

ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the outbreak of the novel coronavirus 2019-ncov, also known as COVID-19, has precipitated a worldwide public health crisis, and,

WHEREAS, in response to the crisis, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago have been governed in part by emergency executive order since March 12, 2020, and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Chicago has a solemn and binding duty to the welfare of the City's residents, and to represent them as a full and co-equal branch of government, and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago even in times of non-crisis calls, as a matter of statute, for twice-monthly meetings of the City Council, and

WHEREAS, it has from time to time been the practice of the City Council to meet less frequently, but such schedule is insufficient to meet the needs of the current crisis, and

WHEREAS, the availability of remote meeting technology makes it possible for the City Council and its standing and special Committees to convene as quickly as necessary to meet the demands of the crisis, now therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. A new section 2-8-015 of the Municipal Code of the City of Chicago is hereby added with the following language:

2-8-015 City Council meetings during a declared disaster

In the event that the City of Chicago or any of its parts falls within the boundaries of any disaster or emergency declared by the federal government of the United States, the State of Illinois, the County of Cook, or the City of Chicago, the city council shall for the duration of the declared disaster hold regular meetings, at minimum, on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 10:00am, either in the council chamber in City Hall or, as necessitated by the nature of the disaster, at another location or by a remote electronic meeting process established and supervised by the City Clerk.

Such regular meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month during a declared disaster shall be held regardless of and in addition to any other regular meetings scheduled by separate ordinance. No ordinance fixing the time and place of the next succeeding regular meeting of the City Council shall be issued during a declared disaster that shall fix that time and place later than the next occurring second or fourth Wednesday of a month.

Standing and active special Committees of the City Council shall for the duration of the declared disaster either

- a) Hold at minimum one meeting between the regularly scheduled City Council meetings that occur on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, the agenda of which shall include all disaster-related matters referred to the Committee, or
- b) Submit at the reporting out of Committees on the regularly scheduled City Council meetings that occur on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, in writing, a summary of all matters currently before the Committee pertaining to the emergency, and an explanation of the Committee's inability or unwillingness to meet between the regularly scheduled City Council meetings occurring on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon passage and publication.

Andre Vasquez, Jr.
Alderman, 40th Ward