



CITY OF CHICAGO

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL-ROOM 200
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ALDERMAN JASON C. ERVIN
CHAIRMAN

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COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT
JUNE 2026

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 JUNE 2026.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15TH

Date, Time & Location of Meeting: On June 15, 2026, at 12:30 P.M., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a meeting in City Hall, Room 201-A, 121 N. LaSalle Street, 2nd Floor.

Attendance: The following members were present: Chairman Ervin (28), Vice-Chairman Lee (11), Yancy (5), Ramirez (12), Quinn (13), Lopez (15), Moore (16), Mosley (21), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Taliaferro (29), Cardona (31), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Quezada (35), Sposato (38), Nugent (39), Vasquez (40), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42), Hadden (49) and Silverstein (50).

The following members attended virtually: Robinson (4), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Rodriguez (22) and Mitts (37).

The following members were absent: La Spata (1), Dowell (3), Beale (9), O'Shea (19), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Conway (34), Villegas (36), Knudsen (43) and Martin (47).

Internal witnesses present: **Office of Budget and Management (OBM):** Chloe Belczak, Deputy Budget Director; **Department of Planning and Development (DPD):** Robert Bumpers, Financial Planning Analyst; **Department of Streets and Sanitation:** Chris Sauve, Deputy Commissioner; **Office of Public Safety Administration (OPSA):** Tomas Maulawin, Director of Grants Management, Dan Casey, Managing Deputy of PSIT; **Department of Environment (DOE):** Jared Policicchio, First Deputy Commissioner, Tasha Smith, Grants Research Specialist, Avi Bailon, Policy Analyst; **Department of Water Management (DWM):** Joel Vieyra, First Deputy Commissioner, Anthony Falada, Deputy Commissioner; **Department of Procurement Services (DPS):** Courtney Delgiudice, Managing Deputy Procurement Officer.

External witness present virtually: Randall Brown, Co-founder/CEO, Axiom Flame LLC

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

- **Approval of the Monthly Rule 45 Report of May 2026.**
- 1. Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2026 amendment within Fund 925. (O2026-0026183)**
- 2. Redevelopment Agreement with Axiom Flame LLC to provide Neighborhood Opportunity Fund (NOF) assistance for development of property at 2640-2646 West Madison Street in the 27th Ward. (O2026-0025476)**
- 3. Transfer of funds within 10th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2026. (O2026-0025280)**
- 4. Transfer of funds within 11th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2026. (O2026-0025442)**
- 5. Transfer of funds within 21st Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2026. (O2026-0025381)**
- 6. Transfer of funds within 33rd Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2026. (O2026-0025427)**
- 7. Transfer of funds within 47th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2026. (O2026-0025470)**
- 8. Transfer of funds within Committee on Health and Human Relations for Year 2026. (O2026-0025432)**

Chairman Ervin called meeting 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:

- Michael Harris
- George Blakemore
- Qoshona Harris

The Chair concluded the public comment period, took a moment to add Alderman Burnett to the roll then made a Motion to allow Committee Members Aldermen Harris, Mitts, Robinson, Rodriguez and Mitchell to join virtually pursuant to Rule 59, so moved by Alderman Vasquez. 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. Chairman Ervin proceeded to the approval of the Rule 45 Report of May 2026, which report was transmitted electronically to the Membership. The Chair asked if there were any requests for discussion. Hearing no such requests, Alderman Taliaferro 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 of a communication recommending 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 \$15,745,000 total in Federal, State, Local/Private and Entitlement grant awards to the Department of Family and Support Services for the Consolidated Appropriations Act community project funding program; Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, Chicago Police Department for the Chicago Camera Program, Department of Environment for the Bloomberg Philanthropies Youth Climate Action Fund Program; Department of Streets and Sanitation for the Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Program; Department of Water Management for the Rehabilitation Lead Service Line Replacement Program. The Managing Deputy Budget Director concluded, and the Chair opened the floor for questions and comments, seeing there were none, acknowledged a Motion for Move Do Pass on Item #1, Alderman Reilly made said Motion, followed by Chair requesting all in favor to signify by saying Aye, any opposed? Hearing all Ayes, no Nays, recorded that in the opinion of the Chair the Ayes have it. The Fund 925 Ordinance was approved and was to be reported at the next City Council Meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2026.

Chairman Ervin advanced agenda to address Item# 2, a Redevelopment Agreement with Axiom Flame LLC to provide Neighborhood to provide Neighborhood Opportunity Fund (NOF) assistance for development of property at 2640-2646 W. Madison Street in the 27th Ward. The Chairman recognized Robert Bumpers, DPD for the purpose of providing a presentation on the RDA. The Chair briefly took a moment to acknowledge Alderman Maria Hadden for purposes of quorum. The speaker greeted the Chairman and committee members and stated for the record that he was Robert Bumpers, Financial Planning Analyst in the Department of Planning & Development. He conveyed being here today to request the Committee's approval of a Neighborhood Opportunity Fund Redevelopment Agreement for Axiom Flame LLC for the purpose of authorizing \$1.8 million in NOF funding for the creation of Axiom Flame's new permanent offices and studios. They will transform a vacant warehouse in East Garfield Park into a state-of-the-art content production studio, securing permanent home for their business, the expansion will increase production capacity, reduce outsourcing costs, and introduce new revenue streams through studio rentals. Also, the grant will create jobs for local creatives, support small businesses, and provide accessible production space for independent creators. DPD expressed their support for the project. Mr. Bumpers concluded the presentation and thanked the Body, bidding for its favorable consideration for support and acknowledged he and Randall Brown, Co-founder/CEO of Axiom welcome any questions. The Chairman then recognized Alderman Burnett who voiced his support of this effort and requested his colleagues to do the same, then concluded. Chair Ervin asked if there were any other questions then recognized Alderman Reilly who stated he wasn't familiar with Axiom Flame, inquired if it is a nonprofit organization that assists young creators? Who are we giving money to? Mr. Bumpers responded that it is a for-profit business who is going to create an office and production space in which they will lease out to content creators. Alderman Reilly continued asking about the project's budget; NOF \$1.8 million, total project cost \$2,614,997 and if there are any dollars that must be paid back. Mr. Bumpers replied that the NOF grant does not have to be repaid unless they default. Alderman Reilly then asked if a "but-for-test" was applied when evaluating applicants for NOF, just as we do for TIF funds and what was the result of that besides it being recommended here today? Mr. Bumpers responded that they

would not have been able to complete the project without the city's help, we were the last money to help them reach the finish line with their project. Alderman Reilly thanked the Chairman then concluded. Chairman Ervin asked if there were any other questions, seeing there were none, the Chair acknowledged Aldermen Burnett's Motion for Move Do Pass, requesting all in favor signify by saying Aye, any opposed? Recorded all Ayes, no Nays and in the opinion of the Chair the Ayes have it, and the matter was approved and would be reported at the next City Council Meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2026.

Chairman then conveyed that the final set of Items 3 through 8, were Transfers of Fund Ordinances. A substitute was proposed for Items #3, the 10th Ward, Item #4, the 11th Ward, Item #7, the 47th Ward and Item #8, the Committee on Health and Human Relations, which substitute ordinances had been distributed to Committee Members, then queried for a Motion to accept the substitute, so Moved by Alderman Hadden. He queried for all in favor to signify by saying Aye, any opposed? He recorded all Ayes and no Nays and that in the opinion of the Chair the Ayes have it and the Substitutes are now before us so we will entertain a Motion to pass Items 3 through 8, which are Transfers of Funds in the 10th, 11th, 21st, 33rd and 47th Wards and the Committee on Health and Human Relations, all for Year 2026. So Moved by Vice Chair Lee. The Chair then queried for all in favor to signify by saying Aye, any opposed? There were all Ayes, no Nays, and the Motion was recorded as approved and would be reported out at the next regular City Council Meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2026. The Chairman then paused for a moment to recognize Alderman Napolitano for purpose of quorum.

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations having no further business, on motion made by Vice Chair Lee for adjournment, the Chairman acknowledged all ayes and no nays, and the meeting was duly 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 June 15th, respectively.)

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JCE', written over a horizontal line.

Alderman Jason C. Ervin
Chairman, Committee on Budget
& Government Operations