



CITY OF CHICAGO

★
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
CITY COUNCIL
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ALDERMAN JASON C. ERVIN
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COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT
MARCH 2024

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 MARCH 2024.

Date, Time & Location of Meeting: On March 12, 2024, at 11:00 A.M., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a meeting in City Hall, Council Chamber, 121 N. LaSalle Street, 2nd Floor.

Attendance: The following members were present: Chairman Ervin (28), Vice-Chairman Lee (11), La Spata (1), Dowell (3), Yancy (5), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Ramirez (12), Quinn (13), Lopez (15), Moore (17), O'Shea (19), Mosley (21), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Burnett (27), Cardona (31), Conway (34), Sposato (38), Nugent (39), Vasquez (40), Napolitano (41) and Silverstein (50).

The following members were present virtually: Robinson (4), Rodriguez (22), Scott (24), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Ramirez-Rosa (35) and Mitts (37).

The following members were absent: Taliaferro (29), Villegas (36), Reilly (42), Knudsen (43), Martin (47) and Hadden (49).

The following non-members were present: Coleman (16), Curtis (18), Lawson (44) and Hoppenworth (48).

Internal witnesses present were: Matt Schmitz, Managing Deputy Budget Director, Office of Budget Management (OBM); Raabiah Ali, Director of Grants Management, Alyse Kittner, Projects Administrator, Regina Meza Jimenez, Assistant Commissioner for Grants, Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Mark Chapulis, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Fleet & Facility Management.

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

- **Approval of the Monthly Rule 45 Report of February 2024.**

Chairman Ervin made change to the agenda order, calling Item #2 for initial discussion, an Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2024 amendment within Fund 925. The Chair made a motion to accept a substitute ordinance on item #2, Alderman La Spata so moved, hearing no objection, the item was adopted. Matthew Schmitz, Managing Deputy Budget Director was acknowledged and provided a narrative on the substitute ordinance amending the 925 Fund Appropriation of \$4,107,769 Federal COVID 19 relief dollars for the Department of Public Health. The Chairman opened the floor for questions and comments.

The Chair recognized Vice Chairman Lee who requested more detail on what the Building Epidemiology and Health IT Capacity entails, there appears to be 2 items for that. Allyse Kittner responded, there are 2 projects: Genomics Sequence with Rush University and Waste Water Surveillance Work with University of Illinois at Chicago and Discovery Partners Institute. Vice Chair Lee concluded and the Chair next acknowledged Alderman Conway followed by Alderman Dowell. Alderman Conway voiced his support of the allocation of funds. Alderman Dowell requested the number of infectious disease laboratories and locations. Allyse replied, CDPH supports a sequencing laboratory at Rush University, and we utilize the Illinois Department of Public Health laboratories for diagnostic testing, there is one branch of IDPH laboratories in the city of Chicago. The Chairman acknowledged no further questions from the body, Alderman Dowell moved do pass, hearing no objections, the item was approved by the same roll call vote used to establish a quorum. The item passed and was to be reported out at the March 20, 2024, City Council Meeting.

Chairman Ervin then called for discussion of Item #1, the appointment of Julie Hernandez-Tomlin as Commissioner of Department of Fleet and Facility Management. The Chair introduced Julie Hernandez-Tomlin, who provided an overview of her experience/qualifications in city government. The Chairman then opened the floor for questions/comments by both members and non-members alike, beginning with Alderman Napolitano.

Alderman Napolitano, followed by Cardona the Sposato who welcomed Julie back, all voicing their support of the Mayor's appointment. The Chair then recognized Alderman Dowell who stated her support of the appointment then asked what the major priorities will be coming into 2FM. Julie replied, I have been focusing on the largest bureau, which is Fleet and Facilities, making sure the fleets are being maintained/repared in a timely fashion, turnaround time is accessible for CPD and CFD, that our facilities are energy efficient and accessible with ADA compliance. Alderman Dowell asked if we could look into more ways of saving money on leases for some of our departmental operations. Julie responded, will do. The Chair recognized Alderman Burnett who welcomed Julie back also, then asked if her department handled the environmental studies on the city owned vacant lots. Julie said yes. Alderman Burnett asked if it is accurate to say there is only one person doing the studies, and expressed his concern with the amount of time it takes to sell vacant lots and the adverse effects it has on the economy and our wards. Julie replied that there is a shortage of staff, we do have a few vacancies and will be posting those positions within the next quarter. Chairman Ervin echoed the same concerns as Alderman Burnett and asked if we could look at the possibility of contracting out that service as a short-term solution to clear the backlog. The Chair next acknowledged Alderman Curtis. Alderman Curtis conveyed his support of the Mayor's appointment then commented on an issue that he hears often with reference to the garbage truck fleet and how they are leaking in the alleys, after which Alderman Moore voiced his support and echoed Alderman Burnett's comments in regard to the vacant lots' issue and asked if we can get that corrected. He also asked about the type of vacancies and the number of vacancies in 2FM. Julie answered, I am focusing on trades, which is 90% of our staff, we have 23 different unions that work with us, our top position is fleet auto machinists which has 33 vacancies. These are hard to fill positions so I would like to talk to our unions to form an apprenticeship program to teach the youth and get them interested in the trades. Alderman Moore next requested a list of the 23 different unions and the number of vacancies in

Chairman Ervin next moved to address Item #8, a transfer of funds within 26th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2024 then acknowledged that there was a substitute and made a motion to accept, Alderman Harris moved to accept, hearing no objections, the substitute ordinance was approved. The Chair opened the floor for questions, being none, Alderman La Spata moved do pass on Item #8, hearing no objections, the item was approved by the same roll call used to establish a quorum and will be reported out at the next City Council Meeting on March 20, 2024.

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations having no further business, on motion made by Chairman Ervin to recess until March 20th at 9 a.m.

Reconvened Meeting

Date, Time & Location of Meeting: On March 20, 2024, at 9:30 A.M., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations reconvened its meeting duly recessed on March 12th in City Hall, Council Chamber, 121 N. LaSalle Street, 2nd Floor.

Attendance: The following members were present: Chairman Ervin (28), Vice Chairman Lee (11), Dowell (3), Robinson (4), Yancy (5), Harris (8), Quinn (13), O'Shea (19), Burnett (27), Conway (34), Nugent (39), Knudsen (43) and Hadden (49).

The following members were present virtually: Moore (17), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33) and Silverstein (50).

The following members were absent: La Spata (1), Mitchell (7), Ramirez (12), Lopez (15), Mosley (21), Rodriguez (22), Scott (24), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Taliaferro (29), Cardona (31), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), Nugent (39), Vasquez (40), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42) and Martin (47).

Internal witnesses present were: Redeatu Kassa, Chief Assistant Corporation Counsel, Hillina Tamrat, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of Law (LAW).

Chairman Ervin called the meeting to order, explained this is a reconvened meeting to reconsider agenda items for the committee meeting that commenced and was recessed on March 12, 2024, in which public comment was held, therefore per the Department of Law public comment was not required, having been fulfilled on March 12th.

The Chairman next proceeded to Item #3, an amendment of Municipal Code Chapter 2-74 by adding new Section 2-74-075 establishing hiring preferences for residents of socioeconomically disadvantaged areas, and that there has been a substitute ordinance passed around to members. Do I have a motion to accept the substitute. So moved by Alderman Dowell, hearing no objections, the substitute was accepted. The Chair acknowledged Redeatu Kassa who gave testimony on the changes in the substitute ordinance.

The Chair took a moment to make a motion based on Rule 59 to allow remote participation of Committee Members Moore, Rodriguez-Sanchez, and Silverstein, so moved by Alderman Harris, all in favor signify by saying aye, any opposed no, the motion was approved, and the members were added to the role.