

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT
February 2022**

On February 17, 2022, at 10:01 am, the Committee on Finance held a remote meeting pursuant to applicable law.

The following members were present: Hopkins, Dowell, King, Mitchell, Harris, Beale, Sadlowski-Garza, Quinn, Lopez, Moore, Curtis, O'Shea, Brookins, Tabares, Scott, Burnett, Ervin, Taliaferro, Reboyras, Austin, Villegas, Mitts, Sposato, Reilly, Smith, Tunney, Silverstein, Vice Chairwoman Hairston, and Chairman Waguespack.

The following members were absent: Sawyer, Cardenas, Burke, Napolitano, and Osterman.

The following other alderpersons were present: LaSpata, Sigcho-Lopez, and Nugent.

Chairman Waguespack opened the meeting with a statement regarding the impracticability of meeting in person. Chairman Waguespack took a roll call to establish a quorum, as reflected above.

Pursuant to Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, Chairman Waguespack opened a hearing regarding a plan of finance to issue multi-family housing revenue notes for the Roosevelt Square Phase 3B project. Chairman Waguespack read the legal notice and introduced it into the record as Exhibit 1. Chairman Waguespack opened the floor for written and oral public comment. There was none.

Chairman Waguespack closed the hearing at 10:11 am.

On February 17, 2022, at 10:12 am, the Committee on Finance held a remote meeting pursuant to applicable law.

The following members were present: Hopkins, Dowell, King, Mitchell, Harris, Beale, Sadlowski-Garza, Quinn, Lopez, Moore, Curtis, O'Shea, Brookins, Tabares, Scott, Burnett, Ervin, Taliaferro, Reboyras, Austin, Villegas, Mitts, Sposato, Napolitano, Reilly, Smith, Tunney, Osterman, Silverstein, Vice Chairwoman Hairston, and Chairman Waguespack.

The following members were absent: Sawyer, Cardenas, and Burke.

The following other alderpersons were present: LaSpata, Sigcho-Lopez, Cardona, Nugent, and Cappleman.

Chairman Waguespack opened the meeting with a statement regarding the impracticability of meeting in person. Chairman Waguespack took a roll call to establish a quorum, as reflected above.

Pursuant to Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, Chairman Waguespack opened a hearing regarding a plan of finance to issue multi-family housing revenue notes for the Covent Apartments Project, Series 2022. Chairman Waguespack read the legal

notice and introduced it into the record as Exhibit 1. Chairman Waguespack opened the floor for written and oral public comment. There was none.

Chairman Waguespack closed the hearing at 10:19 am.

On February 17, 2022, at 10:20 am, the Committee on Finance held a remote meeting pursuant to applicable law.

The following members were present: Hopkins, Dowell, King, Mitchell, Harris, Beale, Sadlowski-Garza, Quinn, Lopez, Moore, Curtis, O’Shea, Brookins, Tabares, Scott, Burnett, Ervin, Taliaferro, Reboyras, Austin, Villegas, Mitts, Sposato, Napolitano, Reilly, Smith, Tunney, Osterman, Silverstein, Vice Chairwoman Hairston, and Chairman Waguespack.

The following members were absent: Sawyer, Cardenas, and Burke.

The following other alderpersons were present: LaSpata, Sigcho-Lopez, Cardona, Nugent, and Cappleman.

Chairman Waguespack opened the meeting with a statement regarding the impracticability of meeting in person. Chairman Waguespack took a roll call to establish a quorum, as reflected above.

Pursuant to Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, Chairman Waguespack opened a hearing regarding a plan of finance to issue multi-family housing revenue notes for the Chicago Lighthouse Residences 4 project. Chairman Waguespack read the legal notice and introduced it into the record as Exhibit 1. Chairman Waguespack opened the floor for written and oral public comment. There was none.

Chairman Waguespack closed the hearing at 10:26 am.

On February 17, 2022, at 10:28 am, the Committee on Finance held a remote meeting pursuant to applicable law.

The following members were present: Hopkins, Dowell, King, Mitchell, Harris, Beale, Sadlowski-Garza, Quinn, Burke, Lopez, Moore, Curtis, O’Shea, Brookins, Tabares, Scott, Burnett, Ervin, Taliaferro, Reboyras, Austin, Villegas, Mitts, Sposato, Napolitano, Reilly, Smith, Tunney, Osterman, Silverstein, Vice Chairwoman Hairston, and Chairman Waguespack.

The following members were absent: Sawyer, and Cardenas.

The following other alderpersons were present: LaSpata, Coleman, Taylor, Sigcho-Lopez, Cardona, Nugent, Vasquez, and Cappleman.

Chairman Waguespack opened the meeting with a statement regarding the impracticability of meeting in person. Chairman Waguespack took a roll call to establish a quorum, as reflected above.

Chairman Waguespack opened the floor for public comment. There was none.

1. Approval of Rule 45 Report of the previous meeting of the Committee on Finance.

Chairman Waguespack opened the floor for corrections. There were none.

On Item 1, Ald. Lopez moved do pass by the roll call taken to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

2. O2022-430 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to enter into and execute a redevelopment agreement and land use agreement with New Covent LLC, Covent Apartments LLC and Covent NHPF Manager LLC, to provide multi-family program funds, tax-exempt bonds, and loan assistance for acquisition, deconversion and renovation of The Covent Hotel, located at 2653 North Clark Street in the 43rd Ward.

Chairman Waguespack invited Kara Breems with the Department of Housing to explain the ordinance, which she did.

Ald. Smith spoke in support of the ordinance.

Ald. Burnett commended Ald. Smith for her work on the ordinance.

On Item 2, Ald. Burnett moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

3. SO2021-4750 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to enter into and execute a redevelopment agreement and multi-family program funding loans with Chicago Lighthouse Residences 9 LLC, and Chicago Lighthouse Residences Manager LLC, for acquisition and construction of mixed use and affordable housing, located at 1134 South Wood Street in the 27th Ward.

Ald. Ervin moved to accept the substitute ordinance by the same roll called used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Chairman Waguespack invited Jim O'Connell with the Department of Housing to explain the ordinance, which he did.

Ald. Scott asked for clarification on the location, and O'Connell provided it. Ald. Scott spoke in support of the ordinance.

Ald. Ervin spoke in support of the ordinance.

Ald. Burnett spoke in support of the ordinance.

On Item 3, Ald. Scott moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

4. SO2021-4755 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to enter into and execute a redevelopment agreement and multi-family program funding loans with Chicago Lighthouse Residences 4 LLC, The Chicago Lighthouse Residences 4

Manager LLC, and The Chicago Lighthouse Special Investor Member for construction of new affordable residential units, located at 1134 South Whipple Street in the 27th Ward.

Ald. Ervin moved to accept the substitute ordinance by the same roll called used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

On Item 4, Ald. Sadlowski-Garza moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

5. O2022-431 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to provide financial assistance and conveyance of City-owned property to Roosevelt Square Affordable I, LLC, to rehab and construct affordable housing units at various locations and develop the National Public Housing Museum at 919-925 South Ada Street in the 25th and 28th Wards. TIF Amount: \$17,000,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Anna Booth with the Department of Housing to explain the ordinance, which she did.

Ald. Burnett spoke in support of the ordinance.

Ald. Osterman asked about unit size and number, and Booth provided the information.

Ald. Sigcho-Lopez spoke in support of the ordinance.

Ald. Ervin spoke in support of the ordinance.

On Item 5, Ald. Taliaferro moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

6. O2022-429 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to enter into and execute a redevelopment agreement with 63rd Maryland, LLC and 63rd Maryland Manager, LLC, for multi-family program loan funding, tax-increment financing (TIF) funds, and the purchase of city-owned property to develop affordable housing, located at 839-845 East 63rd Street and 6305-6311 South Maryland Avenue in the 20th Ward. Amount: \$5,000,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Anna Booth with the Department of Housing to explain the ordinance, which she did.

Vice Chairwoman Hairston spoke in support of the ordinance.

Chairman Waguespack noted that Ald. Taylor had filed a letter of support for the ordinance.

Ald. Burnett spoke in support of the ordinance.

Ald. Austin spoke in support of the ordinance.

Ald. Sposato spoke in support of the ordinance.

Ald. Burnett spoke in support of the development team.

Ald. Taylor spoke in support of the ordinance.

Leon Walker, managing partner with DL3 Realty, outlined their process for working with Ald. Taylor.

On Item 6, Vice Chairwoman Hairston moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

7. O2022-399 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to authorize the issuance of tax-exempt revenue bonds for the construction of the Auburn Gresham Apartments, located at 834-858 West 79th Street and 757 West 79th Street in the 17th Ward.

Chairman Waguespack invited Kara Breems with the Department of Housing to explain the ordinance, which she did.

Ald. Moore spoke in support of the ordinance.

On Item 7, Ald. Austin moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

8. O2022-410 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to enter into and execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Chicago Park District for the provision of tax-increment financing (TIF) funds for eligible costs of certain improvements at Bickerdike Square Park, located at 1461 West Ohio Street in the 1st Ward.

Amount: \$135,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Beth O'Reilly with the Chicago Park District to explain the ordinance, which she did.

Ald. Lopez asked how much the Park District was spending for capital improvements in 2022, and O'Reilly said \$30 million, plus whatever other funds could be found outside the agency. Ald. Lopez asked how much outside funding that would be. O'Reilly said roughly \$15 million from the City plus whatever State funds could be raised. Ald. Lopez asked why the Park District does not fully fund their own projects. O'Reilly said she did not have an answer. Ald. Lopez expressed his displeasure with the City funding projects for the Park District.

Ald. Burnett spoke in support of the ordinance.

Chairman Waguespack said he would consider hosting a future meeting regarding Park District funding.

Beth Tomlins with the Chicago Park District said the District is capped by the State on how much it can bond out in a year.

Ald. Osterman asked that the park district provide through the Chair what other funding has been secured. O'Reilly noted that such information had been circulated in the past.

Ald. Dowell noted that the Committee on Budget and Government Operations is already planning a meeting with the Park District to discuss the District's capital budget.

Ald. Lopez asked for a list of District capital plans broken down by ward. O'Reilly said they would provide the information as possible.

On Item 8, Ald. Burnett moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote with Ald. Lopez voting no.

9. O2022-421 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to enter into and execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Chicago Park District for the provision on tax-increment financing (TIF) funds for eligible costs of certain renovations and the construction of a comfort station at Metcalfe Park, located at 4134 South State Street in the 3rd Ward. Amount: \$350,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Beth O'Reilly with the Chicago Park District to explain the ordinance, which she did.

Chairman Waguespack asked about the age of the building. O'Reilly said she did not know. Ald. Dowell said the condition of the comfort station is embarrassing and voiced support for the ordinance.

On Item 9, Ald. Silverstein moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote with Ald. Lopez voting no.

Ald. Burke noted that he is the only remaining member of the City Council who served with Ralph Metcalfe and expressed support for the ordinance.

10. O2022-411 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to enter into and execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Chicago Park District for the provision of tax-increment financing (TIF) funds for certain improvements at and renovations at Burnside Park, located at 9400 South Greenwood Ave in the 8th Ward. Amount: \$800,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Beth O'Reilly with the Chicago Park District to explain the ordinance, which she did.

Ald. Harris spoke in support of the ordinance.

On Item 10, Ald. O'Shea moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote with Ald. Lopez voting no.

11. O2021-4178 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to enter into and execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Chicago Park District for the provision on tax-increment financing (TIF) funds for eligible costs towards the construction of a recreation center and playing field at Addams/Medill Park, located at 1434 South Loomis Street in the 28th Ward. Amount: up to \$3,500,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Beth O'Reilly with the Chicago Park District to explain the ordinance, which she did.

Ald. Lopez asked if this was to cover a funding shortfall from the Chicago Housing Authority, and O'Reilly said yes.

On Item 11, Ald. Villegas moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

12. O2022-402 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to enter into and execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Chicago Park District for the provision of tax-increment financing (TIF) funds for eligible improvement costs at Fernwood Park, located at 10436 South Wallace Street in the 34th Ward. Amount: \$650,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Beth O'Reilly with the Chicago Park District to explain the ordinance, which she did.

Ald. Austin spoke in support of the ordinance.

Ald. Ervin thanked the Committee for supporting Item 11 and expressed support for Item 12.

On Item 12, Vice Chairwoman Hairston moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

13. O2022-422 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to enter into and execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Chicago Park District for the provision of tax-increment financing (TIF) funds for eligible costs of certain renovations and improvements at Wilson (Frank J.) Park, located at 4630 North Milwaukee Avenue in the 45th Ward. Amount: \$500,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Beth O'Reilly with the Chicago Park District to explain the ordinance, which she did.

On Item 13, Ald. Reboyras moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote with Ald. Lopez voting no.

14. O2022-419 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning the authority to enter into and execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Chicago Park District for the provision of tax-increment financing (TIF) funds for eligible costs of certain construction and renovations at Jefferson Memorial Park, located at 4822 North Long Avenue in the 45th Ward. Amount: \$500,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Beth O'Reilly with the Chicago Park District to explain the ordinance, which she did.

On Item 14, Ald. Sposato moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote with Ald. Lopez voting no.

15. O2022-415 A communication recommending a proposed ordinance concerning an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Chicago Park District concerning the provision of tax-increment financing (TIF) funds for reallocation of developer contributions for certain renovations of the field house at Clarendon Park, located at 4532-4534 North Clarendon Avenue and 4538 North Clarendon Park in the 46th Ward. Amount: \$3,460,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Tim Jeffries with the Department of Planning and Development and Beth O'Reilly with the Chicago Park District to explain the ordinance, which they did.

Ald. Cappleman spoke in support of the ordinance.

On Item 15, Ald. Mitts moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

16. Direct Introduction A communication transmitting reports of cases in which judgments or settlements were entered into for the month of December 2021.

Chairman Waguespack said Item 16 would be placed on file with the Clerk.

17. Direct Introduction A proposed order authorizing the payment of various small claims against the City of Chicago.

18. Direct Introduction A proposed order denying the payment of various small claims against the City of Chicago.

Chairman Waguespack said Items 17 and 18 would be placed on the Omnibus Agenda at City Council. There was no objection.

Chairman Waguespack moved to the Supplemental Agenda.

1. Four (4) proposed orders authorizing the Corporation Counsel to enter into and execute Settlement Orders in the following case:

A. Shatrell McComb, individually and as next friend and guardian of Dillon Harris, deceased v. City of Chicago, et al and Antoine Watkins., cited as 2019 L 9027 (refile of 2015 L 7478) (Cir. Ct. of Cook Cty., Law Division) (J. Flanagan). Amount: \$1,400,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Mary Ruether with the Department of Law to explain the settlement, which she did.

Ald. Sposato asked if anyone from the Chicago Police Department was at the meeting. Lt. Robert Flores responded that he was in the meeting. Ald. Sposato asked how long the person fleeing spent in prison, and Ruether provided the information. Ald. Sposato asked if the person fleeing had any money to pay a settlement, and Ruether said no. Ald. Sposato asked questions concerning the CPD pursuit policy, and Flores provided the information. Ald. Sposato said it was a very sad case and he supported the settlement.

Vice Chairwoman Hairston asked if the person fleeing was involved in a drive-by shooting, and Ruether said he was not charged with that crime.

On Supplemental Item 1A, Vice Chairwoman Hairston moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

B. Mia Wright, et al. v. City of Chicago, et al., cited as 2020 CV 07688 (N.D. Ill.) (J. Pallmeyer). Amount: \$1,675,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Caroline Fronczak with the Department of Law to explain the settlement, which she did.

Ald. Lopez expressed opposition to the settlement.

Ald. Sposato said he believed there was more video than was shown to the Committee. Ald. Sposato said he believed the vehicle in question was pointed to by a security guard. Fronczak said she did not have information to that effect, none of the descriptions of suspects matched the people in the car, and no stolen items were found. Ald. Sposato asked what time of day the incident happened, and Fronczak said about 3 pm.

Ald. Sposato asked where the Plaintiffs lived, and Fronczak said she believed it was in Austin. Ald. Sposato said he believed the named Plaintiff lived in North Lawndale, which he said is a long distance from the site of the incident. Ald. Sposato said other party supply stores were closer to North Lawndale. Ald. Sposato asked if investigators had verified if anyone in the vehicle had an upcoming birthday, and Fronczak said investigators believed one of the people in the car had an approaching birthday. Ald. Sposato said Committee members need to understand the intent of the people in the vehicle. Fronczak outlined the Plaintiff's medical diagnosis. Ald. Sposato asked if any officers were facing discipline. Lt. Robert Flores with the Chicago Police

Department said eight officers are being disciplined. Ald. Sposato again noted the distance the Plaintiffs traveled and said people knew about the unrest happening around the City.

Ald. Tabares asked if there would be a roll call and said she opposed the settlement.

Ald. Hopkins said he saw a published report that a hammer was found in a vehicle. Fronczak said she has no information about a hammer being found, and no reports, other than a standard arrest report, were filed regarding the incident. Ald. Hopkins expressed concern that he believed there was evidence of the Plaintiffs being involved in the unrest that day. Ald. Hopkins said he had too many outstanding questions to support the settlement. Fronczak said she was confused about what evidence Ald. Hopkins could be referencing. Ald. Hopkins said the incident should be investigated further.

Chairman Waguepack asked if the Civilian Office for Police Responsibility had completed their investigation, and Fronczak said yes.

Ald. Taliaferro asked if discovery was complete, and Fronczak said no. Fronczak said settlement was explored based on the evidence that was readily available. Ald. Taliaferro asked if the City was aware of what evidence would be presented by the Plaintiffs, and Fronczak said yes due to COPA interviews and other documents. Ald. Taliaferro asked about the eye injury suffered by a Plaintiff, and Fronczak said it was determined to be a psychological injury after extensive exams. Ald. Taliaferro said he experienced a similar injury for similar reasons. Ald. Taliaferro asked about injuries to the other Plaintiffs, and Fronczak said they were not alleging any physical injuries. Ald. Taliaferro asked if the City would be able to present any evidence that the Plaintiffs were involved in civil unrest, and Fronczak said the City had no such evidence. Fronczak said the issue for trial would be if the use of force was reasonable under the circumstances. Ald. Taliaferro asked about the odds the City could win at trial, and Fronczak said 5-10 percent.

Ald. Smith asked about the settlement structure, and Fronczak provided the information. Ald. Smith asked clarifying questions about the videos, and Fronczak provided the information. Ald. Smith said the officers' actions exceeded the limits of constitutional policing, and she would support the settlement. Ald. Taliaferro, on a point of order, asked if Ald. Hopkins had made a motion to table at the end of debate. Ald. Hopkins said he would not make such a motion.

Ald. Ervin asked why someone from North Lawndale should not shop on the Northwest Side. Ald. Ervin said that people have the right to move about anywhere regardless of where they live. Ald. Ervin asked what discipline has been recommended. Fronczak said it ranged from a reprimand to separation. Ald. Ervin asked if the CPD Superintendent agreed, and Flores said yes.

Vice Chairwoman Hairston said the Plaintiffs were treated the way they were due to their race, and she was disturbed by the tone of debate. Vice Chairwoman Hairston asked if it was legal for a Black person to travel throughout the City, and Fronczak said yes.

Ald. Cardona asked if surveillance cameras around the mall had been reviewed, and Fronczak said yes. Fronczak said those videos show that the description of the looters did not match the

description of the Plaintiffs. Ald. Cardona asked if the Plaintiffs had previously struck an officer with their vehicle. Fronczak said that she has no video that shows that and none of the officers mentioned such an incident in their interviews with COPA.

Ald. Sposato said he was suspicious that the Plaintiffs would travel that far when other stores were closer to their homes, and there was civil unrest throughout the City at the time. Ald. Sposato also said that one of the Plaintiffs declined to exit the vehicle before the officers broke the windows. Ald. Sposato asked if any items were inventoried by police from the civil unrest at the location. Flores said he did not know, but he could find out.

Ald. Ervin said there is no Target between North Lawndale and the Brickyard Mall, and people often prefer one-stop shopping.

Chairman Waguespack said he did not believe the shopping habits of the Plaintiffs factored into settlement discussions.

Ald. Hopkins asked if the City had conducted a physical exam of the Plaintiff. Fronczak said no. Ald. Hopkins asked if one would take place if the case went to trial, and Fronczak said yes.

Ald. Nugent asked clarifying questions about officer discipline, and Fronczak provided the information.

Vice Chairwoman Hairston took issue with the implication that the Plaintiffs should not have been there because they did not live nearby.

Ald. Lopez said that officers that day were rarely arresting and charging looters.

Ald. Mitts questioned the relevance of the Plaintiffs' shopping habits in light of the conduct of the officers. Ald. Mitts said she was stunned by some of the comments in the Committee.

On Supplemental Item 1B, Ald. Mitts moved do pass by a roll call vote. Motion passed 13-7, as reflected below:

Yes: Dowell, King, Harris, O'Shea, Burnett, Ervin, Taliaferro, Austin, Villegas, Mitts, Smith, Vice Chairwoman Hairston, and Chairman Waguespack.

No: Hopkins, Quinn, Lopez, Tabares, Reboyras, Sposato, and Napolitano.

C. Carreto, et al. v. City of Chicago, et al., cited as 21 CV 735 (N.D. Ill.) (J. Tharp, Jr.). Amount: \$1,200,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Caroline Fronczak with the Department of Law to explain the settlement, which she did.

Ald. Ervin asked where the incident happened and if the Plaintiffs were supposed to be there. Fronczak said it was the 3200 block of Irving Park, and they were on their way to a party.

On Supplemental Item 1C, Ald. Ervin moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

D. Chad Johnson v. City of Chicago, et al., cited as 19 CV 03904 (N.D. Ill.) (J. Seeger).
Amount: \$150,000

Chairman Waguespack invited Jessica Felker with the Department of Law to explain the settlement, which she did.

On Supplemental Item 1D, Vice Chairwoman Hairston moved do pass by the roll call used to establish quorum. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Ald. Sposato asked if, through the Chair, Lt. Robert Flores would be able to indicate if people arrested during the civil unrest had a previous record. Flores said yes.

The Committee having no further business, on a motion by Ald. Ervin, the meeting was adjourned at 1:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott Waguespack
Chairman, Committee on Finance