



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
FEBRUARY 2025

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 FEBRUARY 2025 Meeting.

Date, Time & Location of Meeting: On February 10, 2025 at 1:00 P.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), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Quinn (13), Moore (17), O'Shea (19), Scott (24), Conway (34), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), Nugent (39), Vasquez (40), Martin (47) and Silverstein (50).

The following members attended virtually: Robinson (4), Yancy (5), Mosley (21), Rodriguez (22), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Ramirez-Rosa (35) and Napolitano (41).

The following members were absent: Ramirez (12), Lopez (15), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Burnett (27), Taliaferro (29), Cardona (31), Sposato (38), Reilly (42), Knudsen (43) and Hadden (49).

Internal witnesses present: **Office of Budget & Management (OBM):** Managing Deputy Budget Director Matthew Schmitz; **Department of Family & Support Services (DFSS):** Managing Deputy Commissioner Raymond Barrett, Deputy Commissioner Daniel Castaneda, Deputy Commissioner Margaret Laraviere, Director, Homeless Prevention Kimberly Howard; **Department of Housing (DOH):** Assistant Commissioner Matt Stern; **Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH):** Assistant Commissioner Regina Meza Jimenez, Director, Grants Management Grant Davis; **Office of the City Clerk (OCC):** Kathryn O'Connell, First Deputy City Clerk.

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

- **Approval of Monthly Rule 45 Report for December 2024**
- **Approval of Monthly Rule 45 Report for January 2025**

1. **Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2025 amendment within Fund 925.
(O2025-0014896)**
2. **Amendment of Section 3-56-050 of the Municipal Code of Chicago by adding a new Sub-Section (e) under Fees – Late fees.
(O2025-0015307)**
3. **Transfer of funds within 9th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2024.
(O2025-0014500)**
4. **Transfer of funds within 26th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2025.
(O2025-0014906)**
5. **Transfer of funds within 29th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2025.
(O2025-0014875)**
6. **Transfer of funds within 38th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2025.
(O2025-0014642)**
7. **Transfer of funds within Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights for Year 2025.
(O2025-0014863)**
8. **Transfer of funds within 42nd Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2025.
(O2025-0014897)**
9. **Transfer of funds within 47th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2025.
(O2025-0014814)**

Chairman Ervin called the meeting to order, took roll call, and recognized a quorum was present. He then proceeded to read the Rules of Conduct for Public Meetings, then opened the floor for public comment. The following speaker was present and given three minutes each for public comment:

- George Blakemore

The Chair concluded the public comment period and made a motion to allow Committee Members Aldermen Robinson, Yancy, Mosley, Rodriguez, Rodriguez-Sanchez, Ramirez-Rosa and Napolitano to join virtually pursuant to Rule 59, so moved by Alderman Mitchell, hearing no objections, the Aldermen were added to the roll.

Chairman Ervin then moved to the approval of the Rule 45 Report for December 2024 and the Rule 45 Report for January 2025, which reports were transmitted electronically to the Membership. The Chair asked if there were any requests for discussion. Hearing no such requests, Alderman LaSpata moved to approve the report. A vote was taken, and the reports were approved.

Chairman Ervin continued to Item# 1, an Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2025 amendment within Fund 925. The Chair made a motion to accept a substitute ordinance on Item #1, Alderman Harris so moved, hearing no objection, the substitute was adopted. Matthew Schmitz, Managing Deputy Budget Director, was acknowledged and provided a narrative on the ordinance amending the 925 Fund Appropriation, an additional \$22,572,000 in state grant awards for the Department of Housing, Department of Family and Support Services and the Department of Transportation. The Chairman opened the floor for questions and comments then recognized Alderman Villegas.

Alderman Villegas referenced the CTA Green Line and asked if the \$5 million was for design? Director Grant Davis, CDOT clarified that the funds are for the construction of the project, the project has been completed in the field and will be used for punch list items. Alderman Villegas thanked the Director and concluded his comments. Vice Chair Lee was then acknowledged and queried what the \$5 million punch list items are? Director Davis explained that it's mainly items that were identified during construction that either did not meet up to the specs and plans or other items that were just identified during construction as deficiencies, it is not untypical to have punch list items. Vice Chair inquired if anything that we don't use goes to reimburse CDOT for the construction? Director Davis commented that the \$5 million will be fully used for the project. Vice Chair Lee proceeded with questioning and asked someone to explain how the Emergency Rental Housing Assistance funds are administered today? Deputy Commissioner Daniel Castaneda responded, it is currently administered through the 6 community service centers that DFSS supports across the city and through the rental assistance online portal. Vice Chair continued by asking what does emergency rental housing looks like, how does it work? Deputy Commissioner Castaneda stated that a person has to prove that they are at risk of homelessness, it's up to 6 months of assistance. Vice Chair asked if there was a cap per applicant and what's the most money anyone can get in emergency rental housing. Deputy Commissioner Castaneda replied it's up to 6 months and the rent needs to comply with HUD rent reasonableness requirements. Further, it depends on the area the applicant lives in, that determines the rent reasonableness. Vice Chair commented that she would like to see where people max out at, then requested the information through the chair. Deputy Commissioner Castaneda replied, we will get the information through the chair. Vice Chair Lee concluded and the Chair called on Chairman Dowell. Chair Dowell stated that she had no questions only wanted to publicly thank her seatmate Alderman Lamont Robinson for securing the \$14 million from DCEO during his time as a State Rep. She then explained how long she's been advocating for a senior center in Bronzeville. Further, she thanked Alderman Robinson for his leadership as well as Margaret Laraviere for sticking with her and the community as they move this thing forward. Chair Dowell concluded by thanking Chairman Ervin for putting this item on the agenda. The Chair acknowledged that Alderman Dowell had been working and advocating for this senior center pretty much all his tenure and stated he was glad that it was coming to fruition. The Chair then observed there were no other questions, asked for a Motion to pass Item #1. Alderman Dowell moved to pass, then the Chairman asked all in favor signify by saying Aye, any opposed? In the opinion of the Chair the Ayes have it, recognized the ordinance passed and will be reported out at our next City Council meeting on February 19, 2025.

Chairman Ervin proceeded to address Item #2 of the agenda (a direct introduction), an amendment of Section 3-56-050 of the Municipal Code of Chicago by adding a new Sub-Section (e) under Fees – Late fees, acknowledged there was a substitute for the ordinance that was sent electronically to members, queried if there was a motion to accept the substitute. So Moved by Vice Chair Lee, followed by voice vote with Chair asking all in favor to say Aye, opposed Nay, and recorded unanimous Ayes. The substitute was then before the Body, Kathryn O'Connell, First Deputy City Clerk, gave testimony of the ordinance. The Chair opened the floor to questions/comments then called Vice Chair Lee who thanked the Clerk's Office for this initiative and mentioned how it will help many people to come in compliance and stay on top of their city registration. The Chairmen then recognized Alderman Vasquez who echoed the

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comments of his colleague, Vice Chair Lee, then thanked City Clerk Valencia for her leadership as well as her staff. The Chair asked if there were any other questions, then called on Alderman Harris who thanked the Clerk for her leadership on this much needed initiative. Alderman Harris then moved to pass, a voice vote was observed, hearing no objections, the item was approved and will be reported out at the next City Council Meeting on February 19, 2025.

Chairman Ervin proceeded to address Items #3-9 of the agenda which are Transfer of Funds within the Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights and the 9th (Year 2024), 26th, 29th, 38th, 42nd and 47th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2025. He acknowledged there were substitute ordinances on Items 3, 5, 7 and 9, Wards 9, 29, 47 and the Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights, Chair then called a motion to accept the substitute ordinances, which Alderman Mitchell made a motion to accept, the Chair called a vote, recognizing all Ayes and no Nays, and the substitutes were adopted.

Chairman next acknowledged 7 transfers of funds were before the Body. He called for a Motion to Pass for Wards 9, 26, 29, 38, 42, 47 and the Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights. Alderman Dowell so Moved, and Chairman called a voice vote signifying all in favor say Aye, any opposed. Hearing no Nays, the Chairman recognized the Do Pass recommendation would be reported out at the next City Council Meeting on February 19, 2025. Pursuant to Rule 59, the Chairman took a moment to confirm that members Aldermen Rodriguez and Robinson were participating remotely. Aldermen Rodriguez and Robinson both confirmed their participation remotely.

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations having no further business, on motion made by Alderman Quinn for adjournment, Chair acknowledging all Ayes and no Nays, the meeting was adjourned.

(A video recording of the full meetings with committee members, internal and external experts, as well as any/all public speaking content can be reviewed on the Chicago City Clerk website under Committee Meeting Web Stream Archive dated February 10th, respectively.)

Respectfully submitted by:



Jason C. Ervin, Chairman
Committee on the Budget and Government Operations