

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT CITY COUNCIL CITY HALL - ROOM 300 121 NORTH LASALLE STREET CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

ALDERMAN MICHELE SMITH CHAIR

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MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT September 2021

On September 9th, 2021, at 9:00 am, the Committee on Ethics and Government Oversight held a remote meeting pursuant to applicable law.

The purpose of this meeting was to hear the nominations for the Board of Ethics for Mr. William F. Conlon and Norma Manjarrez.

The following Aldermen were in attendance:

Members: Smith (43) Martin (47), Reilly (42), Dowell (3), Sadlowski-Garza (10), Daley Thompson (11), Curtis (18), Cardona Jr. (31), Waguespack (32) Rodriguez Sanchez (33), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Nugent (39), Vasquez (40), Cappleman (46), Hadden (49)

Non-Members: Burnett (27)

Chair Michele Smith opened the meeting with a statement regarding the impracticability to meet in person and took a roll call to establish a quorum, as reflected above. The floor was opened for public comment.

The following number of speakers signed up to provide public comment: 1

- 1. The Committee on Ethics and Government Oversight addressed the following item(s):
 - a. (A2021-127): An appointment of Norma Manjarrez as Member of the Board of Ethics.
 - i. **Sponsor**: Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot
 - Ms. Manjarrez gave an opening statement followed by two
 questions from Alderman Waguespack who questioned her
 stance on the Board of Ethics position on taking a stance on
 ethical issues in sister agencies. Steve Berlin, Executive
 Director of the Board of Ethics, clarified that the sister agencies

have their own ethics officers with that the Board of Ethics works with. Secondly, Alderman Waguespack asked Ms. Manjarrez' opinion on the reputation of Chicago's corrupt past. She stated she believes that there is always room for growth and hopes to help ensure these issues are remedied if she is confirmed. Alderman Reilly moved to approve the nomination of Ms. Manjarrez by the same roll call that was used to establish quorum. No objections were heard and it passed.

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- b. (A2021-126): A reappointment of William F. Conlon as member of the Board of Ethics.
 - i. Sponsor: Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot
 - 1. Mr. Conlon gave a brief opening statement on his past experiences and his recent tenure as the Chairman of the Board of Ethics. Alderman Waguespack asked what type of accomplishments he is most proud of. Mr. Conlon stated he was proud of the recent ruling that reemphasized the need for an appropriate relationship between subordinates and superiors and that work must stay within the boundaries of the job description. Secondly, he talked about their recent crosslobbying restrictions. Alderman Rodriguez-Sanchez asked what can be done to clarify the cross-lobbying restrictions so that Alderman do not use them as a way to turn away constituents. Mr. Berlin stated that that is not how the law is written but that more education can be done to make this clear to the public. Alderman Waguespack moved to approve the nomination of Mr. Conlon by the same roll call that was used to establish quorum. No objections were heard and it passed.

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Alderman Waguespack motioned to adjourn the meeting. Meeting Adjourned.

Michele Smith, Chair

Committee on Ethics and Government Oversight