



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: September 3, 2021

**COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT
JULY 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 July 2021.

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

On July 15, 2021, at 3:00 p.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 July 15, 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), Thompson (11), Quinn (13), Moore (17), Curtis (18), O'Shea (19), Rodriguez (22), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Ervin (28), Taliaferro (29), Reboyras (30), Waguespack (32), Austin (34), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), Reilly (42), Smith (43), Tunney (44), and Osterman (48).

The following member(s) were virtually not present at the July 15, 2021 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Sadlowski-Garza (10), Cardenas (12), Brookins (21), Tabares (23), Villegas (36), Napolitano (41), and Cappleman (46).

The following non-members were virtually present at the July 15, 2021 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: La Spata (1), Coleman (16), Sigcho-Lopez (25) and Cardona (31).



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**Date, Time &
Location of**

Meeting:

On July 16, 2021, at 3:00 p.m., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a reconvened meeting via video conference, in Chicago, Illinois.

Attendance:

The following members were virtually present at the reconvened July 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), Cardenas (12), Quinn (13), Moore (17), O'Shea (19), Rodriguez (22), Tabares (23), Scott (24), Burnett (27), Ervin (28), Taliaferro (29), Reboyras (30), Waguespack (32), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), Reilly (42), Smith (43), Tunney (44), Cappleman (46) and Osterman (48).

The following member(s) were virtually not present at the reconvened July 16, 2021 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Sadlowski-Garza (10), Thompson (11), Curtis (18), Brookins (21), Austin (34), and Napolitano (41).

The following non-members were virtually present at the reconvened July 16, 2021 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Beale (9).

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

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE DURING THE JUNE 25, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

- 1. Amendment of Municipal Code 2-14-076 and 9-4-010 regarding remote administrative adjudication hearings (O2021-2878)**

**PASS COMMITTEE 7/15/21
PASS CITY COUNCIL 7/21/21**

- 2. First amendment of intergovernmental agreement with Cook County Sheriff's Office and County of Cook extending term for lease of surplus equipment under RENEW program in exchange for participation by Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (SWAP) workforce in City projects (O2021-2824)**

**PASS COMMITTEE 7/15/21
PASS CITY COUNCIL 7/21/21**



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3. Substitute Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2021 amendment within Fund No. 925 for Office of Mayor, Department of Housing, Department of Public Health, Department of Family and Support Services and Department of Streets and Sanitation (SO2021-2874)

**SUBSTITUTE IN COMMITTEE 7/15/21
SUBSTITUTE PASS COMMITTEE 7/16/21
SUBSTITUTE PASS CITY COUNCIL 7/21/21**

4. Transfer of funds within City Council Committee on Housing and Real Estate for Year 2021 for personnel services and contract services (O2021-1995)

**PASS COMMITTEE 7/16/21
PASS CITY COUNCIL 7/21/21**

On July 15, 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. Ben Kay was recognized as the first speaker. Following Mr. Kay was Jackie Vail. With no further speakers signed up to speak, Chairman Dowell closed the public comment period.

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

Chairman Dowell began the meeting with item number 1 on the agenda, an Amendment of Municipal Code 2-14-076 and 9-4-010 regarding remote administrative adjudication hearings (O2021-2878). Alderman Dowell recognized Anthony Rizzo who read his opening statement. Chairman Dowell then opened the meeting up for questions from committee members and other aldermen. Alderman Reboyras asked for clarification regarding how remote hearings are conducted. Alderman Scott inquired about the monetary limits on Administrative Hearings remote hearings. Mr. Rizzo clarified that there is no maximum limit to hear a case remotely. Alderman Thompson asked if this is the same process they had in place during COVID-19, and is this a cost savings. Mr. Rizzo said they do in-person and remote right now, but this would make remote a permanent option. Alderman Mitts asked about the process for educating residents about the remote options. Alderman King inquired about the use of in-person



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vs. remote participation in Administrative Hearings. Mr. Rizzo said they are going to compile the data. Alderman Moore asked if they are going to update the tickets to alert residents that remote hearings are an option, and how the hearings actually work. Mr. Rizzo said yes they will update the tickets. Chairman Dowell asked about the staffing implications for the new change and if the hearings are recorded. Mr. Rizzo answered that there are no staffing implications, and the audio of recordings is recorded. Alderman Mitts then 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, July 21, 2021.

Next Chairman Dowell moved to item 2 on the agenda, the First amendment of intergovernmental agreement with Cook County Sheriff's Office and County of Cook extending term for lease of surplus equipment under RENEW program in exchange for participation by Sheriff's Work Alternative Program (SWAP) workforce in City projects (O2021-2824). Alderman Dowell recognized Acting Commissioner Cole Stallard to read his opening statement. At the conclusion of Acting Commissioner Stallard's remarks, Alderman Dowell asked for clarification on the extension of the agreement. Acting Commissioner Stallard answered that it was for 3 years. Chairman Dowell then opened the meeting up for questions from committee members and other aldermen. Alderman Austin asked for the compensation for the program. Acting Commissioner Stallard responded the City receives 20 people and the county receives two backhoes as part of the program. Alderman Austin 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, July 21, 2021.

Chairman Dowell then moved to item 3 on the agenda a Substitute Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2021 amendment within Fund No. 925 for Office of Mayor, Department of Housing, Department of Public Health, Department of Family and Support Services and Department of Streets and Sanitation (SO2021-2874). Alderman Dowell asked for a motion to accept the substitute ordinance. Motion made by Alderman Scott. With the substitute ordinance under consideration, Alderman Dowell recognized Deputy Budget Director LaToya Vaughn to read her opening statement. Following Deputy Budget Director Vaughn's remarks, Chairman Dowell recognized Department of Housing Commissioner Marissa Novara to explain the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) funding already spent by the City and the new funding contained in the ordinance before the Committee. Commissioner Novara gave background on the ERAP program. Chairman Dowell then opened the meeting up for questions from committee members and other aldermen. Alderman Moore asked about GAGDC. Ayanna Thomas answered that they are administering the Developing Health Literacy grant. Alderman Moore then asked how they are choosing grant program recipients. Ms. Thomas answered it was a competitive grant. Alderman Moore clarified that GAGDC did not respond to requests from his office, and moved to hold



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that portion of the ordinance. Alderman Thompson asked if this funding was part of the original 2021 Budget and asked for accountability information for the grant recipients. Deputy Budget Director Vaughn answered that these are new grants. Chairman Dowell added that when grants come to the City, she requires that information about the grant recipients be provided to aldermen prior to the meeting. Commissioner Novara then clarified where the ERAP grant money was used. Policy Director Daniel Hertz answered that there is utility assistance from a number of government entities. Alderman Thompson asked what CCVI stood for. Ayanna Thomas answered that CCVI is the score they use to determine COVID-19 vaccination efforts. Alderman Rodriguez inquired about how the Department of Housing ensures all residents have access to ERAP funding. Commissioner Novara ensured that all residents including the undocumented can access ERAP funding and they are getting good distribution of grants throughout the city. Alderman Ervin asked about CCVI score for the West Garfield community area. Ayanna Thomas said CCVI will be clarified by the slide deck she will send. Alderman King asked about ERAP aid, spending vs. applications for funds, and where those funds actually end up. Commissioner Novara talked about how they process applications, but it's too early in the processing of applications to tell where the money actually has gone. Chairman Dowell continued to question the distribution of ERAP funding across the City. Policy Director Hertz said they will provide a map of grants distributed. Chairman Dowell then recognized Alexis Long from the Law Department to give an opinion to divide Alderman Moore's question to take out the GAGDC portion of the grant. Ms. Long said they could not take it out because it's a budget ordinance, and it would need a substitute ordinance and a substitute ordinance could not be voted on it today because it's not noticed correctly. Ms. Long further clarified that they can not amend the ordinance on its face because it would create a substitute ordinance. Alderman Reilly said Law could create a substitute and present it to all aldermen present. Chairman Dowell moved for a five minute recess. Chairman Dowell then agreed to hold Items No. 3 and 4 on the agenda and recess the committee until Friday, July 16, 2021 at 3:00 pm.

On July 16, 2021 Chairman Dowell called the reconvened 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. With no speakers signed up for public comment, Chairman Dowell concluded the public comment period. Chairman Dowell then moved to item 3 on the agenda a Substitute Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2021 amendment within Fund No. 925 for Office of Mayor, Department of Housing, Department of Public Health, Department of Family and Support Services and Department of Streets and Sanitation (SO2021-2874). Chairman Dowell then opened the meeting up for questions from committee members and other aldermen. Alderman Moore asked about



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removing an organization as a grant recipient from the ordinance. Deputy Budget Director Latoya Vaughn explained that through a competitive bid process organizations have been awarded the grant and can't be removed, and removing awardees is also in violation of federal regulations. James McDonald from the Law Department added that Section 8 of the budget ordinance must be carried out in adherence of the citywide procedures for awarding grants. There is no exemption for holding or rejecting a grantee for failure to provide additional information above and beyond what is required by the RFP. If the Council did not proceed with awarding an individual grantee, that would be outside the scope of authority of the Council and subject the City a legal risk as it may be in violation of Section 8. Alderman Sawyer asked if the Council could vote yes or no on the entirety of the grant. James McDonald from the Department of Law explained that the ordinance appropriates the entire grant award, appropriating individual sub-grantees. Jeff Levine from the Law Department added that if we apply a different standard for one entity would be an issue. Chairman Dowell said that if the ordinance does not pass the money would not be appropriated. Alderman Ervin asked for clarity on what information Alderman Moore is missing. Jeff Levine explained that the information Alderman Moore is seeking is beyond the scope of information required to be provided by the grantee to receive the award. Alderman Cardenas explained that the City is beholden to the competitive bid process. Alderman Moore explained that GAGDC used grant money for purposes outside the scope of the grant, potentially for political purposes. Alderman Reilly asked what information is not being provided by the organization. Alderman Moore asked the grantee the number of employees, the salaries of employees, job descriptions, and addresses of the employees. Alderman Reilly moved do pass Item No. 3 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Jeff Levine from the Law Department explained why Rule 12 does not apply and Alderman Moore's motion to orally amend the ordinance is not applicable. By the affirmative vote with the exception of Alderman Moore voting no, the item passed and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, July 21, 2021.

Chairman Dowell moved to Item No. 4 on the agenda, the Transfer of funds within City Council Committee on Housing and Real Estate for Year 2021 for personnel services and contract services (O2021-1995). Alderman Osterman explained the ordinance. Alderman Smith 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, July 21, 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 Hairston moved to adjourn. The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting adjourned at 3:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

**Pat Dowell, Chairman
Committee on the Budget and Government Operations**