

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ECONOMIC, CAPITAL & TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS ZONING, LANDMARKS & BUDING STANDARDS BUDGET & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS CONTRACTING OVERSIGHT & EQUITY LICENSE & CONSUME PROTECTION HOUSING & REAL ESTATE COMMITTEES & RULES FINANCE

## MONTHLY REPORT — MARCH 2024

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

On **Thursday**, March 14, 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), Tabares (23), Cruz (30), Cardona (31), Waguespack (32), Mitts (37), Napolitano (41), Manaa-Hoppenworth (48). With sufficient members present, quorum was established.

Under Rule 59, Alderpersons Tabares and Napolitano requested that they be allowed to participate in the committee meeting remotely.

Alderman Mitchell motioned to allow Ald. Tabares and Ald. Napolitano to participate remotely. The motion passed without objection.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- 1. George Blakemore spoke on general matters.
- 2. Debbie A. McKnowns spoke regarding crime concerns in her neighborhood.

Chairman Villegas noted that no written comments were received by the ECTD committee.

#### **APPROVAL OF RULE 45 MONTHLY REPORT**

• Approval of the February 2024 Monthly Report

+There were no corrections or comments.

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

#### **ITEMS 1-11**

Items 1-11 on the agenda were appointments and reappointments to various Special Service Areas that were heard and voted on collectively.

The following appointments/reappointments were considered:

**1. A2024-0007825** Reappointment of Helen R. Bailey as member of Special Service Area No. 27, West Lakeview Commission

**2. A2024-0007826** Appointment of Jennifer Hesser as member of Special Service Area No. 76, North Michigan Avenue Commission

**3. A2024-0007827** Reappointment of Ric Porrez as member of Special Service Area No. 25, Little Village Commission

**4. A2024-0007829** Appointment of Robert L. Taylor as member of Special Service Area No. 43, Devon Avenue Commission

**5. A2024-0007830** Appointment of Angelica M. Marks as member of Special Service Area No. 61-2023, Hyde Park Commission

**6. A2024-0007831** Appointment of James A. Nurss as member of Special Service Area No. 61-2023, Hyde Park Commission

**7. A2024-0007832** Appointment of Mary J. Rogel as member of Special Service Area No. 61-2023, Hyde Park Commission

**8. A2024-0007833** Appointment of George W. Rumsey as member of Special Service Area No. 61-2023, Hyde Park Commission

**9. A2024-0007834** Appointment of Nancy H. Stanek as member of Special Service Area No. 61-2023, Hyde Park Commission

**10. A2024-0007835** Appointment of Eric L. Thompson as member of Special Service Area No. 61-2023, Hyde Park Commission

**11. A2024-0007837** Appointment of George W. Robnett III as member of Special Service Area No. 61-2023, Hyde Park Commission

Chairman Villegas noted that Tim Jeffries, Assistant Commissioner at the Department of Planning and Development, was available to answer any questions.

• Chairman Villegas noted that the ECTD team had received indications of support or nonobjection, for the appointments and reappointments, from the following City Council members associated with each Special Service Area:

Alderpersons Hopkins, Robinson, Yancy, Rodriguez, Scott, Sigcho-Lopez, Waguespack, Reilly, Lawson, Clay, Martin, Silverstein

- Chairman Villegas noted the appointees were unable to appear for today's meeting, but he supported their appointments/reappointments.
- Chairman Villegas asked Committee members if they would like to make a statement or ask any questions.
- Ald. La Spata spoke positively of the work that SSA's perform citywide.
- Ald. La Spata motioned to recommend approval of the appointments and reappointments.
- 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 and re-appointees.

## **ITEM 12**

Item 12 was an ordinance for a Class C tax incentive

## 12. O2024-0007879 Support of Class C Tax incentive for property at 1250 S Kilbourn Ave

William Grams, Financial Planning Analyst for the Dept. of Planning & Development, presented the development proposal for the property at 1250 S. Kilbourn Avenue.

Mr. Grams requested approval of the Class C ordinance, which would support the construction of a new meat processing facility and butcher shop. He noted that Ald. Scott provided a support letter for the project, which would support 75 full time jobs and create 25 new jobs.

Chairman Villegas confirmed that a letter of support was received from Alderwoman Scott.

Ald. Mitts stated that she wholeheartedly supported the project and that she was pleased with the investment at the chosen location.

Ald. Mitchell inquired about the MBE/WBE participation (Jake Heinz on behalf of Peoria Packing stated the company is very proactive in utilizing minority-owned and woman-owned businesses). Ald. Mitchell asked if the developer could keep Ald. Scott informed of MBE/WBE participation as the project moves along (yes).

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

### **ITEM 13**

Item 13 was an ordinance for a Class L tax incentive

# 13. O2024-0007878 Support of Class L Tax incentive for property at 1565-1589 N Milwaukee Ave

Dijana Cuvalo of the Dept. of Planning & Development spoke regarding the development project and recommended passage of the Class L tax incentive ordinance. The rehabilitation project will generate 43 temporary and 27 full-time permanent jobs. The Commission of Chicago Landmarks recommended approval of the Class L tax incentive.

Chairman Villegas noted that Ald. La Spata provided a letter of support for the project.

Ald. La Spata spoke in favor of the project and asked his colleagues to support passage of the ordinance.

Ald. Waguespack inquired about the tenants that would occupy the commercial spaces. He expressed concerns about previous tenants whose businesses (bars) attracted criminal activity in the past.

David Mann of the Flat Iron ownership group recognized previous challenges but noted that the previous problem tenants were no longer current tenants of the building. There will be a new mix of local and national tenants in the commercial spaces.

Ald. La Spata noted that the new ownership group has been more responsible and proactive in dealing with problem tenants.

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

Item 14 was a Direct Introduction

**14. R2024-0008207** Resolution in Support of the Affordable Connectivity Program and Support for Continued Congressional Funding

Chairman Villegas described the resolution and its aim to support the Biden administration's efforts to convince the US Congress to re-fund the Affordable Connectivity Program. He noted that the number of Chicago families that benefit from the federally funded internet connectivity program was about 250,000.

Ald. Mitts moved to pass the resolution, 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. Gutierrez motioned to adjourn the meeting by the same roll call vote 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