



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: May 26, 2020**

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

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

On April 21, 2020, 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 April 21, 2020 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), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42), Smith (43), Tunney (44), Cappleman (46), and Osterman (48).

The following non-members were virtually present at the April 21, 2020 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: LaSpata (1), Beale (9), Burke (14), Lopez (15), Coleman (16), Taylor (20), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Cardona (31), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Nugent (39), Vasquez (40), Martin (47), and Hadden (49).



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

**The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations addressed the following item:**

- 1. A proposed ordinance authorizing various emergency actions undertaken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. (O2020-2356) Direct Introduction**

Chairman Dowell called the virtual meeting to order pursuant to Illinois Executive Order 2020-07, which was issued on March 16, 2020, suspending provisions of the Open Meetings Act and encouraging remote participation, and confirming the meeting is conducted by video conference.

Alderman Waguespack made a motion to recess until 11:00 a.m. Chairman Dowell confirmed the meeting will stand at recess until 11:00 a.m. and confirmed the same meeting link information and password would be used to join the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Chairman Dowell called the reconvened virtual meeting to order pursuant to Illinois Executive Order 2020-07, which was issued on March 16, 2020, suspending provisions of the Open Meetings Act and encouraging remote participation, and confirming the meeting is conducted by video conference at 11:00 a.m. Chairman Dowell explained the meeting procedures, explaining public testimony will be take place at the beginning of the meeting, limiting each speaker to three minutes and pursuant to Rule 58(e) public comment will be limited to 30 minutes. Chairman Dowell explained the order of aldermen will be recognized to speak: Committee members first, followed by non-members and then instructed aldermen to use the raise-your-hand function to be recognized by the chair for questions and points of clarification and the mute function when necessary. Chairman Dowell recognized other departmental participants are available to answer questions. Chairman Dowell took a roll call to establish a quorum. A quorum was established. Chairman Dowell opened the floor to begin the public comment period. Chairman Dowell recognized the first speaker, G. Blakemore who provided testimony, followed by M. Page, who provided testimony.

Chairman Dowell asked for a motion to accept the substitute ordinance. A motion to accept the substitute ordinance was made by Alderman Taliaferro, and seconded by Alderman Austin, which passed by a voice vote. Chairman Dowell recognized Counsel Jeff Levine from the Department of Law to explain the substitute ordinance. Counsel Levine explained the ordinance before the Committee was a revised introduction and technically not a substitute and that the only change



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

from what was previously submitted is a new sentence that has been added to the end of Article 1, Section 1, “to provide clarity regarding the purpose and limitation of this section, and that is the budget appropriations section, to provide clarity regarding the purpose and limitation of this section, it is restated that any and all funds appropriated pursuant to this section shall be used solely and exclusively for COVID-19 – related response costs.” Chairman Dowell introduced Budget Director Susie Park from the Office of Budget and Management and acknowledged the other representatives from the various departments in attendance. Director Park discussed and summarized each section of the ordinance. Chairman Dowell opened it up for questions from committee members.

Vice-Chair Silverstein asked if there had been any more thought given to having more frequent City Council meetings during the pandemic for more transparency. Chairman Dowell explained that is under consideration and due to the rapid evolving situation, the standard council schedule is in place but if it becomes more beneficial to have frequent City Council meetings, that would be considered. Vice-Chairman Silverstein inquired on the bidding process, economic disclosures and ensuring no conflict of interests in contracts entered into through this ordinance. Chief Procurement Officer Andrews explained the awarding process, public procurement process and allowance of up to 60 days to complete an EDS and that DPS would work with the Department of Law to terminate any contract should there be any issues or challenges with the submitted EDS.

Alderman Osterman reiterated that the executive powers authorized under this ordinance are only for COVID-19 resources and once the crisis was over, FEMA could close the gap on some of the funding options or funds that the city would seek reimbursement. Director Park confirmed the FEMA Public Assistance Funding is based on the disaster declaration date and in the past there has always been a timeframe for when funds are available. Director Park further stated the importance of appropriating the CARES Act money because once disaster declaration is considered over, the FEMA money will only cover the City up to that point. Alderman Osterman inquired about the format of the Budget weekly reports submitted to the committee. Director Park explained the report includes money that has been moved, any contracts that went through the emergency procurement process, lists of any of the leases entered into under AIS Commissioner’s authority and it includes every single payment that is distributed for COVID. Alderman Osterman ended his remarks by stating he supports giving Budget Director and the Mayor the flexibility to make needed emergency decisions to ensure the well-being of Chicagoans and supports the ordinance. Chairman Dowell explained her efforts to put together a working



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

group at the committee level that would meet with the Budget Director and DPS regarding the weekly reports and information generated around COVID-19 budgetary issues.

Alderman Cappleman made a statement acknowledging three values being discussed, which include transparency, checks and balances, and protecting and saving human lives. Alderman Cappleman ended his remarks by stating this is a crisis never seen before in our lifetime and given that the city needs to do everything to appropriate the needed resources to save lives, he offered his full support of the ordinance.

Alderman Tunney commended Director Park on presenting a much more accountable ordinance to the committee than the original ordinance and inquired about how the appropriation for the Chicago Department of Health's 2020 Budget is going to be impacted. Director Park explained the importance of segregating the city's COVID costs apart from the regular City budget and that the city is fortunate to have CARES Act funding, as well as FEMA Public Assistance money, whereas the City Council's appropriation for the 2020 did not include COVID. Director Park further explained the Department of Public Health is also receiving additional CDC money through the CARES Act, which supports all the work, the staff-time and operations. Director Park explained the end goal is to ensure the corporate budget is not impacted, as the Budget Department is able to segregate and isolate these COVID costs and submit them for reimbursement through CARES Act funding, allowing for CDPH and every other department's budget to remain intact. Alderman Tunney inquired about the Fire and Police Department's response to COVID, as it relates to staffing and overtime. Budget Director Park explained that a special overtime tracking code for COVID has been implemented and will be submitted for reimbursement, as it an allowable cost, under FEMA and US Treasury rules. Alderman Tunney further commented on COVID-related overtime monitoring by the Fire Department and the Police Department and brought attention to the 19<sup>th</sup> Police District which experienced three or four COVID cases. Budget Director explained the tracking would depend on the documentation of who is out with COVID, the reason they were initially out and the reason for the overtime, and stressed a lot of work has been done to drill down on overtime expenses, including how and why overtime was incurred, the different staff having overtime and who staff is replacing for overtime. Alderman Tunney asked for an explanation on some COVID-related grants and/or expenditures dating prior to the March 1<sup>st</sup> ordinance. Budget Director Park explained the incident period under IEMA and FEMA dates back to January and the city began tracking costs in March, however, the Budget Office will look back at the different grants that have different periods to determine the timeframe for allowed reimbursements. Chairman Dowell asked for



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

clarification on the tracking expenses prior to February and Budget Director Park explained the city was tracking costs in March at the start of the incident, however, the incident period from IEMA Public Assistance fact sheet identifies the incident period back to January, however, that does not guarantee that the timeframe for reimbursements will indeed be extended back to January. Director Park further stated the Budget Office will go back to track from January to March if there are allowable expenses and she confirmed that no funds were moved before that date.

Alderman Smith asked for clarification if there were any expenses that the city is incurring pursuant to this ordinance that are not directly COVID-related. Budget Director answered no. Alderman Smith inquired on the requirements for public participation for Zoning Board of Appeals, the Plan Commission, and other boards and commissions, as well as, her concern for zoning decisions to allow the public to testify and for full public participation. Counsel Levine from the Law Department confirmed the rules do provide for public participation by remote means and the Law Department is working to help develop rules to ensure full compliance of the Open Meetings Act and with the Municipal Code. Alderman Smith inquired why actions by the administration and departments using the authority granted by this ordinance cannot be put up for a ratification vote at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting. Counsel Levine explained that implementing the ordinance as written gives the administration flexibility and implementing it in the matter Alderman Smith suggested would cause speed bumps in implementation. Counsel Levine further explained that that the city has been successful in collecting over 90 percent of EDS's in a timely manner. Chief Procurement Andrews added that EDS's have been collected for 10 of the 12 vendors that the city has entered into agreements with, and 2 of those vendors are in the completion process. Alderman Smith further directed a question to Counsel Levine on what would be the legal obstacles of requiring the city's decisions, of which are largely purchasing decisions, to be put up for ratification before City Council. Counsel Levine explained that the ordinance itself serves as ratification on a less granular level than referred to by Alderman Smith.

Alderman Reilly provided comments weighing in on the ordinance and referenced the analysis provided by the Legislative Reference Bureau that compared the nature of the original proposed ordinance to the one being discussed in committee. Alderman Reilly explained the original proposed ordinance could have empowered the Administration to engage in unilateral decision-making and acknowledged the Mayor for listening to the concerns of the Council about the broad scope of the original proposal and applauded the Mayor's actions to scale back on the original



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

proposal and remove many of the provisions. Alderman Reilly further stated that because these are unique times, extraordinary actions are required and all the decisions will be well-documented and accounted for with a repeal date of June 30<sup>th</sup> and encouraged the council to join in approving the ordinance.

No questions from Alderman Napolitano.

Alderman Sposato acknowledged the safety of his residents and the people of Chicago is most important and offered support of the ordinance.

Alderman Mitts explained her concern was in regards to how the virus is affecting her community which relies on the council to be truly transparent and would like to see the dollars spent in the most needed areas, the black community. Alderman Mitts explained her desire to save lives and help the areas in most need by knowing where the dollars are being spent and having input in the decision-making process, as well as, getting information from both the legislative body and the executive body, in a timely manner, to be able to represent all of Chicago.

Alderman Villegas expressed his appreciation for the administration's ability to take into account the concerns and considerations of the aldermen, as well as, the fact that the ordinance includes sunset and reporting requirements. Alderman Villegas inquired what steps are being taken to assist O'Hare airport and if the \$385 million from the CARES Act will be used for some of the concessionaires and/or businesses doing business with our airports or will it be used strictly for airport operations. Budget Director explained that portion was removed from the ordinance and that Aviation Commissioner Rhee is working through a plan that will come before a committee for discussion.

Alderman Ramirez-Rosa inquired why the ordinance could not sunset on April 30<sup>th</sup> and continue to come back to the Council month after month to continue to review and seek council approval, as opposed to a June 30<sup>th</sup> sunset. Counsel Levine explained that the general intent is to follow the usual process, Committee and Council process, to the greatest degree possible and provide function and protection for the City in situations where needs arise quickly. He added that this ordinance is not intended to replace the typical legislative process but rather act as a supplement to it. Chairman Dowell added that the ordinance gives two conditions on the date the ordinance can be safely repealed, either June 30<sup>th</sup> or the date that the Commissioner of Public Health determines that the threat to the public health posed by COVID-19 has been diminished.





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

Alderman Ramirez-Rosa inquired what would be the legal implication, the budgetary implication if this sunset earlier and if the city continued with this format retroactively – would that put the city in a legal quandary? Counsel Levine explained it is better practice and form to make authorizations ahead of time. Budget Director Park added that on the budget side, it is important to be able to appropriate the Federal funding quickly and move the response costs into the appropriate federal source, by aiming to keep the 2020 budget intact. Ramirez-Rosa inquired how much has the city spent to date, how much is projected to be spent through June 30<sup>th</sup> and what are the anticipated reimbursable expenses. Budget Director Park explained the Budget Office have worked to ensure all of the costs are eligible for reimbursement and have worked with IEMA and FEMA. To date, \$65 million has been obligated and of that \$5.6 million has been expended and \$150 million is expected to be expended through the end of June. Alderman Ramirez-Rosa asked for an example of some of the expenses and asked if the Mayor's *Stay-at-Home* and *Saving Lives* videos are considered a reimbursable expense. Budget Director Park explained that expense is not included on the line and some of the charges in the finance general line include specific charges for the alternate care facility at McCormick Place, which includes some construction costs, wraparound services (custodial and maintenance) and IT costs. The general COVID response costs include: PPE, cleaning supplies, thermometers, IT equipment, equipment and supplies for the Emergency Operations Center operated by OEMC, as well as, hotel leases and shelter costs. Ramirez-Rosa inquired if FEMA or the Federal Government caps how much the city can seek in reimbursement. Budget Director Park explained there is no cap on the Public Assistance Program for the pandemic, and the grant is a match grant of 75/25, however, the state requested a waiver to make sure all 100 percent of the costs are reimbursable, which is pending. The Coronavirus Disaster Relief Fund from the Treasury will assist in making that match. Alderman Ramirez-Rosa asked for clarification on the new line added to the ordinance and if the city could appropriate money through the CARES Act through the ordinance. Budget Director Park explained the new line clarifies that any funds that are appropriated are to only be used for and are limited to COVID response and money from CARES Act is all for COVID response and would be expended appropriately. Alderman Ramirez-Rosa expressed his desire to see spending parameters for appropriated money for emergency relief expanded to ensure homelessness and housing issues will be addressed and the need for equity in the distribution of funds to reach the west and south sides, the communities that have been disproportionately impacted. Alderman Ramirez-Rosa expressed his concern for not seeing guarantees that ensure the funds from CARE Act will go to the west and south sides. Budget Director Park clarified the COVID response money, including the money coming in from the CARES Act, must be used for



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

COVID response and not for setting up new programs and that weekly reports will be sent out to capture any budgetary activity.

Alderman Austin inquired if the administration saw the Stay-at-Home order extending past June 30<sup>th</sup> and if so, what does that mean for the administration's COVID-19 responsibilities. Budget Director Park responded that she can not predict the end date nor the needs of the city moving forward and that this ordinance is intended to give the City the flexibility it needs to meet those future demands. Budget Director Park further stated that there are a lot of resource requests coming and they want to be able to meet and help the needs of first responders, health care workers and CDPH. Part of the ordinance also allows OMB to keep track of funding and needs and how to respond to future needs far down the road. Alderman Austin stated that Roseland Hospital is doing testing on the far south side and inquired if Roseland would be eligible in an emergency. Director Park said that was more a question for CDPH, that Alderman Austin should reach out to CDPH Director Arwady, and that OBM is doing everything they can to support CDPH's mission.

Chairman Dowell asked Counsel Levine what happens to the ordinance if we are still in the middle of the pandemic on June 30<sup>th</sup>, to which Counsel Levine responded that he would hope that the City Council would take some action on the ordinance during the June meeting to extend or modify moving forward.

Alderman Waguespack asked what would happen if FEMA decides to cut off certain funding streams within 24 hours, what would OBM do to get these reimbursements or expenditures in and would the Budget Office use the authority granted under this ordinance to submit the funding requests. Budget Director Park responded that if there is a close out period, that there is still a timeframe for the City to submit any costs incurred from when the emergency was declared to the end date. She also stated that the appropriation authority to appropriate CARES Act funding will start picking up when the FEMA reimbursement leaves off. Alderman Waguespack asked who audits these funds. Budget Director Park said all funds are audited, the Treasury funds have a specific clause allowing the Federal IG to audit, the Public Assistance money will be audited by FEMA and their IG, IEMA or any state agency has the ability to audit funds coming in, and the City's IG has the ability to audit all funds. Alderman Waguespack asked if the April 16<sup>th</sup> letter and the budget activity report and daily updates were a directive of the IGA. Director Park made the distinction that the daily information comes from the IGA, but the detailed reports will be sent weekly every Friday because there is not enough movement in expenses to publish a daily report.





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

Alderman Waguespack asked if the contracts in the budget report are available online, and Budget Director Park said yes they were through the Department of Procurement Services (DPS) website. Alderman Waguespack finished by stating he agreed with his colleagues regarding the EDS changes and thought it was critical that all the inspector's general have the opportunity to review the new spending. He also commended the administration for listening to the City Council and made changes to the ordinance. Alderman Waguespack said he is looking forward to seeing how OBM is going to spend the additional funds, and that while he appreciates the administration's leadership, it's important for transparency and to work with the City Council on checks and balances, and that he thinks they have done that so far.

Alderman Taliaferro said he supports the ordinance and he believes it's very important to give the Mayor the ability to operate quickly and efficiently to provide resources to residents, as well as meet the needs of first responders, hospitals, police and fire. However, he does not want to support things blindly and it's important that transparency be at the forefront of City Council's decisions. Alderman Taliaferro expressed his concerns regarding the weekly reports being generated after the fact and wanted information on purchasing agreements before they are entered into and contracts should have some deference towards supporting Chicago-based companies. Alderman Taliaferro cited that many governors are looking to open states to get the economy moving, and that he is seeing a need to support businesses especially in minority communities so they can provide salaries to residents and won't be able to survive. Alderman Taliaferro asked if the administration is planning to give Chicago-based companies deference in contracting. He referenced his concern on the contract entered into with Howard Elliott Collections in Addison, IL for PPE in the amount of \$789,000 on face shields and \$590,000 on masks. Alderman Taliaferro asked why the City is spending \$1.4 million on a non-Chicago company when there is a need to support businesses in Chicago, and inquired about the minority makeup of the Howard Elliott Collection. Chief Procurement Officer Shannon Andrews stated that the Mayor is clear that where there are opportunities they should utilize local minority and women-owned businesses. And at the beginning of the crisis DPS worked with all their user departments to identify existing contracts that may be able to meet the City's needs during the pandemic—DPS's first choice is to utilize vendors through existing contracts and to ensure those contracts meet federal reimbursement guidelines. For the Howard Elliott Collection contract, the international competition for quality PPE vendors, along with guidance from experts on what the City's ongoing PPE needs may be, and under the leadership of CDPH, they went through the process and they provided justification that was in line with the City's emergency procurement procedures and federal requirements. DPS' first priority is to use existing contracts and local



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

businesses but in emergency procurement they have to balance the life, safety, health and well-being of front-line responders. Alderman Taliaferro responded that DPS needs to change their thought process and prioritize businesses in Chicago, and choosing Howard Elliott does not help the Black community or the Chicago economy. Alderman Taliaferro reiterated his request to be able to review contracts before they are entered into, as he supports the ordinance, because that gives Aldermen a voice and is true transparency.

Alderman Ervin expressed his agreement with the point Alderman Taliaferro made and said that viewpoint is also shared by many members of the Black Caucus. Alderman Ervin questioned the role Aldermen have in oversight within the ordinance and if the \$150 to \$200 million cost estimate for COVID response is accurate. Budget Director Park said the estimate was accurate through the end of June and OBM can not estimate the City's needs past that time. Alderman Ervin followed up asking if 75% of those dollars are being reimbursed through the Stafford Act., to which Budget Director Park said yes that is the goal. Alderman Ervin asked what the plan was for the approximate \$420 million remaining of CARES Act funding after \$50 million from the first round is spent. Budget Director Park stated that Public Assistance funds are based on the declaration period, so if the declaration period ends in June, then those costs are eligible, the CARES Act money takes the City through until December 30. Director Park said that once the emergency declaration period is over, which may be before the end of the year, the only source of funds available outside of the corporate budget is CARES Act funds, expressing the importance of keeping those funds as COVID response costs in case new, unexpected costs arise through the end of the year, like another spike in cases later in the year. Budget Director further stated the City can do a little better forecasting for use of funds, but that is very difficult because the pandemic is something new and the City is learning as they go. Budget Director Park reiterated that FEMA Public Assistance has a period of use, and anything after would require the City to use CARES Act funds. Alderman Ervin asked if OBM anticipates an excess of \$200 million in unspent funds when the ordinance is designed to close on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Budget Director Park responded that remaining funds will be used to support COVID response for the rest of the year. Alderman Ervin then asked if the administration will be coming back to the City Council to approve any spending after June 30<sup>th</sup>. Budget Director Park responded that yes, they will come back for non-COVID response costs and work through a plan for those funds, but they need more guidance around the \$470 million in CARES Act funding, and with that guidance they will come back to Council and share that plan with everyone. Chairman Dowell interjected that the question was asked and answered yes, the Budget Director would come back to the Council on the remaining money that would be left over, and Alderman Ervin clarified that he wanted to ensure the administration



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

comes back before council for money spent outside direct response. Budget Director Park stated that if anything changes allowing for non-COVID response spending they will absolutely come back to Council. Alderman Ervin then asked about deferral of concessionaires' payments. Budget Director Park said she needs to check on that with Aviation Commissioner Rhee and Counsel Levine advised that airport concession relief is being looked at for the next City Council meeting and was removed from this ordinance so it focuses on just the essentials. Alderman Ervin then reiterated the importance of focusing procurement on businesses that operate in the Black community, that expediency should not override helping the Black community. Budget Director Park then clarified that yes, OBM will come back to Council if there is money remaining post response and share a plan with all aldermen.

No questions from Alderman Burnett.

Alderman Scott reinforced what Alderman Taliaferro and Alderman Ervin said about contract spending in the African-American community. He also thanked Chairman Dowell for working with Aldermen and the administration to address questions and concerns and ensuring they were addressed in the new ordinance.

Alderman Rodriguez asked about Article 1 Section 3 if the funds don't come from Federal or State grants or if the funds are smaller than anticipated. Budget Director Park said there are two contracts for Section 3, one for medical services for the McCormick Alternate Care Facility the other is for medical services at a shelter and she is confident they will both be reimbursable. Budget Director Park reiterated that yes they will be reporting on contracts every week. Alderman Rodriguez then asked about Article 1 Section 5 about 60-day windows for submitting EDS, penalties and City exposure for not doing so. Chief Procurement Officer Andrews responded that the City has the ability to avail themselves of remedies in the contract including termination, though to date timely submittal has not been an issue of concern, outside of some challenges with the online system in terms of filling out the contract. Chief Procurement Officer Andrews further clarified that there was already a 14-day window for submitting EDS, and in these emergency situations additional time to gain things like signatures or information was needed. Alderman Rodriguez asked why the June 30<sup>th</sup> date was set. Counsel Levine said that the date was an idealistic timeline of when the City can get back to regular balance and it strikes a balance between an end date far enough in the future to ensure flexibility without being too far in the future which may deprive City Council of ongoing participatory authority. Finally, Alderman



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

Rodriguez asked about relief for airport concessionaires. Counsel Levine responded that they are thinking about a separate standalone ordinance to address the issue.

Alderman Brookins shared his desire for OBM to give aldermen as much information in real time as possible and to look out for communities that have been most impacted by the pandemic so that later aldermen don't find out the City has been taken advantage of by vendors and have to take legal action to get money back.

Alderman Curtis said that the aldermen that represent the Auburn-Gresham community have come together to keep people safe and have given away their own PPE out of pocket. Is there assistance for hard hit communities and what assistance is available for local aldermen to help with PPE and outreach? Budget Director Park replied that the Emergency Operations Center are working through different needs across the city and will get back to Alderman Curtis on a more definite answer.

Alderman Moore reminded committee members of Ravel Burton, the first City employee to die due to COVID-19, that Harold Davis a community activist also passed, and that Faith Evans daughter of Reverend Clay Evans also lost her life. Aldermen Moore then inquired about additional testing sites and agreed with Alderman Reilly about the scaled back ordinance, but disagreed that contracts are not being spent in minority communities. He further stated that getting contract information after-the-fact doesn't work, that he wants the information ahead of time to ensure minority communities see the benefits of money spent, and wants that codified in the ordinance. Budget Director Park stated that Chairman Dowell is working on a committee to bring aldermen into the contracting process and Budget is ending weekly reports on spending. Chairman Dowell explained she is pulling together a working group with the administration and the Budget Office to discuss the COVID-19 response. Alderman Moore then asked about CDOT money that has already been allocated and if they can move some of that money into the emergency COVID line within that department and if they would have to wait for the federal reimbursement to get the project done. Budget Director Park said yes in theory and they are asking for the ability to temporarily transfer between budgets, but all the money to-date has been spent out of Finance General, not out of individual department's budgets. Budget Director Park clarified that there are two movements in the ordinance, the ability to transfer funds and to appropriate federal funds, which once appropriated out of corporate, OBM can wait for reimbursement keeping expenses in the fund while awaiting reimbursements.



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

No questions from Alderman Quinn.

Alderman Thompson commended the Mayor, Budget Director and Chairman Dowell for working to improve the ordinance and that while it's not perfect its moving in the right direction and expressed his support and if need be they can always come back in the future to make further changes.

Alderman Sadlowski-Garza thanked Chairman Dowell, the Mayor and Budget Director Park for the work they are doing. She also stated that she was happy about the announcement to work with hard hit wards on the south and west sides and she looks forward to money being allocated to help people impacted in those wards. Last, Alderman Sadlowski-Garza implored her colleagues to have faith in the administration, Chairman Dowell and Law to do the right thing to help the city in these unprecedented times. Alderman Sadlowski-Garza then asked if we have used any corporate funds, to which Budget Director Park said they have used corporate funds, but not within a department, just Finance General.

Alderman Harris thanked Chairman Dowell for moving issues forward and for moving to this point and said the process has been difficult for African Americans and reiterated the points made by Alderman Taliaferro regarding the need to ensure African American representation on contracts, even if the number of contracts have been reduced, she still wants to make sure African Americans are involved in the process.

Chairman Dowell then acknowledged Alderman King's work on contracts for McCormick Place and said it should be a priority for all of us to be involved in those kinds of discussions moving forward.

Alderman Cardenas appreciated the revision of the ordinance to add a sunset provision and limit spending power. He thanked the Mayor for taking charge during the crisis but said there has to be a balance between Mayoral and City Council power and the City Council can not come away with legislation that further erodes aldermanic oversight. Alderman Cardenas further stated with these changes moving forward he can support the ordinance. Alderman Cardenas then asked about funding for CPS and its progress. Budget Director Park answered that CPS has separate CARES Act money coming to them, without the exact figures, and that OBM is helping them track costs. CPS is also welcome to apply for federal assistance as a separate entity as well. If CPS has eligible costs, they are in conversations about what those applications could look like. Alderman



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

Cardenas then stated that for aldermen that are concerned about their wards receiving funding, the City has about \$200 million to spend and not all has been spent, and with ongoing purchases all wards should see some assistance and that the City should immediately provide masks to every community. These types of purchases and distributions could be a way to fund small businesses and create jobs in the community. Alderman Cardenas said they need to help the undocumented and the residents on the south and west sides who have not gotten any help, that big companies are sourcing and having contracts but small companies need get contracts as well, and to ensure OBM does that with this new power.

Alderman Mitchell reinforced the points made by Chairman Taliaferro, Chairman Harris and others who commended on the contract issue. He also added that the COVID task force should be able to review contracts ahead of time and that would prove to be a benefit to the Council.

Alderman Sawyer expressed his faith in the administration but can not produce contracts or make agreements based on faith, and the need to see transactions in writing. He then asked Director Park if the ordinance is more of an accounting issue than an emergency response issue. Budget Director Park responded that it is a little bit of both, that they are tracking and accounting for costs right away, and that they are able to use the funding they are getting from federal sources and putting them towards the right expenses. Alderman Sawyer asked about the time frame between identifying a needed service and selecting a vendor. Budget Director Park said that all budgetary activity will be listed on the weekly report, and that it's not just Budget making these spending decisions, that there is a standard operating procedure for even putting a request in and then fulfilling that request. Chairman Dowell asked for that procedure to be put into a flow chart and provided Through the Chair. Budget Director Park agreed to provide it and said there is an approval process for things that originate through the Emergency Operations Center involves all the departments that are impacted by the procurement decision. Alderman Sawyer said that City Council should be notified on initial requests and the completion of the procurement, and that if on June 30<sup>th</sup> the City Council is going to need to extend the ordinance past the sunset date, he wants to ensure aldermen have been involved in the process. Budget Director Park stated that to-date some of these decisions are in an hour, but some do take time, a day or two, depending on how quickly it is needed, but everything has been very quick. Normally, when a procurement request is started it is a lengthy process, but now they have truncated the process to meet the needs of departments like Police and Fire who absolutely need things ASAP. Budget Director Park sites the creation of the McCormick Place Care Facility taking only two weeks, and that she is happy to share the standard operating procedures for how these





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

things work. Alderman Sawyer asked for clarification if the standard operating procedures change for different types of procurement and Director Park said yes, things like general emergency supplies has its own process, anything that involves the shelters and the quarantine facilities has its own process and things for McCormick Place they are segregating those requests as well. As new missions from CDPH or whomever are initiated, OBM is grouping them in different buckets to keep track of spending and they can share that log of spending. Alderman Sawyer further asked about Section 1 as it relates to the opportunity for money to be obfuscated from one pot to another, and asked if we are only working with money from Finance General. Budget Director Park said yes. Alderman Sawyer then asked why not put only Finance General in Section 1. Budget Director Park said that would limit the City's flexibility to deal with the unknown in the future, and while they haven't used money from department budgets yet, there may be a specific request from a department that would necessitate the use of a department's budgeted funds. Alderman Sawyer added that if they limited it to Finance General in the ordinance, that would solve a lot of aldermen's issues with the ordinance, that even though it's a pandemic, that provision is a little overreaching. Budget Director Park stated that the new ordinance eliminates interdepartmental transfers, any one's total will remain the total appropriation, and that they will try to isolate spending to Finance General as much as possible. Last, Alderman Sawyer asked what happens if we get to June 30<sup>th</sup> and the purchases and services the City procured do not meet that deadline. Counsel Levine replied that with the weekly reports aldermen would know in real time whether the activity meets the scope of the ordinance, and that if we get to June 30<sup>th</sup> and there are contracts that exceed the scope of the ordinance, the City would take steps to ratify those actions assuming they are for proper City purposes. Counsel Levine further clarified that if actions taken to procure items or fund programs run over the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline they would be covered as properly authorized under the ordinance.

Alderman Hairston stated she believes this ordinance is more administrative than emergency and there does exist the ability to call a meeting within 48 hours and thus far nothing has happened from beginning to end within 48 hours. Alderman Hairston shared her concern that this is not a collaboration, transparent and without checks and balances. She said there is an approval process for departments that has not been shared with aldermen and that is troubling and should have been done up front. Alderman Hairston further expressed that oversight should be done before money is released, and that aldermen have a fiduciary duty to oversee spending, and that minority communities like hers are being hit especially hard. Alderman Hairston stated there was misinformation given out regarding airports and concessions to try and scare people and that is not the right way to go. Furthermore, Alderman Hairston believes much of this can be done by



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

ordinance, that many of the emergencies are emergencies in name only. Alderman Hairston then went on to talk about contracts being let for McCormick Place and that aldermen were told that the Army Corps of Engineers was doing build out, but contracts were let and they didn't have to do EDS's and historically contracts don't go to African Americans. So she would like to work with the administration to tweak the ordinance a bit.

Alderman King thanked Chairman Dowell, the Mayor and Director Park and stated she had faith in the administration, but she was concerned about the role of the legislative branch in the ordinance. Alderman King stated that there could have been more voices at the table at the beginning which may have led to better decision making, that more input gets better output. Alderman King then asked how much has been spent or appropriated with African American contractors. Budget Director Park stated that she does not have that number, that they have the spending numbers broken out by category, but not by demographics. Alderman King stated it's disconcerting that they don't have that data, because data can instruct how to do a better job moving forward representing the diverse interest of the communities that make up Chicago. Alderman King also asked how much money has been spent with City vendors. Chief Procurement Officer Andrews replied that they have to provide that information through the chair. Alderman King said that is important because we have a responsibility to the residents that live in the City to spend in the City. Alderman King asked if any aldermen are part of the procurement decision making process, to which Budget Director Park replied it's an internal process to vet requests so no aldermen are part of the process, which Alderman King found concerning because of aldermen's fiduciary responsibility. Alderman King stated it's a false choice that City Council has to give up their fiduciary duty to help save lives, because they can strike a balance, as well as striking a balance between the executive and legislative branches so we can utilize everyone expertise. Alderman King offered that the committee could meet weekly, then they could provide proper oversight, and could we do that, could the committee meet more often. Chairman Dowell asked if the administration could respond to that question and she was willing to convene on behalf of the Budget Committee with an ongoing COVID working group. Alderman King appreciated that and hopes a system can be put in place to communicate ideas.

Alderman Hadden agreed with Alderman King and stated that we are in a new space and we have the obligation to figure out what governance looks like in this new space. She expressed her willingness to be a part of any group Chairman Dowell is creating and shared her happiness with the changes made to the ordinance to scale back overreach by the administration and that aldermen were brought in to discuss changes that were needed. On the topic of trust, Alderman



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

Hadden said trust is built, not granted and she looks forward to being a part of the continued dialogue moving forward.

Alderman Vasquez began by echoing what Alderman Hadden and Alderman Sadlowski-Garza said by thanking the Mayor, the departments and the chair for working through the pandemic and making lots of good decisions on the fly that kept tens of thousands of people safe. However, his concern is that the process has not been collaborative and even before the pandemic there hasn't been real collaboration. If aldermen were brought in at the beginning to form a solution, instead of being presented an option than going back and forth on changes, there would be a lot more buy in, but that hasn't been the case with the Executive Order, the budget vote and the current crisis. Aldermen are finding out things through the news rather than departments. That's a larger problem that sets the context for other issues like the demolition continuing in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Ward, where departments were operating without any aldermanic oversight and that we couldn't close schools until the governor issued the Stay-at-Home order. Alderman Vasquez then asked if masks for essential workers are a cost that should be covered through the crisis. Chairman Dowell responded that questions should be related to the ordinance, and Alderman Vasquez clarified his question if PPE was an eligible cost covered under the crisis. Budget Director Park stated that yes PPE is an eligible cost for FEMA reimbursement. Alderman Vasquez then asked if the City is indemnified if issues arise at the hotels being leased for COVID response. Counsel Levine says indemnification does indeed increase the potential for needing to make a payment. Alderman Vasquez then inquired if supporting the ordinance meant they then supported all of the contracts and things entered into using the authority granted by this ordinance. Counsel Levine stated that when the November City budget comes then yes those actions that took place prior to November will be treated as having been fully authorized. Alderman Vasquez further asked if there was something like a sweetheart deal or bad contract entered into, if they would be held responsible for supporting that contract. Counsel Levine answered that yes, that may be the case, but he anticipates that between now and when the budget is presented there would be an opportunity to raise such concerns in a public forum and have the City review and audit the process of entering into those contracts. Alderman Vasquez stated his next couple questions were in regards to the ability of Council to meet more regularly. He stated it wasn't until now the idea of working groups was raised and prior to that there were no aldermen included in decision making. If the City is doing weekly reports, why can't the City just hold weekly meetings. Counsel Levine responded that those concerns will be brought up to the administration. Alderman Vasquez responded that with new technology we can meet at the click of a button and being heard is one thing, but acting is another. He further cited that the Chicago Municipal Code already calls for



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

Council meetings twice a month. Counsel Levine clarified that it has been the case for the last several decades that the City Council honors that rule in the breach by setting the date and time by ordinance at the end of each meeting. Alderman Dowell again reminded that the question regarding setting additional meetings was not going to be answered in the committee at this time. Alderman Vasquez reiterated that its important, especially when there is time between when a need is identified and a contract is let, to have conversations with aldermen ahead of time, instead of after, so they can be part of a solution.

Alderman Beale asked what the emergency was that justified this ordinance. Budget Director Park stated various requests come in for the administration to support everyone in the COVID-19 response and this ordinance allows them to move quickly within their appropriations and to appropriate federal funds to help with the response. Alderman Beale asked if there is anything that can be pointed to where we need to act on an emergency basis to move funds. Budget Director Park said they received funds through the Treasury that they would like to appropriate, that the emergency declaration could end at any point, that they have CARES Act funding to help with the response thereafter and there are daily resource requests that need approval and funding. Alderman Beale stated that he and many of his colleagues are willing to meet every week and have committee meetings weekly or twice a week if needed to take the actions needed to fund the response. He said he has a hard time understanding why they should give up their legislative authority unnecessarily when they can meet so quickly. Alderman Beale also stated that a lot of money has already been spent, and he can never get answers on how much has been spent in African American communities. Minority communities get the least amount of resources, the least education and the least access and that can not change if aldermen give up their vote and not get something to help their communities. Minority communities need to be put at the forefront and he has a real big problem giving up his authority unnecessarily when we can schedule meetings so quickly, and this ordinance is for administrative purposes to give up aldermanic authority and that's a disservice to aldermen.

Alderman LaSpata recognized these are challenging times and that impacts how the City Council meets their basic fiduciary and legislative responsibilities. To that end, Alderman LaSpata asked if the Budget Committee is meeting weekly to get updates from OBM, what prevents aldermen from getting an appropriations ordinance on a weekly basis. Counsel Levine answered that the ordinance provides the necessary flexibility to get things done in situations where it has to be done quickly. While City Council can meet on 48-hour's notice, the regular legislative process is Committee, followed by Council, which adds more time onto that, and there are situations where



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

authorizations need to be made on less than a two-day notice. This ordinance does not replace council, but builds in the ability to respond quickly to the pandemic. Alderman LaSpata stated there are appropriations that could work through the existing council process that do not need to be done in 48 hours. Counsel Levine answered that there could be situations where the City has the ability to anticipate money coming in with sufficient notice. Alderman LaSpata responded by stating his desire to see an ordinance that further empowers the Budget Committee. Alderman LaSpata then asked about money received through the CARES Act, specifically the \$46.7 million in CDBG funds, the \$23.7 million in emergency services to address homelessness, the \$15 million in CSBG funds, and how is the city allocating those funds. Budget Director Park answered that CARES Act funds must be used for COVID-19 response, that whether its CDBG, or ESG, it has to cover response costs. Separately, there are discussions at the federal level of what the next funding package could look like, so those are some of the things we are trying to help shape for additional funding, whether it's for closing a revenue gap, or other programs like rental assistance that Alderman LaSpata mentioned, but the CARES Act funding is very limited to COVID costs only. Alderman LaSpata asked about the \$23.7 million for emergency services, which in the summary is supposed to be directed towards homelessness, and its double what was in the 2020 budget, which is good, but what does it mean that its only for COVID response. He stated that most Chicagoans would like to see a more permanent solution to homelessness, not just during the crisis. Budget Director Park said that is a great example of what they are already talking about with the federal government about the delineation in spending the funds. They can't use funding to address a need that existed before COVID, so we can't use it for permanent housing, but it can be used for shelter costs related to quarantine and isolation facilities even for the homeless population, as well as additional wraparound services. OBM is also having discussions with FEMA where the City is being informed some of those costs would be better for HUD funding than through public assistance. So they are trying to do a lot of analysis on which expenses go on which supplemental funding lines. Alderman LaSpata asked for clarification if its federally mandated that the City can only provide temporary housing stability though the end of the crisis. Budget Director Park stated they are looking for more direction from the federal government on where that line between COVID response and needs that existed before COVID. Budget Director Park also reminded that the CARES Act funding is a one-time, short term infusion of funds, that the City will not be getting it next year.

Alderman Lopez expressed deep concern regarding ceding legislative responsibility, comparing it to the Patriot Act of 2001. He said the virus will be around past June 30<sup>th</sup> and aldermen are missing an opportunity to address this in a long-term fashion, because the Council needs to show



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

that we can address the threats of the future. Alderman Lopez said he has concerns because the budget wasn't balanced to begin with, with lots of one-offs, and federal dollars coming to the City like the \$163 million approval for ambulatory services which has not come in yet. Alderman Lopez stated we are taking \$100 million to front load COVID costs and the aldermen are finding about it a month later, and the Chairman and the City Council are not getting updates as indicated in the Executive Order from the Mayor. He stated aldermen are not part of the process and that's not transparent government, and what information is being provided to aldermen is not acceptable. Minority communities are being disproportionately impacted but no concrete actions have been taken to help those communities. That lives are being lost while the Mayor is going for a power grab. Chairman Dowell asked Alderman Lopez if he had any questions, to which he responded with the question, why does the Council have to cede power until June 30<sup>th</sup>, find out about things later, when people are dying in real time and they have the ability to meet quickly. He also questioned Director Park saying nothing happens within 48 hours then hearing from Counsel Levine that there are instances where things have happened in less than 48 hours. Chairman Dowell directed Budget Director Park to clarify regarding the discrepancy whether decisions are made within 48 hours, to which Budget Director Park stated its not accurate that she said things never happened within 48 hours, that there are purchases that need to be made quickly, like PPE, where pricing changes within the hour. Alderman Lopez asked on the invoice dated 4/16/20 there is a \$1.6 million purchase of supplies presumably for PPE, ow many of those were executed in 48 hours. Budget Director Park answered when they lock in the PPE price that has to be within that day, but can't remember the actual timeframe, because prices change the next day, and while they try all their existing vendors, it's a national competition for PPE. Alderman Lopez said there is nothing stopping the Council from engaging in these matters and ceding this authority over the next two months, when the Mayor 20 minutes ago stated we should expect the Shelter-in-Place order to be extended through June, and that is not acceptable.

Alderman Taylor stated she was disappointed when people ask the question what is the emergency, because the emergency is that people on the south and west sides who are black are dying. However, the emergency order does not lead Alderman Taylor to believe something is going to be done or that the administration cares about the south and west sides. Alderman Taylor further stated that she does not want to give up any powers and would be more comfortable if the Budget Committee or a decision-making table was established. Alderman Taylor feels the administration has shown they will not consult aldermen on decisions, and she would support the Budget Committee as a whole making those decisions because it represents all parts of the City, and if that was in the ordinance she may support it. Alderman Taylor further





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

stated she feels the same way when it comes to procurement, that decisions are made without consulting aldermen, and there needs to be accountability. Alderman Taylor finished by asking what the administration is going to do about the deaths of African Americans on the south and west sides, and when they can come up with an answer, a better conversation can be had.

Alderman Sigcho-Lopez recognized Alderman Moore and Alderman Garza's statements as people who have lost those that are close to them during the pandemic. He stated this tragic situation is not lost on members of the Council who experience tragedy especially in Black and Brown communities. Alderman Sigcho-Lopez said aldermen should not lose sight of who they serve, their constituents, who are directly affected by the pandemic. He repeated his colleagues call for additional collaboration, that alderman want to be a part of this process. Alderman Sigcho-Lopez says the ordinance is not a collaboration and does not strike a balance, and that the entire process of passing the ordinance without much deliberation is rushed. He said they are missing out on a lot of great ideas brought up by aldermen. Alderman Sigcho-Lopez stressed how important the process is because the ordinance deals with hundreds of millions of dollars in funding, and under the ordinance allocating that funding will be done by one department or unilaterally when there are huge needs in the Black community that is disproportionately testing positive for COVID, and when there are undocumented residents with no safety nets. Alderman Sigcho-Lopez brought up comments made by Alderman King as good ideas that are being left out and that is what happens when decisions are rushed, like with what happened with cannabis, and aldermen can not be left out of the process. Alderman Sigcho-Lopez also emphasized the point made by Alderman Reilly about co-governance, and this is an opportunity to collaborate. Alderman Sigcho-Lopez stated that he wants to strike a balance, that process is critical, and urged his colleagues on the Finance Committee to discuss the issue of the release of funds further so it's not rushed through at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour. Alderman Sigcho-Lopez then asked his colleagues on the Budget Committee and the administration to defer this so they can have briefings on how to change the ordinance to strike a proper balance, because proper briefings were not done and he wants more opportunities to weigh in on this. Chairman Dowell responded saying there were significant briefings done on the original ordinance and that ordinance was changed based on input and suggestions made by fellow aldermen. Chairman Dowell further stated that the ordinance is in her opinion the best balance between our moral need to save lives in the community and the spending of taxpayer dollars. She also recommitted to exploring putting together a working group that would work on additional debate around these issues and she was not going to defer action on the ordinance today, but she would make a commitment to working with Alderman Sigcho-Lopez and the administration on mutually agreed upon goals. Alderman



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

Sigcho-Lopez again stated he doesn't recall being part of a collaborate discussion on the point that we are touching today. He also wants to make sure any body like the working group has veto power for contracts and decisions made under the ordinance, and cited issues with EDS requirements. Chairman Dowell stated that they changed the economic disclosure agreement piece in the new ordinance. Alderman Sigcho-Lopez continued that there was no collective discussion with his colleagues on new ideas being put forward and he is concerned about equity in the appropriations of these funds. Budget Director Park responded that she looks forward to working with Chairman Dowell on gathering feedback, providing weekly reports, and working with everyone on Council. She will also work with Chairman Dowell on what she envisions for the Committee and the process, and this is not the end of the discussion, that the process will evolve and there will be plenty of opportunity for communication.

Alderman Austin raised a point of information regarding the creation of a separate committee made of Budget Committee members to address COVID spending, to which Chairman Dowell said yes she will create a working group, with the format to be determined.

Alderman Cardona acknowledged the work of Chairman Dowell, the Mayor and Director Park on their leadership and the need to save lives and stated that this ordinance isn't perfect but it's in the right direction. He acknowledged the concerns of Alderman Sigcho-Lopez and Taliaferro, and that there are lots of ideas we need to work on and he believes under Chairman Dowell's leadership this can be done, and with the small group committee we can all get through this.

Alderman Austin and Alderman Ramirez-Rosa were asked if they had a second round of questions, to which they declined.

Chairman Dowell closed by saying that we are in the middle of a nasty pandemic, you never know how it's going to move, and it's very important to figure out a balance between the need to save lives and the need to be able to respond in a quick fashion that protects taxpayers' money. Chairman Dowell agreed that the ordinance is not perfect but credited the administration for the addition of a sunset date and the weekly reports, and reiterated that she will put together a COVID working group, membership to be determined at a later date. Chairman Dowell acknowledged aldermen have not always gotten information in a timely fashion from various places within City government and that they will have to do a better job of that and she will demand they do a better job of that.



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

Alderman Taliaferro moved for a five-minute recess, seconded by Alderman Burnett. Alderman Austin suggested to stand at ease instead of a recess. Alderman Villegas moved to lay that motion on the table. Chairman Dowell moved to vote on the motion to lay on the table, and described what they are voting on, with clarification from Counsel Levine. Alderman Taliaferro withdrew his motion and explained the purpose behind it.

There being no further questions from committee members and aldermen present, motion made by Alderman Reilly and seconded by Alderman Burnett on item number 1, which passed by a roll call vote of 23 yays to 10 nays as follows: Silverstein – yes, King – no, Hairston – no, Sawyer – no, Mitchell – no, Harris – yes, Sadlowski-Garza – yes, Thompson – yes, Cardenas – yes, Quinn – yes, Moore – no, Curtis – yes, O’Shea – no response, Brookins – no, Rodriguez – no, Tabaras – yes, Scott – yes, Burnett – yes, Ervin – no, Taliafero – yes, Reboyras – yes, Waguespack – yes, Austin – no, Ramirez-Rosa – no, Villegas – yes, Sposato – yes, Napolitano – yes, Reilly – yes, Smith – yes, Tunney – yes, Cappleman – yes, Osterman – yes, Mitts – yes, Dowell – yes.

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations having no further business, on a motion made by Alderman Sposato and seconded by Alderman Harris, the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.



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

**PASS COMMITTEE 04/21/20**

**DEFER AND PUBLISH 04/22/20**

**PASS CITY COUNCIL 04/24/20 BY A ROLL CALL VOTE; LaSpata – no, Hopkins – no, Dowell – yes, King – no, Hairston – no, Sawyer – no, Mitchell – no, Harris – yes, Beale – no, Sadlowski-Garza – yes, Thompson – yes, Cardenas – yes, Quinn – yes, Burke – no, Lopez – no, Coleman – no, Moore – no, Curtis – yes, O’Shea – yes, Taylor – no, Brookins – yes, Rodriguez – no, Tabares – yes, Scott – yes, Sigcho-Lopez, Maldonado – no, Burnett – yes, Ervin – no, Taliafero – yes, Reboyras – yes, Cardona – yes, Waguespack – yes, Rodriguez-Sanchez – no, Austin – yes, Ramirez-Rosa – no, Villegas – yes, Mitts – yes, Sposato – yes, Nugent – yes, Vasquez – no, Napolitano – no, Reilly – yes, Smith – yes, Tunney – yes, Gardiner – yes, Cappleman – yes, Martin – no, Osterman – yes, Hadden – yes and Silverstein – yes.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Pat Dowell

Chairman, Committee on the Budget and Government Operations