



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
JANUARY 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 JANUARY 2025 Meeting.

Date, Time & Location of Meeting: On January 13, 2025 at 2:00 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), Ramirez (12), Quinn (13), Moore (17), O'Shea (19), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Cardona (31), Conway (34), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), Nugent (39), Vasquez (40) and Silverstein (50).

The following members attended virtually: Robinson (4), Yancy (5), Mosley (21), Rodriguez (22), Taliaferro (29), Napolitano (41) and Martin (47).

The following members were absent: Lopez (15), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Reilly (42), Knudsen (43) and Hadden (49).

Internal witnesses present: **Department of Planning and Development (DPD):** Deputy Commissioner Jeffery Cohen and Financial Planning Analyst Robert Bumper

External witness present: **Creative Consulting:** Vanessa Stokes, CEO

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

- **Approval of an Amended Monthly Rule 45 Report for October 2024**
- 1. **Redevelopment Agreement with Outwest Gallery and Cafe to provide neighborhood opportunity funds for property improvements at 5249 West Chicago Avenue. (O2024-0013060)**

- 2. Transfer of funds within 6th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2024.
(O2024-0013387)**
- 3. Transfer of funds within Committee on Committees and Rules for Year 2024.
(O2024-0014410)**
- 4. Transfer of funds within 38th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2024.
(O2024-0014373)**
- 5. Transfer of funds within 41st Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2024.
(O2024-0014408)**
- 6. Transfer of funds within 44th Ward Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2024.
(O2024-0014450)**

Chairman Ervin called the meeting to order, took roll call, and recognized a quorum was present. The Chair then made a motion to allow Committee Members, Aldermen Robinson, Yancy, Mosley, Rodriguez, Napolitano and Martin to join virtually pursuant to Rule 59, so moved by Vice Chair Lee, hearing no objections, the Aldermen were added to the roll. Alderman Rodriguez requested to be added as well, the Chair asked if there was a motion to accept Alderman Rodriguez participation on the Rule 59, so moved by Alderman Vasquez, hearing no objections, the Alderman was added to the roll.

The Chairman proceeded to read the Rules of Conduct for Public Meetings, then opened the floor for public comment. The following speakers were present and given three minutes each for public comment:

- George Blakemore
- Edith Moore
- Zoe Leigh

The Chair concluded the public comment period, then took a moment to add Alderman Conway (in person) to the roll, then made a motion to allow Alderman Taliaferro to participate remotely per Rule 59, so moved by Alderman Dowell, all in favor signify by saying aye, in the opinion of the Chairs the ayes have it, Alderman Taliaferro was added to the roll.

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

Chairman Ervin continued to Item# 1, a proposed ordinance for a Redevelopment Agreement with Outwest Gallery and Cafe to provide neighborhood opportunity funds for property improvements at 5249 West Chicago Avenue in the 37th Ward. He then acknowledged that Jeff Cohen, Deputy Commissioner and Roberts Bumpers, Financial Planning Analyst, DPD as well as Vanessa Stokes, CEO, VS Creative Consulting are available to address any questions from the members. While DPD was preparing a PowerPoint presentation Chairman Ervin proceeded to address Items #2-7 of the agenda which were

Transfer of Funds within the Committee on Committees and Rules and the 6th, 38th, 41st and 44th Wards Wage Allowance/Aldermanic Expense Account for Year 2024. The Chair then made a motion to accept substitute ordinances for Items #2, 3, and 5, Alderman Harris so moved, hearing no objections, the substitutes were adopted. The Chair asked if there were any questions or comments. The Chair recognized Alderman Quinn who asked what was the latest these funds can be spent? The Chair responded theoretically the money was supposed to have been spent by now, however for accounting purposes there is no appropriation authority. Individuals who have money that has been encumbered or spent for the date can still request transfers be made. It is my understanding that some members have expenses that are beyond their appropriation and therefore transferring money from one line to the other to satisfy those appropriations. Alderman Quinn thanked the Chair and concluded his remarks.

Alderman Moore was then acknowledged, and asked if this is the last City Council Meeting where you can submit a transfer for those funds or is there another opportunity to do so? The Chair replied, under Gatsby Rules, we have 60 days after the end of the year to do that, so Wednesday is the last day to introduce any transfers for 2024 that could actually pass out and be effective for the month of February. Alderman Moore said thank you and the Chair asked if there were any other questions, seeing there were none, Alderman Moore moved to pass on Items #2-7, a voice vote was observed, hearing no objections, the items were approved and will be reported out at the next City Council Meeting on January 15, 2025.

Chairman Ervin returned to Item#1 of the agenda recognizing Robert Bumpers, DPD, who gave an overview of the project via PowerPoint presentation. The Chair opened the floor to questions/comments then called Alderman Mitts. Alderman Mitts expressed her support of the project and her gratitude to Vanessa Stokes for her efforts for the last 2-3 years. In addition, thanked the committee and asked for their support. The Chair acknowledged Alderman Dowell who asked if the \$240,000 plus in debt includes the acquisition or does the Outwest Group already have ownership of the building. Robert Bumpers replied, that the property will be leased by Outwest and she has a real estate contract with them that the site is secured. The Chair then recognized Alderman Taliaferro who congratulated Alderman Mitts and Vanessa Stokes on this endeavor. Also, he commended Ms. Stokes on her efforts in advocating, promoting and bringing art and culture to the west side of Chicago, then in closing voiced his full support of the project. The Chair thanked Alderman Taliaferro, observing no other questions, asked for a motion to pass Item #1. Alderman Dowell moved to pass, then 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 January 15, 2025. In closing, Chairman Ervin again congratulated Ms. Stokes and commented that he would like to see one of these on Madison in the near future.

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations having no further business, on motion made by Alderman Harris 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 January 13th, respectively.)

Respectfully submitted by:



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