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COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL - ROOM 200
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK

ALDERMAN PAT DOWELL
CHAIRMAN

PHONE: 312-744-3166
FACSIMILE: 312-744-9009

Date: March 3, 2020

**COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT
February 2020**

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City Council Rules of Order, the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations submits the following Monthly Rule 45 Report for FEBRUARY 2020.

**Date, Time &
Location of
Meeting:**

On February 10, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a meeting in City Hall, Council Chamber, 121 N. LaSalle St., 2nd Floor.

Attendance:

The following committee members were present at the February 10, 2020 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Chairman Dowell (3), Vice-Chair Silverstein (50), King (4), Mitchell (7), Sadlowski-Garza (10), Thompson (11), Quinn (13), Moore (17), Curtis (18), O’Shea (19), Rodriguez (22), Tabares (23), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Ervin (28), Reboyras (30), Waguespack (32), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), Napolitano (41), Tunney (44), and Osterman (48).

The following committee members were absent at the February 10, 2020 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Hairston (5), Sawyer (6), Harris (8), Cardenas (12), Brookins (21), Taliaferro (29), Austin (34), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Reilly (42), Smith (43), and Cappleman (46).

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

1. Approval of the January 2020 Monthly Rule 45 Monthly Report.

No questions from any Committee Members present. No witnesses signed up to speak on item number 1. Vice-Chair Silverstein moved to approve the Rule 45 Monthly Report, which passed by a voice vote.

The following item was referred to the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations at the City Council meeting held on **January 15, 2020:**

2. A substitute ordinance concerning an amendment to the Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2020 within Fund No. 925 for the Office of the Mayor, Department of Housing, Department of Public Health, Department of Assets, Information, and Services, Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, Department of Family and Support Services, Chicago Police Department, and Department of Fire. (SO2020-102)

Chairman Dowell asked for a motion to accept the substitute ordinance. Motion to accept the substitute ordinance made by Alderman Tunney, which passed by a voice vote. Chairman Dowell stated the substitute ordinance adds seven grants for the Chicago Police Department, one grant for the Mayor's Office, and one grant for the Department of Family and Support Services. Total: \$5,615,000. Chairman Dowell introduced Deputy Budget Director Latoya Vaughn from the Office of Budget and Management and acknowledged the other representatives from the various departments. Deputy Budget Director Vaughn summarized each of the grants.

Alderman Sposato inquired if the grant for the Foreclosure Prevention Program is for prevention or counseling. Chairman Dowell recognized Irma Morales, Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Housing. Irma Morales informed the committee the funds are for foreclosure prevention and providing one-on-one assistance to the homeowner to identify options available to them, and also provides counseling to prevent individuals from getting in to a foreclosure situation. Irma further stated this program does not support direct grants or funds to homeowners.

Alderman Osterman acknowledged the list of the youth commission and inquired when the findings of the group, as it relates to the New Violence Prevention Street Intervention Planning, will be available. Chairman Dowell recognized Angie Weis from the Mayor's Office. Angie Weis stated it is due at the end of July and scheduled to become a public document on approximately July 31st. Alderman Osterman requested to have aldermen on the planning/sub-committees for violence prevention.

Alderman Scott inquired, in regards to the youth commission, how long the program lasts? Is it a year round program? When are the stipends allocated? How were the students selected? Chairman Dowell recognized John Van Slyke with the Community Engagement Team in the Mayor's Office. John Van Slyke stated the students were selected from existing school youth councils that were asked to nominate one youth participant to join the youth commission, as well as from youth focus groups in the Mayor's transition committee and opened it up to young people around Chicago. The students will serve 1 year terms with the first cohort of students deciding on the selection process for the second cohort, which will be finalized this month.

Alderman Scott further expressed his concern for geographic and demographic diversity among students.

Alderman Scott asked if the Justice Reinvestment Initiative in the 11th District is a pilot program, will it be expanded, and locations of POD cameras already in place. Chairman Dowell acknowledged Cheryl Robinson from the Chicago Police Department. Cheryl Robinson stated the POD program was an initiative of the State's Attorney's Office and the commander selects the individual POD placement within that district. Alderman Scott asked how many POD cameras are equipped with License Plate Readers citywide and the locations. Other aldermen were interested in acquiring additional POD cameras for their wards.

Alderman Scott also asked about the Chicago South Side Early Diversion program and was informed by Lieutenant Antoinette Ursitti, the Crisis Intervention Team Program Coordinator at the Chicago Police Department, that it serves Districts 4, 5, 6, 7, and 22 with service to Roseland Community Triage Center. Chairman Dowell restated the question, if the program only concentrates on the south side? Chairman Dowell recalled that this program already exists on the west side. Lieutenant Ursitti identified that there exists a district initiative with the West Side Community Triage and Wellness Center which serves the 10, 11, 14, 15 and 25th districts currently.

Alderman Moore asked John Van Slyke, from the Office of Community Engagement with the Mayor's Office, if he had knowledge of The Support Group headed by Bennie Henry and suggested he reach out to The Support Group.

Alderman Moore recognized the need for more African American organizations to be represented in the foreclosure prevention program. Chairman Dowell acknowledged the Partners in Community Building are an African American organization in the 3rd Ward. Alderman Moore expressed the need for more organizations to be located in close proximity to those individuals in need of the services. Deputy Director Vaughn stated the program is complimentary to the CDBG Program and an RFP will be released in May for January 2021, opening the door for more participants in the new program. Chairman Dowell advised Alderman Moore to encourage any organizations in his area to apply for the CDBG Program and take advantage of these additional funds.

Alderman Mitchell inquired about the youth commission and as it relates to the location of representation of neighborhoods as listed in the attachment. Chairman Dowell recognized John Van Slyke who confirmed the neighborhood refers to the individual address of the youth. Alderman Mitchell requested to be more engaged and work with the Department of Community Engagement to get a better understanding of outreach in his community and to ensure each neighborhood is represented. John Van Slyke stated there will be a citywide application for the second cohort and committed to working with all aldermen to ensure the information about the application process is available to their constituents.

Chairman Dowell inquired when the next cohort begins. John Van Slyke anticipated the application process will take place in April and May of this year.

Alderman Mitchell inquired about additional POD cameras in his ward, in the 3rd and 4th Districts, as a result of the grant. Chairman Dowell recognized Deputy Director Vaughn who confirmed this was direct from the Cook County State's Attorney's Office who has a directive for the areas that were selected. Alderman Mitchell acknowledged that he has 3-4 locations in the 4th District in need of cameras. Chairman Dowell requested the contact information for Cheryl Robinson from the Chicago Police Department be provided to the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations. Alderman Villegas requested a copy of the contact information to be distributed to all the members.

Alderman Mitchell requested contact information from the Department of Housing in regards to the foreclosure prevention program. Chairman Dowell informed Alderman Mitchell that Irma Morales is an excellent contact in regards to foreclosure issues.

Alderman Mitts recognized the disparity in the city as it relates to the foreclosure prevention program, as housing is a big issue in her area. Alderman Mitts asked if new organizations can be funded through the foreclosure prevention program to expand its outreach and effectiveness. Chairman Dowell requested the department reach out to Alderman Mitts and also advised Alderman Mitts to recognize those organizations within the Austin Community that are not part of the Housing Department's programs and have them apply for the CDBG program to become a delegate agency, as there may be programs in Austin that are not part of this prevention program.

Alderman Mitts requested the contact information for the foreclosure prevention program within the department, as well as, the contact information for Cheryl Robinson from the Chicago Police Department to further discuss how the community accesses the Opioid Diversion Program. Alderman Mitts recognized the Austin Coming Together Program which works on housing issues in Chicago is not listed as a participating organization. Alderman Mitts inquired how the opioid program is going to be administered by the Police Department and requested a step-by-step on how the community will connect with the police on this program. Deputy Director Vaughn stated based on success of pilot program in 2016, the Chicago Police Department expanded the program to Districts 10, 11, 15 and 25. Chairman Dowell requested a Chicago Police Department representative, along with a representative from the Project Coordination Team meet with Alderman Mitts to discuss and explain the program. Alderman Mitts explained that she is currently planning to provide educational information by giving out kits and working with other agencies, but was not aware of this program.

Alderman Thompson inquired if the grants were recurring or new funding of grants. Deputy Budget Director LaToya Vaughn from the Office of Budget & Management stated it is a combination of both. Alderman Thompson expressed his concern in regards to the 3 positions associated with the Department of Family and Support Services grant and asked how long the term of the funding is. Chairman Dowell recognized Joyce Gallagher from the Department of Family and Support Services, who explained the city has been doing this work for the RTA for a number of years and this will be compensated for it. With the time workload, they may be able to hire support staff and the funds will support the work DFSS is doing to provide free rides and reduced license plate fees.

Alderman Thompson inquired how long the term of the grant is. Joyce Gallagher explained it is a supplement to a grant and it is ongoing because they are reimbursing the city \$25 for each application. Alderman Thompson inquired if this was budgeted by the department in November. Deputy Director Vaughn will provide an answer through the Chair.

Alderman Osterman suggested having the Chicago Police Department and the Office of Emergency Management and Communications set up briefings to inform aldermen about what public safety technology exist in their communities.

Alderman Moore requested the CDBG contact information within the Office of Management and Budget.

There being no more questions from committee members and aldermen present, Chairman Dowell opened the floor for public comment. George Blakemore spoke on item number 2.

Motion made by Alderman Osterman on item number 2, which passed by a voice vote.

PASS COMMITTEE 02/10/20
PASS CITY COUNCIL 02/19/20

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations having no further business, on a motion made by Alderman Rodriguez, the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



Pat Dowell
Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations