



CITY OF CHICAGO



COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL - ROOM 200
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ALDERMAN PAT DOWELL
CHAIRMAN

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Date: April 13, 2023

**COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT
MARCH 2023**

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 2023.

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

On March 8, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a meeting in City Hall Council Chambers, in Chicago, Illinois.

Attendance:

The following members were virtually present at the March 8, 2023 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: Chairman Dowell (3), Vice-Chair Silverstein (50), Hairston (5), Sadlowski-Garza (10), Quinn (13), Moore (17), Rodriguez (22), Scott (24), Ervin (28), Taliaferro (29), Reboyras (30), Waguespack (32), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42), Knudsen (43), Cappleman (46), and Osterman (48).

The following member(s) were virtually not present at the March 8, 2023 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: King (4), Sawyer (6), Mitchell (7), Harris (8), Lee (11), Abarca (12), Curtis (18), O'Shea (19), Brookins (21), Tabares (23), Burnett (27), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Mitts (37), Sposato (38), and Tunney (44).

The following non-members were virtually present at the March 8, 2023 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting: La Spata (1), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Nugent (39), Martin (47) and Hadden (49).

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

On March 8, 2023 at 10:30 a.m., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan held a meeting in City Hall Council Chambers, in Chicago, Illinois.

Attendance:

The following members were virtually present at the March 8, 2023 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan Meeting: Chairman Dowell (3), Vice Chair Martin (47), La Spata (1), Hairston (5), Sadlowski-Garza (10), Rodriguez (22), Ervin (28), Waguespack (32), Nugent (39), and Osterman (48).

The following member(s) were virtually not present at the March 8, 2023 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan Meeting: Burnett (27), and Cardona (31).

The following non-members were virtually present at the March 8, 2023 Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan Meeting: Quinn (13), Moore (17), Scott (24), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Taliaferro (29), Reboyras (30), Napolitano (41), Reilly (42), Knudsen (43), Cappleman, (46), Hadden (49), Silverstein (50).

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

DIRECT INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE DURING THE MARCH 8, 2023 MEETING

- 1. An ordinance concerning an amendment to the Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2023 within Fund No. 925 for Department of Family and Support Services (Direct Introduction)**

**DIRECT INTRODUCTION 3/8/23
PASS COMMITTEE 3/8/23
PASS CITY COUNCIL 3/15/23**

SUBJECT MATTER HEARING ONLY, NO VOTES TAKEN

- 2. Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan topic areas including: Affordable housing, and arts and culture**

On March 8, 2023 at Chairman Dowell called the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations meeting to order. 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. George Blakemore was recognized as the only public speaker. Following Mr. Blakemore, Chairman Dowell closed the public comment period.

Alderman Dowell called for approval of the January and February 2023 Monthly Rule 45 Reports for the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations. Alderman Reboyras moved to accept the Rule 45 Reports. Hearing no objections, the item was approved.

Chairman Dowell began the meeting with item number 1, an ordinance concerning an amendment to the Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2023 within Fund No. 925 for Department of Family and Support Services (Direct Introduction). Chairman Dowell recognized Deputy Budget Director Latoya Vaughn who provided an overview of the ordinance. Following Deputy Budget Director Vaughn's remarks, Chairman Dowell explained the agencies providing services and opened up the meeting for questions and comments from members and non-members. Alderman Hairston asked about who makes the decisions regarding where migrants are placed, and if there is communication between DFSS and the alderman. Maura McCauley, Managing Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Family and Support Services, answered placement is done through 311, and that they notify aldermen when a shelter is opened in a ward. Alderman Hairston recounted a story where this notification did not occur. Chairman Dowell asked about the shelter location list provided. Managing Deputy Commissioner McCauley answered that it's a mix of all types of organizations. Alderman Rodriguez agrees with Alderman Hairston about the lack of communication, wants to be involved in getting more resources for immigrants, but says that these are very important dollars for the City to help with the immigrant issue. He then inquired if we will be receiving more funding. Deputy Vaughn stated the City will advocate for additional dollars. Alderman Moore asked if these dollars were State funded, and what source. Budget Director Susie Park answered that its direct funding from the state. Alderman Cappleman said that there is a need for additional shelters and that his ward has more than his fair share. Alderman Reboyras reinforced the call for additional communication between aldermen and the administration. Alderman Nugent asked if this is only money, that this is not just a Chicago issue, and the City needs to coordinate with neighboring cities and the state for a comprehensive solution. Deputy Budget Director Vaughn answered they are anticipating additional funds from the federal government. Managing Deputy Commissioner McCauley added that they partner with the state, federal government and county to coordinate services for migrants. Alderman Quinn inquired about security at the shelter sites. Jonathan Ernst, First Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Family and Support Services, responded that there is all-inclusive staffing at the shelters, which includes security, which is why that's not mentioned specifically in the ordinance. Mr. Ernst added that the K-Mart facility is state run not a Chicago facility. Alderman Sigcho Lopez asked why the Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights has not held hearings on this issue. Chairman Dowell explained the best way to call for a hearing. Alderman Sigcho Lopez continued by asking how long the funding is expected to last. First Deputy Commissioner Ernst responded that the funding should carry the City for approximately three months. Alderman Sadlowski-Garza inquired if these funds can be used for case management. Managing Deputy Commissioner McCauley said yes there are case managers on site. Alderman Moore asked for clarification on the funding type. Budget Director Park answered that this is a direct grant, no reimbursement, and that the federal government has new grants they are applying for but no additional information on that funding. Alderman Rodriguez moved do pass on item No. 1 on the agenda by the same roll call vote used to determine quorum. Hearing no objections, item 1 passed, with the exception of Aldermen Hairston, Quinn, Reilly, and Napolitano recorded as voting no, and was reported out at the City Council meeting on Wednesday, March 15, 2023.

Chairman Dowell stated that there was no further business before the Committee and asked for a motion to adjourn. Alderman Osterman moved to adjourn. The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

On March 8, 2023 Vice-Chairman Martin called the subcommittee meeting to order. Vice-Chair Martin took a roll call to establish a quorum and a quorum was established. Vice-Chairman opened the floor to begin the public comment period and explained the procedures for public comment. George Blakemore was the only public speaker. Following Mr. Blakemore, Vice-Chair Martin closed the public comment period. Vice-Chair Martin mentioned written public comment that was submitted.

Vice-Chair Martin began the meeting by introducing the topics for discussion during the subcommittee meeting and recognized Anthony Simpkins, the President of Neighborhood Housing Services, as the first panelist to discuss affordable housing as part of the Chicago Recovery Plan. Following Mr. Simpkins, Stacie Young, CEO of the Community Investment Corporation, delivered her prepared statement. Rafael Leon, Executive Director of Chicago Metropolitan Housing Development Corporation was the last speaker on affordable housing. Omar Torres-Kortright, Executive Director of Segundo Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center was the first speaker on the topic of Arts and Culture. After Mr. Torres-Kortright, Lynn Basa a local sculptor and artist spoke. Last, Jackie Taylor, the Founder and CEO of the Black Ensemble Theater delivered her opening remarks. Next, Budget Director Susie Park provided an update on the Chicago Recovery Plan's progress. Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events Commissioner Erin Harkey then reviewed programs within DCASE to support arts and culture. After the conclusion of the presentations, Vice-Chair Martin announced that because there is a quarterly Department of Housing update already scheduled for later that day in the Committee on Housing and Real Estate, the subcommittee would be skipping that department's prepared remarks. With that explanation, Vice-Chair Martin opened up the meeting for questions from members and non-members. Alderman La Spata inquired about the role artists played in the grant categories the City is investing in. Commissioner Harkey responded that they held meetings and outreach with artists, and peer organizations to align programs and funding with artist needs. Alderman La Spata continued by asking if there is coordination in the department for artists who may not have gotten one grant, that they are eligible for others. Commissioner Harkey answered that they coordinate to make sure artists are eligible, especially when discussing capital investments. Alderman Moore asked about the rental property tax assistance program. Department of Housing Deputy Managing Commission Bryan Eisenberg explained the Illinois House Bill that is run through the county, and options for tax reductions depend on how much affordable housing a developer is willing to provide.

Vice-Chair Martin stated that there was no further business before the subcommittee and asked for a motion to adjourn. Alderman La Spata moved to adjourn. The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations Subcommittee on the Chicago Recovery Plan Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:



Pat Dowell, Chairman

Committee on the Budget and Government Operations