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**COUNCIL CHAMBER**  
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**COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**  
 ECONOMIC, CAPITAL & TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT  
**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**  
 ZONING, LANDMARKS & BUILDING STANDARDS  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 BUDGET & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
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 CONTRACTING OVERSIGHT & EQUITY  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 LICENSE & CONSUMER PROTECTION  
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 HOUSING & REAL ESTATE  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 COMMITTEES & RULES  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 FINANCE

**MONTHLY REPORT — APRIL 2024**

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City Council Rules of Order, the **Committee on Economic, Capital, and Technology Development** submits the following Monthly Report.

On **Tuesday, April 9, 2024**, the Committee on Economic, Capital, and Technology Development held an in-person meeting.

Chairman Villegas called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL**

The following members of the Committee were present as determined during roll call, Alderpersons: Villegas (36), Mosley (21), La Spata (1), Hall (6), Mitchell (7), Chico (10), Lee (11), Gutierrez (14), Cruz (30), Cardona (31), Waguespack (32), Mitts (37), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42), Manaa-Hoppenworth (48). With sufficient members present, quorum was established.

*Chairman Villegas noted the presence of Ald. Burnett.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. George Blakemore spoke on miscellaneous matters.
2. Tiwon Sims spoke on miscellaneous matters.

**APPROVAL OF RULE 45 MONTHLY REPORT**

- Approval of the March 2024 Monthly Report

+There were no corrections or comments.

*Ald. Waguespack motioned to approve the report. The motion passed without objection by the same roll call that was applied to determine quorum.*

## ITEM 1

Items 1 on the agenda pertained to a Mayoral appointment.

### **1. A2024-0008353** Appointment of Nick Lucius as Chief Information Officer.

- *Mr. Lucius spoke regarding his professional experiences and qualifications for the appointed position.*
- *Mr. Lucius stated that he was excited about establishing the new Department of Technology and Innovation (DTI). He and his team will focus this year on delivering a modern data platform for City employees which will allow them to access data sets from one single source.*
- *Ald. Lee asked Mr. Lucius what would be his top priorities in the City's tech modernization efforts (Creating and fostering a new mindset about technology to contract better and execute projects better. He wants all the City departments and agencies to adopt the new mindset. They should have official accountability and full engagement with their tech upgrade projects).*
- *Ald. Manaa-Hoppenworth asked how improved tech can help small businesses (all departments want to improve their tech systems to provide a better customer experience; DTI will work with the departments to roll out better systems). She asked how the aldermanic ward offices would feel the impact of future departmental tech upgrades (The goal is to make the internal aldermanic tech processes faster, better and easier. Improving systems and making them more user-friendly will also enhance City residents' accessibility and equity).*
- *Ald. Reilly noted that alders need to start from scratch when they first open their offices. He also suggested that the City should consolidate its billing processes. He mentioned the Dept. of Buildings does not have a user-friendly payment system. (DOB built its payment system years ago, but billing is a logical area to make payments uniform citywide).*
- *Ald. La Spata asked about deferred maintenance for the City's IT systems (City departments must have the mentality that continuous improvements are part of the modern-day tech landscape. If they do that, then systems will not constantly be in maintenance mode because the systems are constantly being improved and made better).*
- *Ald. Hall asked about the City's future approach to dealing with the new wave of hacking that has been occurring in other industries (City will have a Chief Information Security Officer and will have a security team responsible for day-to-day security activities. Also, DTI must educate the City workforce to be vigilant against possible hacks/attacks). Ald. Hall inquired if a financial investment would be needed to accomplish these goals (Yes, but the funds are already available, plus grants from the federal govt., to utilize for this purpose).*
- *Ald. Hall inquired about the demographic makeup of DTI (of 57 employees, 32% White, 23% Black, 15% Hispanic and 25% Asian. The department will also be hiring almost 100 additional persons).*
- *Ald. Mitchell inquired about contractor diversity (Mr. Lucius is fully committed to have a diverse group of contractors).*
- *Chairman Villegas thanked the ECTD committee members for their support in re-creating a stand-alone City technology department, now DTI. He is excited to have a new CIO being appointed, but he will need to be supported, so savings can be created and revenue will be made available from the savings. He stated that savings should be reinvested back into DTI).*
- *Ald. Manaa-Hoppenworth motioned to recommend approval of the appointment.*
- *The item passed without objection by the same roll call vote applied to determine quorum.*

## **ITEMS 2-10**

Items 2-10 on the agenda were appointments to various Special Service Areas that were heard and voted on collectively.

The following appointments were considered:

**2. A2024-0008354** Appointment of Joseph Chico as member of Special Service Area No. 5, Commercial Avenue Commission

**3. A2024-0008355** Appointment of Jessica Smith as member of Special Service Area No. 5, Commercial Avenue Commission

**4. A2024-0008356** Appointment of P. Matt Lederer as member of Special Service Area No. 27, West Lakeview Commission

**5. A2024-0008357** Appointment of Eva A. Baldinger as member of Special Service Area No. 29-2014, West Town Commission

**6. A2024-0008358** Appointment of Sara M. Dulkan as member of Special Service Area No. 29-2014, West Town Commission

**7. A2024-0008359** Appointment of Chauntee A. McDonald as member of Special Service Area No. 42, 71st/Stony Commission

**8. A2024-0008360** Appointment of Jelena Cvetkovska as member of Special Service Area No. 60, Albany Park Commission

**9. A2024-0008361** Appointment of Kurt L. Mamon as member of Special Service Area No. 60, Albany Park Commission

**10. A2024-0008362** Appointment of Charles Newsome as member of Special Service Area No. 61-2023, Hyde Park Commission

- *Chairman Villegas noted that Mary O'Connor, Deputy Commissioner at the Department of Planning and Development, was available to answer any questions.*
- *Chairman Villegas asked Committee members if they would like to make a statement or ask any questions.*
- *Chairman Villegas noted that the ECTD team had received indications of support or non-objection, for the appointments, from the following City Council members associated with each Special Service Area:*

Alderspersons Clay, Martin, La Spata, Waguespack, Harris, Robinson, Yancy, Mitchell, Chico, Burnett, Rodriguez-Sanchez, Ramirez-Rosa, Villegas, Vasquez, Lawson.

- *Chairman Villegas noted the appointees were unable to appear for today's meeting, but he supported their appointments and thanked them for their service to the City.*
- *Ald. Waguespack motioned to recommend approval of the appointments.*

- *The items passed without objection by the same roll call vote applied to determine quorum, and Chairman Villegas stated that the do-pass recommendations would be reported out at the following City Council meeting.*
- *Chairman Villegas congratulated the appointees.*

## **ITEMS 11**

Items 11 is a tax incentive ordinance.

**11. O2024-0008396** Support for renewal of Class 6(b) tax incentive for property at 4900-4940 W Grand Ave

*Ald. Lee called the item and introduced Robert Bumpers of the Dept. of Panning & Development.*

*Mr. Bumpers presented the development proposal and 6(b) tax incentive renewal details. The project would retain 25 jobs and create 2 new full-time positions at a metal fabrication company*

*Ald. Villegas expressed his support for the 6(b) tax incentive for this business.*

*Ald. Waguespack moved to pass the ordinance, and it passed, without objection, by the same roll call vote applied to determine quorum.*

*There being no further business, Chairman Villegas asked for a motion to adjourn.*

*Ald. Lee motioned to adjourn the meeting by the same roll call that was applied to determine quorum. Hearing no objection, the meeting was adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted by



Alderman Gilbert Villegas

Chairman  
Committee on Economic, Capital and Technology Development