



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
FACSIMILE: 312-744-9009

Date: July 12, 2021

**COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT
JUNE 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 June 2021.

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

On June 16, 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 June 16, 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), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Ervin (28), Taliaferro (29), Reboyras (30), Waguespack (32), Austin (34), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), 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 June 16, 2021 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Tabares (23).

The following non-members were virtually present at the June 16, 2021 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Beale (9), Burke (14), Lopez (15), Coleman (16), Sigcho-Lopez (25) and Cardona (31).

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

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE DURING THE MAY 26, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING



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1. Annual Appropriation Substitute Ordinance Year 2021 amendment within Fund No. 925 for Office of the Mayor, Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection, Department of Family and Support Services, Department of Public Health (SO2021-2155)

**SUBSTITUTE PASS COMMITTEE 6/16/21
PASS CITY COUNCIL 6/25/21**

3. Appointment of Celia Meza as Corporation Counsel (A2021-59)

**PASS COMMITTEE 6/16/21
PASS CITY COUNCIL 6/25/21**

4. Appointment of Andrea Cheng as Commissioner of Water Management (A2021-61)

**PASS COMMITTEE 6/16/21
PASS CITY COUNCIL 6/25/21**

5. Appointment of Brandie Knazze as Commissioner of Family and Support Services (A2021-73)

**PASS COMMITTEE 6/16/21
PASS CITY COUNCIL 6/25/21**

6. Call for establishment of Chicago Child Care Assistance Program (O2021-2128)

NO ACTION TAKEN

7. Amendment of Municipal Code Chapter 3-92 to further regulate "Chicago Property Tax, Municipal Tax, and Budget Limitations Ordinance" (O2021-2054)

NO ACTION TAKEN

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE DURING THE APRIL 21, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

2. Authorization and funding for Public Building Commission to undertake project work of city-owned buildings and facilities on 2021 Capital Plan Projects List, as periodically amended by Department of Assets and Information Services and appropriated by City Council (SO2021-1641)

**SUBSTITUTE PASS COMMITTEE 6/16/21
PASS CITY COUNCIL 6/25/21**



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On June 16, 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 Trammel Williams. With no further speakers signed up to speak, Chairman Dowell closed the public comment period.

Alderman Dowell called for approval of the May 2021 Monthly Rule 45 Report for the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations. Alderman Ervin moved to accept the Rule 45 Report. Hearing no objections, the item was approved.

Chairman Dowell stated she would go out of the regular order of business to take items 3, 4, and 5 on the agenda first. Chairman Dowell began with item 3 on the agenda, the appointment of Celia Meza as Corporation Counsel (A2021-59). Alderman Dowell recognized Celia Meza from the Department of Law who provided her opening statement. Chairman Dowell then opened the meeting up for questions from committee members and other aldermen. Alderman Brookins discussed the Law Department's record on minority hiring. Alderman Thompson asked about the consent decree. Ms. Meza stated the Law Department has a public safety deputy that monitors consent decree compliance, as well as two other staff members that oversee the consent decree. Alderman Ervin asked about Ms. Meza's prior roles with the City. Ms. Meza provided a history of her work with the City including her role within the Mayor's office as an ethics specialist. Alderman Ervin continued by asking about the Corporation Counsel's relationship to City Council. Ms. Meza says she represents the entire corporate entity of the City of Chicago, and she is not the lawyer for individual employees within the City. Ms. Meza continued that when confronted with conflicts between different departments inside the City, she will retain outside counsel to represent one of the parties. Alderman Ervin inquired if the City Council should get their own dedicated counsel. Ms. Meza responded that she will represent the corporation of the City of Chicago above all others, but if the City Council feels like it needs its own representation, they should retain one. She also reminded Alderman Ervin that the Law Department has legal counsel division, headed by Jeff Levine, that provides dedicated legal counsel to the City Council, as well as the LRB. Alderman Osterman agreed with Alderman Ervin's point on separate counsel, and expanded on consent decree compliance. Alderman Lopez also agreed with Alderman Ervin, and discussed the need for additional lawyers in the Law Department to expedite the work being slowed by the lack of lawyers in the department. Alderman Mitts then moved do pass Item No. 3 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum.



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Hearing no objections, the item passed and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, June 23, 2021.

Next Chairman Dowell moved to item 4 on the agenda, the appointment of Andrea Cheng as Commissioner of Water Management (A2021-61). Alderman Dowell recognized Ms. Cheng to read her opening statement. At the conclusion of Ms. Cheng's remarks, Chairman Dowell asked how Ms. Cheng would expand on the work former Commissioner Randy Connor implemented to fight the historic EEO issues that plagued DWM. Interim Commissioner Cheng stated that they are implementing training that has not previously been in place, and they performing analysis on pay differentials to see where the department can improve equity amongst its employees. Alderman Osterman asked about the status of the water meter program and implored that the Andersonville water project get completed ASAP. Interim Commissioner Cheng explained that the meter save program was paused due to increased lead levels in some homes, and they are now looking at an ultrasonic meter but they are awaiting results from the study on the new ultrasonic meters in the fall. In the meantime, residents should consider the lead service line replacement program, which has an equity replacement component and comes with a meter for free. Alderman Moore asked about helping residents with water bills. Interim Commissioner Cheng stated they work with Finance on a case-by-case basis to see what the City can do to help residents. Alderman Moore and Interim Commissioner Cheng discussed DWM infrastructure. Alderman Villegas, Scott, Cardenas, Napolitano, Lopez and Ervin asked about the conflicts preventing DWM work from moving forward with infrastructure work and how to increase minority hiring on DWM projects. Interim Commissioner Cheng provided background on the litigation dispute with contractors over conflicts, and the process they are using to release work locations over the next few quarters. As for minority hiring, DWM is working with the Department of Procurement Services to prioritize minority hiring in contracts. Alderman Scott asked about the equity component of the lead service line replacement program, as well as about green alley work. Interim Commissioner Cheng explained details on the lead service line replacement can be found at leadsafechicago.org and the City can do work on the private and public side of the line for free, with funding for an estimated 750 homes this year. Alderman Napolitano asked to prioritize areas that experience flooding when looking at sewer replacements, and asked to implement the pilot flood control systems program to the northwest side. Alderman Ervin asked why the City isn't performing lead service line replacement when they are doing work in the street. Interim Commissioner Cheng explained that they are piloting newer cheaper ways to replace lead service lines, and they don't want to just do the public side and leave the private side undone. Chairman Dowell asked about the leadership team of DWM, and Interim Commissioner Cheng gave a rundown of the leadership staff. Alderman Reilly 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, June 23, 2021.



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Chairman Dowell then moved to item 5 on the agenda, the appointment of Brandie Knazze as Commissioner of Family and Support Services (A2021-73). Alderman Dowell recognized Ms. Knazze to read her opening statement. Alderman Ervin moved do pass Item No. 5 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, June 23, 2021.

Next Chairman Dowell asked for a motion to accept the substitute Fund No. 925 ordinance. Motion made by Alderman Sadlowski Garza, which was passed by the same roll call vote used to establish quorum. With the substitute ordinance under consideration, Chairman Dowell recognized Office of Budget and Management Deputy Director Latoya Vaughn to speak on item 1 on the agenda, an Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2021 amendment within Fund No. 925 for Office of the Mayor, Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection, Department of Family and Support Services, Department of Public Health (SO2021-2155). Chairman Dowell recognized Megan Cunningham from CDPH to discuss the Health Disparities grant. Alderman Ervin asked about the implementation of the Health Disparities grant. Ms. Cunningham explained how they are targeting regional leads and employing other community based outreach strategies to effectively service affected neighborhoods. Tina Anderson from CDPH stated that this grant extends the work done by the existing Protect Chicago Plus program. Alderman Ervin 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, June 23, 2021.

Chairman Dowell announced the last item of the day is item 2 on the agenda and asked for a motion to accept the substitute ordinance SO2021-1641. Motion made by Alderman Austin, which was passed by the same roll call vote used to establish quorum. With the substitute ordinance under consideration, Chairman Dowell recognized Assets, Information, and Services Commissioner David Reynolds to discuss item 2 on the agenda, an Authorization and funding for Public Building Commission to undertake project work of city-owned buildings and facilities on 2021 Capital Plan Projects List, as periodically amended by Department of Assets and Information Services and appropriated by City Council (SO2021-1641). Following his opening statement, Joe Healy from COUPE added that the unions he represents support the revised ordinance. Lori Ann Lypton from PBC introduced herself. Alderman Sadlowski Garza asked why AIS vacancies are not being filled, and if there is a cap on spending per vendor. Commissioner Reynolds stated they are hiring as fast as the city process will allow. The Commissioner also clarified that the work outlined in the ordinance list will be done by private contractors who need to meet city MBE/DBE and residency goals. He also explained that there is a cap on spending and time for a vendor, but extension can be applied for if needed. Alderman Villegas asked if some of the work will be done



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through JOC contracts, what are their limits, and are there bid incentives for Chicago companies in these contracts. Commissioner Reynolds answered that yes some of the work can be done through JOC contracts. Ms. Lypson from PBC stated there are workforce requirements and they will get more information through the chair on company headquarters bid incentives. Alderman Rodriguez asked about the changes to the ordinance that allowed the unions to support the ordinance. Mr. Healy stated that it was the inclusion of the specific list of projects and funds in the new ordinance. Alderman Rodriguez then asked what information the PBC tracks on who is doing the work. Ms. Lypson listed all of the qualifications they track. Alderman Mitts asked about planned community engagement for the projects. Ms. Lipson said they work with the Alderman and the community to do outreach, community hiring, and the publication of a project-specific website to promote the project. She also continued that PBC work is subject to the PLA so they will be using union contractors. Alderman Ervin asked why the PBC is controlling the process, not the City. Commissioner Reynolds stated that the PBC will be an extension of AIS, implementing the City's standards for executing the projects. Alderman Ervin asked if the City should be expanding to do this work in house, or should all similar work go to the PBC. Ms. Lypson stated PBC follows the PLA's of each of their clients. Alderman Ervin asked if the City will retain any of the work. Commissioner Reynolds said yes they will. Chairman Reynolds then read the section of the ordinance that protects existing City union jobs. Alderman Thompson asked about the number of tradespeople in AIS, and the number of projects currently underway by AIS. Commissioner Reynolds stated there are 1,100 members and they don't do project specific work, they mostly perform routine repair and small work. Alderman Thompson asked for the definition of "small job." Commissioner Reynolds explained that it's a week or two, which Alderman Thompson wanted to convert to dollars to compare to the PBC jobs. Alderman Villegas 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 Wednesday, June 23, 2021.

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 Sadlowski Garza moved to adjourn. The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting adjourned at 1:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pat Dowell".

Pat Dowell, Chairman

Committee on the Budget and Government Operations