



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: April 18, 2022

**COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT
MARCH 2022**

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 March 2022.

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

On March 16, 2022 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 March 16, 2022 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), 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), Austin (34), Ramirez-Rosa (35), 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 March 16, 2022 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Vacant (11), Curtis (18), Brookins (21), and Villegas (36).

The following non-members were virtually present at the March 16, 2022 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Beale (9), Lopez (15), and Sigcho-Lopez (25).



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

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE DURING THE FEBRUARY 23, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. An ordinance concerning an amendment to the Annual Appropriations Ordinance Year 2022 within Fund No. 925 for the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (SO2022-666)

**SUBSTITUTED IN COMMITTEE 3/16/22
SUBSTITUTE PASS COMMITTEE 3/16/22
PASS CITY COUNCIL 3/23/22**

2. An ordinance concerning an amendment to the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) software contract with Unqork, Inc. (O2022-670)

**PASS COMMITTEE 3/16/22
PASS CITY COUNCIL 3/23/22**

3. A resolution, introduced by Alderman Pat Dowell (3rd Ward), and others, supporting the Biden Administration to nominate a Black woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court (R2022-146)

**PASS COMMITTEE 3/16/22
PASS CITY COUNCIL 3/23/22**

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES AND RULES ON JUNE 25, 2021, REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS DURING RULES COMMITTEE OCTOBER 12, 2021, DEFERRED AND PUBLISHED DURING THE OCTOBER 14, 2021 CITY COUNCIL, RE-REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS DURING THE JANUARY 26, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

4. An ordinance, introduced by Alderman Anthony Beale (9th Ward), and others, concerning an amendment of Municipal Code Chapter 2-60 by adding new Section 2-60-090 to establish the position of Legislative Counsel (O2021-2901)

**SUBSTITUTED IN COMMITTEE 3/16/22
HELD IN COMMITTEE 3/16/22**



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On March 16, 2022 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 was 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. Chairman Dowell recognized George Blakemore as the only public speaker. Following Mr. Blakemore, with no additional individuals signed up to speak, Chairman Dowell closed the public comment period.

Alderman Dowell called for approval of the Amended February 2022 Monthly Rule 45 Report for the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations. Alderman Austin moved to approve the Amended Rule 45 Report. Hearing no objections, the item was approved.

Chairman Dowell began the meeting with Item Number 1 on the agenda, an ordinance concerning an amendment to the Annual Appropriations Ordinance Year 2022 within Fund No. 925 for the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (SO2022-666). Alderman Scott moved to accept the substitute for Item Number 1. With no objections, the substitute ordinance was accepted in committee. Chairman Dowell then recognized Deputy Budget Director Latoya Vaughn to explain the ordinance. Chairman Dowell commented that the panelist demographics for the large grant program showed there were no African American members. Kalena Chevalier from the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) explained they are recruiting additional panelist members and they are targeting African American participants. Alderman Hairston asked for a timeline for appointing an African American to the panel. Ms. Chevalier answered that they will identify someone by April 11th and that the training begins March 22nd. Chairman Dowell also added that this ordinance is to accept the money into the City. Tahira Baig from DCASE said they will send the list of panelists to the committee once they are identified. Alderman Burnett 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, March 23, 2022.

Chairman Dowell then moved to consider Item Number 2 on the agenda an ordinance concerning an amendment to the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) software contract with Unqork, Inc. (O2022-670). Daniel Hertz, Director of Policy from the Department of Housing (DoH) was recognized by Alderman Dowell to discuss the ordinance. Following Mr. Hertz's testimony, Chairman Dowell opened the meeting for questions from committee members and non-members. Alderman Osterman commented that this program didn't exist two years ago, and the work that the Department of Housing



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has done to stand up this program, and take care of residents in need, is outstanding. That is why, he stated, he supports this contract extension. Alderman Ervin asked about the disparities between applications and approvals. Mr. Hertz responded that it takes time for DoH to process the applications, and that some applications don't meet the standard to qualify for the program so they can't fund it. Alderman Ervin continued by asking how DoH determines who gets services and the demographic makeup of the Unqork, Inc. and subcontractors on the contract. Mr. Hertz answered that the lowest income applications are prioritized and DoH will provide demographic details for the contractor through the chair. Chairman Dowell instructed Alderman Ervin to check the company's website which lists the leadership team. Alderman Lopez inquired about how the company running the contract determines its fees and what additional payments are needed for the contract extension. Mr. Hertz answered that it's based on volume, personal services, and additional factors, and that there are some substantial differences between the old contract terms and the new extension, and they needed to come back to City Council to get additional authorizations for funding changes due to limitations on the original ordinance. Alderman Mitts 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, March 23, 2022.

Chairman Dowell then moved to consider Item Number 3 on the agenda a resolution, introduced by Alderman Pat Dowell (3rd Ward), and others, supporting the Biden Administration to nominate a Black woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court (R2022-146). Chairman Dowell explained the resolution. Alderman Hairston moved do pass Item No. 3 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Hearing no objections, the item passed and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, March 23, 2022.

Chairman Dowell then moved to consider Item Number 4 on the agenda an ordinance, introduced by Alderman Anthony Beale (9th Ward), and others, concerning an amendment of Municipal Code Chapter 2-60 by adding new Section 2-60-090 to establish the position of Legislative Counsel (O2021-2901). Chairman Dowell announced that this item will be held in committee and explained why the item was to be held. Following Chairman Dowell's remarks, she recognized Alderman Ervin who asked about a competing ordinance and for a comparison between the two ordinances so aldermen can better understand the differences between them. Alderman Reilly responded to Alderman Ervin's question regarding ordinance briefings. Alderman Smith agreed with Alderman Ervin's request for a comparison document between the two ordinances. Alderman Beale asked for the substitute ordinance to be accepted into committee. Alderman Tunney moved to accept the substitute and the substitute was accepted into committee. Alderman Beale continued that he wanted a discussion about the substitute



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ordinance and gave background on the substitute ordinance. Chairman Dowell responded that she was prepared to hear the ordinance, however with the substantial changes and the late notice for the substitute, the ordinance needed to be held. Alderman King asked if Aldermen Beale and Reilly could do briefings together. Alderman Reilly stated he is open to do joint briefings and that there is no pride of authorship with his ordinance. Alderman King continued by again recommending joint briefings. Alderman Lopez stated it was hypocritical that another committee accepted a substitute to a substitute the day before and holding the ordinance is gamesmanship. Chairman Dowell explained the situation yesterday and how today's determination to hold the ordinance was different. Alderman Ervin moved to hold Item No. 4 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Hearing no objections, the item was held.

Chairman Dowell stated that there was no further business before the Committee and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting 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 11:00 am.

Respectfully submitted by:

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

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