



CITY OF CHICAGO



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

ALDERMAN PAT DOWELL
CHAIRMAN

PHONE: 312-744-3166
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Date: March 15, 2021

**COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT
FEBRUARY 2021**

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 2021.

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

On February 17, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a meeting via video conference, in Chicago, Illinois.

Attendance:

The following members were virtually present at the **February 17, 2021** Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Chairman Dowell (3), Vice-Chair Silverstein (50), King (4), Hairston (5), Sawyer (6), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Sadlowski-Garza (10), Thompson (11), Cardenas (12), Quinn (13), Moore (17), Curtis (18), O'Shea (19), Brookins (21), Rodriguez (22), Tabares (23), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Ervin (28), Taliaferro (29), Reboyras (30), Waguespack (32), Austin (34), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Sposato (38), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42), Smith (43), Tunney (44), Cappleman (46) and Osterman (48).

The following member(s) were virtually not present at the **February 17, 2021** Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Mitts (37)

The following non-members were virtually present at the **February 17, 2021** Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: La Spata (1), Beale (9), Burke (14), Lopez (15), Coleman (16), Cardona (31), Vasquez (40), and Martin (47).



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

On February 19, 2021, at 1:00 p.m., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations reconvened via video conference, in Chicago, Illinois.

Attendance:

The following members were virtually present at the reconvened **February 19, 2021** Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Chairman Dowell (3), King (4), Hairston (5), Sawyer (6), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Sadlowski-Garza (10), Thompson (11), Cardenas (12), Quinn (13), Moore (17), Curtis (18), O'Shea (19), Brookins (21), Rodriguez (22), Tabares (23), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Ervin (28), Taliaferro (29), Reboyras (30), Waguespack (32), Austin (34), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), Reilly (42), Smith (43), and Tunney (44).

The following member(s) were virtually not present at the reconvened **February 19, 2021** Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Vice-Chair Silverstein (50), Napolitano (41), Cappleman (46) and Osterman (48).

The following non-members were virtually present at the reconvened **February 19, 2021** Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: La Spata (1), Beale (9), Burke (14), Lopez (15), Sigcho Lopez (25), Cardona (31), Rodriguez Sanchez (33), Vasquez (40) and Hadden (49).

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

DIRECT INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE DURING THE FEBRUARY 17, 2021 COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS MEETING

- 1. Amendment of Municipal Code 2-112-160(a)(7) adding epidemiological specimen collection and analysis to power of Commissioner of Public Health, with retention of third party to process confidential associated data (O2021-561).**

**PASS COMMITTEE 2/17/21
PASS CITY COUNCIL 2/24/21**



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REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE DURING THE JANUARY 27, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

- 2. Substitute Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2021 amendment within Fund No. 925 for Office of Mayor, Office of Budget and Management, Department of Housing, Department of Public Health and Department of Planning and Development (SO2021-414)**

**SUBSTITUTE ADOPTED BY COMMITTEE 2/19/21
SUBSTITUTE PASS COMMITTEE 2/19/21
DEFER AND PUBLISH 2/24/21
SUBSTITUTE PASS CITY COUNCIL 2/26/21**

- 3. Transfer of funds within Committee on License and Consumer Protection for Year 2020 (O2021-344)**

**PASS COMMITTEE 2/17/21
PASS CITY COUNCIL 2/24/21**

- 4. Transfer of funds within Committee on Committees and Rules for Year 2020 (O2021-114)**

**PASS COMMITTEE 2/17/21
PASS CITY COUNCIL 2/24/21**

On February 17, 2021 Chairman Dowell called the virtual meeting to order pursuant to applicable law and determination that attendance by remote means is necessary because an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent due to the declared public health disaster cause by COVID-19, the meeting is conducted by video conference. Chairman Dowell took a roll call to establish a quorum and a quorum was established. Chairman Dowell opened the floor to begin the public comment period and explained the procedures for public comment. Ephraim Martin was recognized as the first speaker. Mr. Martin was followed by Termel Williams. The final speaker was Malorine May. With no further speakers signed up to speak, Chairman Dowell closed the public comment period.

Alderman Dowell called for approval of the December 2020 and January 2021 Monthly Rule 45 Reports for the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations. Alderman Reilly moved to accept the two Rule 45 Reports. Hearing no objections, the item was approved.



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Chairman Dowell then moved to item number 1 on the agenda, Amendment of Municipal Code 2-112-160(a)(7) adding epidemiological specimen collection and analysis to power of Commissioner of Public Health, with retention of third party to process confidential associated data (O2021-561). Chairman Dowell called for a motion to accept the direct introduction ordinance. Alderman Austin moved to accept the direct introduction, which was passed by the same roll call vote used to establish quorum. With the ordinance under consideration Chairman Dowell recognized Tina Anderson of the Chicago Department of Public Health to speak on the ordinance. Ms. Anderson explained the ordinance. At the conclusion of Ms. Anderson's opening remarks, Chairman Dowell opened the meeting up for questions from committee members and other aldermen.

Alderman Austin asked if the ordinance would use any CDPH public health employees and when it will begin. Rush will be hiring as well as CDPH to staff the program and once the ordinance passes both Rush and CDPH are ready to go once the contractual details are negotiated. Ms. Anderson explained that the City of Chicago doesn't have any of its own data, any data they have is from other sources, and that information will be shared with the City Council most likely through the regular public health updates in the Committee on Health and Human Relations. Chairman Dowell asked the amount of the contract and the source of funds. Ms. Anderson stated the contract is for \$3.5 million from federal CDC funding. Alderman Cappleman asked about the coordination between IDPH and CDPH. Ms. Anderson explained how the different government agencies collaborate. Alderman Burnett commended Rush Hospital for its work. Seeing no more questions, Alderman Austin moved do pass Item No. 1 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Hearing no objections, the item passed and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, February 24, 2021.

Chairman Dowell went out of order to Item No. 3 on the agenda, a transfer of funds within Committee on License and Consumer Protection for Year 2020 (O2021-344). Alderman Thompson moved do pass Item No. 3 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Hearing no objections, the item passed and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, February 24, 2021.

Chairman Dowell then moved to Item No. 4 on the agenda, a transfer of funds within Committee on Committees and Rules for Year 2020 (O2021-114). Alderman Austin moved do pass Item No. 4 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Hearing no objections, the item passed and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, February 24, 2021.

Chairman Dowell then announced Item No. 2 on the agenda would be held to allow for the Department of Housing to secure the outstanding Economic Disclosure Statements and compile additional



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information on the Emergency Rental Assistance Program to share with the Committee. Chairman Dowell then asked for a motion to recess the committee until Friday, February 19, 2021 at 1:00 pm. Alderman Tunney moved to recess. The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting recessed at 10:33 am.

On February 19, 2021 Chairman Dowell reconvened the virtual February 17, 2021 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations meeting to order. Pursuant to applicable law and determination that attendance by remote means is necessary because an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent due to the declared public health disaster cause by COVID-19, the meeting is conducted by video conference. Chairman Dowell took a roll call to establish a quorum and a quorum was established. Chairman Dowell opened the floor to begin the public comment period and explained the procedures for public comment. With no speakers signed up to speak, Chairman Dowell closed the public comment period.

Chairman Dowell then moved to item number 2 on the agenda, a Substitute Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2021 amendment within Fund No. 925 for Office of Mayor, Office of Budget and Management, Department of Housing, Department of Public Health and Department of Planning and Development (SO2021-414). Alderman Austin moved to accept the substitute. With the substitute before the committee, Budget Director Susie Park explained the ordinance. Alderman Rodriguez asked about the rental assistance programs funded by the ordinance grants, if undocumented residents can access the funding and the source of funds. Department of Housing Commissioner Marisa Novara assured the alderman that yes all residents can access the grant funding, but DoH is awaiting final rules and regulations from the Federal government, and that the sources of the funds is consistent from prior Federal program funding. Alderman Rodriguez asked about making the process easier to apply for the rental assistance grants. DoH Commissioner Novara answered that through community-based organizations they can reach hard to reach populations. Alderman Rodriguez, Cardenas, Ervin, La Spata, Rodriguez Sanchez, and Lopez asked about using prior funding to support police personnel expenses. Budget Director Park explained why the CARES Act funding was directed for police personnel, what tasks the police were assigned to for COVID-19 response and how they used other funding sources to support a range of COVID-19 response costs from other departments. Alderman Rodriguez and Burnett concluded by asking about the Protect Plus community funding. CDPH Deputy Commissioner Tina Anderson explained the Protect Chicago Plus program and explained how funding is being distributed to assist in COVID-19 response in priority communities. Alderman Tunney asked for small business relief information to be provided to all aldermen. Alderman Mitts asked for the community-based organization and violence prevention program information. Aldermen Mitts and Harris asked for a statement detailing



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how CARES Act funding was spent on police costs. Alderman Waguespack asked about funding set aside for COVID-19 relief second serge. Budget Director Park stated they haven't needed to use all the reserves, instead they were able to use other funding to support COVID-19 response. Alderman Waguespack and Ervin also asked about the reporting and auditing rules for CARES Act funds. Budget Director Park stated the auditing and reporting requirements are still in place, which OBM is following, and explained the timelines for spending the stimulus funding. Alderman Scott and Ervin asked about the Protect Chicago Plus and Vaccination RFPs. Deputy Commissioner Anderson stated they are working on it now and will be making the announcements on RFP recipients shortly. Alderman Scott also asked about business grant funding through the ordinance. Budget Director Park detailed the types of funding opportunities for businesses. Chairman Dowell inquired about how they will get the emergency rental assistance program funding out equitably and more efficiently. Commissioner Novara explained how they are running the rental assistance program through the department in an efficient matter. Alderman Ramirez Rosa asked about specific funding provided through the ordinance, which was answered by Budget Director Park. Alderman Moore asked how COVID-19 funding affects the COVID-19 case rate. CDPH Deputy Commissioner Anderson explained how their spending helps drive the case rate down. Alderman Ervin asked for an MBE/DBE breakdown of audit and other programs that used CARES Act funding. Alderman La Spata asked about Rental Assistance Program funding going to landlords. DoH Deputy Commissioner Daniel Hertz responded how funding would be distributed to landlords on behalf of tenants. Alderman La Spata also asked how the carry over funding is being accountably distributed and for more transparency in grant spending. Budget Director Park stated the funding will support the same broader categories that previous funding was used for. Alderman Burke inquired at length about using CARES Act funds to reimburse police costs. Alderman Burke's inquiries were again asked by Alderman Sigcho Lopez. Budget Director Park explained how the police costs are eligible for reimbursement from some funding source, what OBM did was find the appropriate source. Alderman Sigcho Lopez further inquired about equitable vaccine distribution. Deputy Commissioner Anderson explained the vaccine roll out plan and how they are prioritizing equity. Alderman Rodriguez Sanchez asked for the definition of a "wellness check." Alderman Lopez asked about reimbursing Aldermen's offices for COVID-19 related expenses. Budget Director Park pledged to work with Aldermen on reimbursements. Alderman Smith expanded on reimbursing aldermanic expenses and the total response costs received by the City of Chicago. Budget Director Park said it's a moving number based on the grant fund in total it's about \$1.2 billion.

Alderman Harris moved do pass Item No. 2 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Hearing no objections, the item passed and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Friday, February 26, 2021.



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Chairman Dowell stated that there was no further business before the Committee and asked for a motion to adjourn by the same roll call vote as was applied to determine quorum. Alderman Sposato moved to adjourn. The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting adjourned at 3:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Pat Dowell

Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations