action, which means we can't vote on it. We would have to come back at a separate time to actually vote on it, with it being properly noticed for voting. The Chair recognized Alderman Beale who stated that was incorrect, the resolution was duly noticed 48 hours in advance, we can hear this and pass this resolution as such. The Chairman deferred to Assistant Corporation Counsel. Rey Phillips Santos, City of Chicago Department of Law identified himself for the record then proceeded to explain the foundation of the opinion and the process in terms of agendas and the Open Meetings Act. Further pointing out the 48-hour rule, the timeline of the postings and how it could appear to a member of the public. Chairman Ervin called Alderman Lopez who made a motion to move do pass on the resolution. The Chair requested all in favor signify by saying Aye, any opposed? A roll call vote was requested, the Chairman took roll, by a vote of 18 to 4, the resolution passed and was to be reported out at the next City Council Meeting on April 15, 2026.

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations having no further business, on Motion made by Alderman Hadden for adjournment, acknowledged all Ayes and no Nays, and the meeting was adjourned.

*(A video recording of the full meetings with committee members, internal and external experts, as well as any/all public speaking content can be reviewed on the Chicago City Clerk website under Committee Meeting Web Stream Archive dated April 2nd)*

## **MONDAY, APRIL 27<sup>th</sup>**

Date, Time & Location of Meeting: On April 27, 2026, at 10:00 A.M., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a meeting in City Hall, Council Chamber, 121 N. LaSalle Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

Attendance: The following members were present: Chairman Ervin (28), Vice Chair Lee (11), Dowell (3), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Ramirez (12), Quinn (13), Lopez (15), Moore (17), O'Shea (19), Mosley (21), Rodriguez (22), Scott (24), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Taliaferro (29), Cardona (31), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Quezada (35), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), Nugent (39), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42), Knudsen (43), Martin (47) and Hadden (49).

The following members attended virtually: Robinson (4), Yancy (5), Beale (9), Vasquez (40) and Silverstein (50).

The following members were absent: La Spata (1), Burnett (27), Conway (34), Rodriguez (22), Mitts (37), Napolitano (41), Martin (47) and Silverstein (50).

The following non-members were present: Cruz (30) and Waguespack (32).

Internal witnesses present: **Office of Budget and Management (OBM):** Annette Guzman, Budget Director; **Department of Finance (DOF):** Steven Mahr, Chief Financial Officer, Michael Belsky, City Comptroller; **Department of Planning and Development (DPD):** Ciere Boatright, Commissioner; **Department of Fleet and Facilities Management (2FM):** Julie Hernandez-Tomlins, Commissioner; **Department of Technology and Innovation (DTI):** Nick Lucius, Commissioner; **Chicago Department of Procurement Services (DPS):** Sharla Roberts, Chief Procurement Officer; **Department of Law (DOL):** Rey Phillips-Santos, Assistant Corporation Counsel Senior.

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations addressed the following items:

1. **Financial Overview of Q1 FY26.**  
**NO VOTE WILL BE TAKEN.**
2. **Progress of implementing efficiencies and other programmatic reform options identified in Financial and Strategic Reform Options Report.**  
**(R2026-0024924)**

Chairman Ervin called the subject matter hearing to order, took roll call, and recognized a quorum was present. He then opened the floor for public comments. The following speakers were acknowledged and given three minutes each for commentaries:

- George Blakemore
- Carl Gutierrez
- Charles Spence

The Chair concluded the public comment period and next addressed the Body. He conveyed the Committee would be hosting a Subject Matter Hearing on the financial overview for Q1 2026 anchored by the Mayor's Financial Team: OBM Budget Director Annette Guzman, Acting Chief Financial Officer Steven Mahr and Comptroller Michael Belsky, Department of Finance. The Power Point presentation covered the following content:

**Executing the FY2026 Budget: Implementation, Accountability, and Transparency**  
**Strategic Execution Framework**

1. Execution Framework and Operating Context
2. Implementation Across Workstreams
3. Public Safety Execution
4. Technology Enhancements
5. New Financial Initiatives
6. Financial Oversight and Transparency

At the conclusion of the presentation the Body engaged the Financial Team and Departments. There were robust discussions and questions exchanged between the Department Heads and Alders, after which the agenda moved forward to address Item #2, a resolution on the progress of implementing efficiencies and other programmatic reform options identified in Financial and Strategic Reform Options Report. On Do Pass Motion made by Vice Chair Lee, the Chairman solicited a vote, acknowledge all Ayes and no Nays, and the Resolution was passed, to be reported out at the May 20 City Council Meeting. Chairman then encouraged greater participating in upcoming budgetary meetings/hearings to bridge greater understanding and embrace sacrifices to best serve the citizens of their respective wards and city at-large. The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations having no further business, on Motion made by Alderman Moore for adjournment, Chairman acknowledged all Ayes and no Nays, and the meeting was adjourned.

*(A video recording of the full meetings with committee members, internal and external experts, as well as any/all public speaking content can be reviewed on the Chicago City Clerk website under Committee Meeting Web Stream Archive dated April 27<sup>th</sup>)*

Respectfully submitted by:



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Jason C. Ervin, Chairman  
Committee on the Budget and Government Operations