

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
MONTHLY RULE 45 REPORT  
JANUARY 2024

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(with Clerical Correction)

Pursuant to Rule 45 of the City Council Rules of Order, the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations (CBGO) submits the following Monthly Rule 45 Report for JANUARY 2024.

Date, Time & Location of Meeting: On January 23, 2024, at 1:30 P.M., the Committee on the Budget and Government Operations held a meeting in City Hall, Council Chamber, 121 N. LaSalle Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

Attendance: The following members were present: Chairman Ervin (28), Vice-Chairman Lee (11), La Spata (1), Dowell (3), Mitchell (7), Quinn (13), Moore (17), Mosley (21), Sigcho-Lopez (25), Burnett (27), Taliaferro (29), Cardona (31), Conway (34), Ramirez-Rosa (35), Villegas (36), Sposato (38), Nugent (39), Martin (47), Hadden (49) and Silverstein (50).

The following members were present virtually: Robinson (4), Yancy (5), Harris (8), Rodriguez-Sanchez (33), Mitts (37) and Vasquez (40).

The following members were absent: Ramirez (12), Lopez (15), O'Shea (19), Cardona (31), Mitts (37), Napolitano (41), and Reilly (42).

The following non-member was present: Hall (6).

Internal witnesses present were: Matt Schmitz, Managing Deputy Budget Director, Office of Budget Management (OBM); David Powell, Project Manager with the Bureau of Assets, Michelle Woods, Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Assets, Department of Fleet and Facility Management (2FM); Belinda (Lindy) Wordlaw, Project Director, Chicago Recovery Plan, Department of the Environment; Jackie Tiema, Immunization Program Director, Regina Meza Jimenez, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Public Health (DOH); Tomas Maulawin, Director of Grants, Office of Public Safety Administration (OPSA); Deputy Director Michael Milstein, Office of Community Policing, Commander Andrew Costello, Sergeant Ryan Delaney, Lieutenant Mark Duignan, Sergeant Thomas Barnett, Officer Paul Downing, Chicago Police Department (CPD); Redeatu Kassa, Chief Assistant Corporation, Department of Law; Commissioner Nancy Andrade, Chicago Commission on Human Relations (CCHR).

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

- 1. Approval of the Monthly Rule 45 Reports of October, November, and December 2023.**
- 2. Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2024 amendment within Fund 925. (O2023-0006380)**
- 3. Resolution regarding City Council Office of Financial Analysis Director. (R2023-0006243)**
- 4. Transfer of funds within Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights for Year 2023. (O2023-0006405)**

Chairman Ervin called the meeting to order, took roll call, and found that a quorum was present. The Chair then made a motion on Rule 59 to allow remote participation of Committee Members Robinson, Yancy, Harris, Rodriguez-Sanchez, Mitts and Vasquez, hearing no objections, so ordered.

Chairman Ervin proceeded to read the Rules of Conduct for Public Meetings, then opened the floor for public comment. The following speaker was present and given three minutes for public comment:

- George Blakemore

The Chair concluded the public comment period and moved to approval of the Rule 45 Reports of the Committee on Budget and Government Operations meetings held, October 3, 2023, November 6, 2023, and December 8, 2023, which reports were transmitted electronically to the Membership. The Chair asked if there were any requests for discussion. Hearing no such requests, Alderman Mosley moved to approve the reports. A vote was taken, and the reports were approved.

Chairman Ervin called for Item # 1 of the agenda, an Annual Appropriation Ordinance Year 2024 amendment within Fund 925. Chairman made a motion to accept a substitute ordinance on item #1, Alderman Dowell so moved, hearing no objection, the item was adopted. Matthew Schmitz, Managing Deputy Budget Director was acknowledged and provided testimony on the substitute ordinance. The Chairman opened the floor for questions and comments.

The Chair recognized Alderman Villegas who asked 2FM to elaborate on the Library Solar Power Project, the \$1 million being requested. Is this the total cost of the improvements? David Powell replied, this grant is for the West Lawn Branch and the Toman Branch, it will be used for the implementation of onsite solar generation and energy conservation, the purpose is to bring down the energy consumption of the existing facilities. Villegas inquired if the \$1 million is the initial funding for additional projects or is there an existing capital project around solar power. David responded this is a pilot project, there are currently no other solar projects happening with city-owned buildings.

Alderman Dowell referenced the organized retail crime grant and asked what's our role, what's being done and what's the priority/focus? Sergeant Delaney replied, the grant entails conferences for the task force members; National Clear Conference, Cook County Regional Organized Crime Conference; additionally, investigative overtime. The main priority is the extensive investigations of organizations that profit from theft, deception, fraud, and money laundering in the city. Alderman Dowell asked who represents the city of Chicago on the task force. Sergeant Delaney stated that he is the supervisor. Alderman Dowell requested through the Chair a list of the members on the task force. Chairman Ervin made a point of clarification, that Sergeant Delaney provided the operations of the task force, and that Alderman Dowell is inquiring who are the management level members; external partners that work

alongside CPD, i.e. Attorney General's Office, other government, and federal agencies. Sergeant Delaney will provide the information through the Chair. Alderman Dowell asked if this is focused on retail theft in stores and if the rail lines are included. Sergeant Delaney answered, yes, we do investigations on the railroad. Alderman Dowell concluded questions and the Chair acknowledged Vice Chair Lee.

Vice Chair Lee asked how much money we anticipate saving with the Library Solar Power Project. David Powell responded, the total project cost is a little over \$2 million, in terms of the energy we will be saving with the implementation, I will get that through the Chair. Vice Chair referenced the Mathew Shephard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Program Grant, asking how the funds will be used and what we are targeting to accomplish. Commissioner Nancy Andrade explained this is a pilot program to report hate crimes, hate incidents, hate graffiti and community tensions via community-based organizations. The law enforcement component will still be handled by CPD, but we are collaborating. Vice Chair asked how the reporting is being aggregated. Commissioner Andrade, a person may feel uncomfortable with calling 911 or going to the police department, a person may feel comfortable reporting the hate incident to a community-based organization that will assist with reporting it and other resources. In addition, the overall goal is to increase reporting, establish good relationships with CPD working with community-based organizations, building trust, and encouraging the community to report, "If you see something, say something, report it". Vice Chair concluded and Alderman Moore was recognized.

Alderman Moore asked for the requested amount from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and what is it being used for. Mathew Schmidt replied, CPD is requesting \$109,000 for the impaired driving prevention training program. Alderman Moore asked who applied for this grant, CPD, CDOT? Tomas Maulawin stated that we worked with CPD to develop the application for this one.

Alderman Rodriguez was recognized and expressed his support of the Solar Power Project at the Toman Branch Library located in his ward. In addition, requested the individual he could follow up with regarding the project. David Powell, project Manager, Asset Management. The Chair called, Alderman Villegas, who requested that 2FM they be required to come back and provide results of the Solar Power Project pilot program. Chairman Ervin stated he has no objection to that and inquired on the timeframe of completion. David Powell answered that the estimated time of completion for these libraries is currently to be determined, the US Department of Energy has stringent requirements/approvals, and review processes for these. We are looking to have them installed by the end of the year. Chairman Ervin asked once the project is completed, allow us to come and see the final product and determine if we need to make more investments like this in all our libraries. The Chairman acknowledged no further questions from the body, Alderman Rodriguez moved do pass, hearing no objections, the item was approved by the same roll call vote used to establish a quorum. The item passed and was to be reported out for the January 24, 2024, City Council Meeting.

Chairman Ervin moved to Item #2, an adoption of a resolution regarding City Council Office of Financial Analysis Director. The Chair requested that the item be passed out by the committee, after which I will potentially not report this out, are there any objections. Alderman Moore asked why we would just pass this out of committee, it needs to be heard, why are we trying to remove this person. The Chair suggested that we speak off the record on this item. Alderman Harris requested that we go into executive session to further discuss. Alderman Sposato commented that the Chairman reached out to him as well as others to discuss this item, so there is no need to go into executive session. The Chair called a brief 10-minute recess. The body returned, Alderman Sposato moved do pass, hearing no objections, the item was approved and was to be reported out for the January 24, 2024, City Council Meeting. Alderman Mitchell, Moore, and Dowell were recorded as voting no.

Chairman Ervin proceeded to Item #3, a transfer of funds within Committee on Immigrant and Refugee Rights for Year 2023. The Chair opened the floor for questions and recognized Alderman Cardona, who asked what funds are being transferred and why are they going to their committee. The Chairman explained that it is an internal transfer from commodities to contractual services within the committee it does not change the overall resources going to the committee, it is more of a bookkeeping change for the 2023 budget. Alderman Rodriguez moved do pass, hearing no objections, the item was approved by the same roll call vote used to establish a quorum. The item passed and was to be reported out for the January 24, 2024, City Council Meeting.

The Committee on the Budget and Government Operations having no further business, on motion made by Alderman Cardona for adjournment, meeting was adjourned.

*(A video recording of the full meeting with committee members, internal and external experts, as well as any/all public speaking content can be reviewed on the Chicago City Clerk website under Committee Meeting Web Stream Archive dated January 23rd.)*

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Ervin', written over a horizontal line.

Jason C. Ervin, Chairman  
Committee on the Budget and Government Operations