



CITY OF CHICAGO

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

ALDERMAN MICHELE SMITH
CHAIR

PHONE: 312-744-3071

MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT APRIL 2022

On **April 13th, 2022, at 1:00 pm**, the Ethics and Government Oversight held a remote meeting pursuant to applicable law.

The purpose of this meeting was to hold a meeting to consider the appointment of Deborah Witzburg as the City of Chicago's Inspector General.

The following Aldermen were in attendance:

Members: Smith (43), Martin (47), Reilly (42), Dowell (3), Sadlowski-Garza (10), Lee (11), Scott (24), Cardona Jr. (31), Waguespack (32) Rodriguez Sanchez (33), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Nugent (39) Vasquez (40), Capplemann (46), Hadden (49)

Non-Members: Beale (9), Brookins (21), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Burnett (27), Taliaferro (29), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), Tunney (44)

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) Pete Czyonyka spoke on the aspirational code of ethics in the municipal ethics ordinance and commended the choice of Deborah Witzburg for Inspector General.
- 1) The Committee on Ethics and Government Oversight addressed the following item(s):
 - a) (A2022-58): An appointment of Deborah Witzburg as Inspector General of the City of Chicago
 - b) Sponsor: Mayor Lori Lightfoot
 - i) PASSED COMMITTEE: 04/13/2022
 - ii) PASSED COUNCIL: 04/27/2022



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Chair Smith opened the floor to the nominee to present an opening statement. Ms. Witzburg gave a brief opening statement summarizing her experience and thanking the Council and the Mayor for her nomination. Upon finishing opening statements, Chair Smith opened the floor to questions. Vice-Chair Martin thanked the nominee and commended the choice and highlighted her experience as Public Safety Deputy Inspector General. Chair Waguespack similarly congratulated Ms. Witzburg and asked about the IG's cooperation with sister agencies. Ms. Witzburg said there are two categories of sister agencies and those are agencies where the OIG has oversight and those where they do not. Ms. Witzburg committed to working with the Inspectors General of those offices whenever possible. Alderman Ramirez-Rosa thanked the Selection Committee members and agreed that this choice is a good one for the City of Chicago and believes Ms. Witzburg will help work to shake the reputation of Chicago and wished her the best of luck. Alderman Vasquez echoed similar sentiments but lamented that the choice took so long to make. Alderman Rodriguez-Sanchez expressed her gratefulness that Ms. Witzburg took the challenge of this appointment and encouraged her office to continue to hold the government accountable. Alderman Rodriguez-Sanchez asked how her office would help victims of crime. Ms. Witzburg answered by pointing out that the office of the Inspector General can help eliminate bureaucratic clutter and to continue to work towards the objectives of the consent decree. Alderman Sposato agreed with Alderman Vasquez about the speed of the process and congratulated Deborah Witzburg on her appointment. He highlighted her stepping down to seek this position. Alderman Sighco-Lopez thanked Deborah Witzburg for her service to communities across the city and asked about the cost of corruption in the city. She stated there are dollar costs of corruption and there are legitimacy costs with the feelings of their constituents.

Vice-Chair Martin moved to approve the nomination for the position of Inspector General by the same roll call that was used to determine a quorum. No objections were heard and it passed.

Alderman Vasquez motioned to adjourn the meeting. *Meeting Adjourned.*



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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michele Smith".

Michele Smith, Chair
Committee on Ethics and Government Oversight