

## IVI-IPO 2007 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE

DATE December 31, 2006  
NAME Catherine A. Zaryczny

WARD 32

VOTING ADDRESS 920 North Hoyne Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60622  
HOME PHONE 773-818-2218 BUSINESS PHONE 773-742-3479  
CAMPAIGN ADDRESS 2038 West Chicago Avenue, PMB 132, Chicago, Illinois 60622  
CAMPAIGN PHONE 773-742-3479 FAX N/A  
CAMPAIGN WEBSITE <http://zward32.blogspot.com> EMAIL [c7zaryczny@aol.com](mailto:c7zaryczny@aol.com)  
CAMPAIGN MANAGER Bonnie Marks, Esq.  
NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED 630+ NUMBER REQUIRED 150

Please provide the following background information:

Elective or appointive public and/or party offices previously held including dates.

Chicago Public Schools Local School Council--Community Representative (2003-2005)  
Columbus School

Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.

None

Principal business, educational, professional and civic activities of the past ten years.

- Trial Attorney and Corporate Counsel
- Arbitrator--Circuit Court of Cook County Mandatory Arbitration Program
- Pro Bono Counsel-South Suburban Humane Society
- Trial Coach for Law Students--John Marshall Law School Moot Court Competition
- Local School Council--Community Representative

What subjects have you studied and what experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?

Education

I was born and have resided in the 32nd Ward all of my life. I am a linguist and have studied and speak the languages which have both a current and historical significance in my Ward: Polish, Ukrainian, Russian, German, Italian, and for the past two years, have been studying Arabic.

I was educated at local public schools. I served as a Chicago Public Schools Student Ambassador to the former Soviet Republics of Russia and Ukraine and graduated with honors from Lane Technical High School in 1990. I completed my undergraduate education at Loyola University, graduating summa cum laude with double majors in Political Science and English in 1994. While at Loyola, I studied abroad in Rome, Italy with travels throughout Europe and northern Africa. I also presented a paper at the annual U.S. Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference. I graduated from law school at DePaul University in 1997.

Legal Career

I practiced law in the private sector since graduation as a trial attorney and a corporate counsel, with an insurance coverage specialization. My experience includes oversight of multi million dollar litigation budgets, cost savings initiatives and policy making in nationwide environmental cases. I

was trial counsel handling catastrophic and high profile matters in Illinois and Indiana. I also volunteered for nearly two years with the Office of the Cook County Public Defender, representing indigent defendants in felony and capital cases. I currently serve as a part time arbitrator for Circuit Court of Cook County.

Please list all endorsements you have received so far.

The formal endorsement process has commenced the week beginning December 25. All formal endorsements are due in the coming weeks. The instant IVI-IPO endorsement questionnaire is, in fact, the second questionnaire to be submitted. Questionnaires and interviews for all other organizations are pending.

As concisely as possible, state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s). What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?

I am the only true Independent candidate in this race. I am not beholden to any political party or organization.

My platform is change. I would like to change the present system because I believe it is embodied by an unresponsive and unaccountable individual whose allegiance is to the ward organization that put him in power and to the special interests that keep him in power. My goal is to engage this community and demand accountability. I want to eliminate the current system of mismanagement, fraud, over billing and graft.

What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date?

Approximately \$30,000.00 pledged.

How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list?

There are approximately 4 full time staff members and at least 22 volunteers.

## **PRIORITIES**

1. a. What employment, other than alderman, if any, do you intend to hold?

None. I plan to be a full time Alderman.

b. How will you divide your time between your aldermanic duties and your other occupation?

Not Applicable

c. Please specify the minimum hours per week you will spend performing your aldermanic duties.

For the past nearly 10 years I have consistently worked 55+ hours per week, and have been on call at all times. I would expect to spend at least that much time performing Aldermanic duties.

2. a. Please describe your service office staffing plan, including the number of staff, full and part time, how you will pay for them and the number of hours per week that your service office will be open.

The 32nd Ward is spread over a large geographic area, is divided by the Chicago River and contains a complex mix of residential and industrial neighborhoods. Consequently, the Ward may lend itself to having 2 service locations, with at least one staff member per location. In order to be accessible to the largest number of Ward citizens, the offices should include weekly evening and weekend hours. I believe the current allocations provided by the city budget for Aldermanic staffing are sufficient.

b. What services need improvement in your ward? How will you achieve this?

The problem is not what services need to be improved, but instead, the present system which gives priority to local ward politics rather than the concerns of citizens. I anticipate that the comprehensive Ward survey, outlined in #4. below will provide the residents' input and outline specific service needs on a block by block basis. A comprehensive survey will enable me, as Alderman, to address ward service concerns on a Department by Department basis.

3. What are your top priorities for the Ward?

**ADVOCACY:** The 32nd Ward needs a strong advocate on the City Council focusing on issues including:

**Responsible Spending of Tax Dollars:** The 32nd Ward has one of the heaviest tax burdens in the City. It is a mix of longtime residents and new arrivals as well as new small businesses and well established factories. The current mismanagement, over billing and fraud wastes makes the tax burden heavier each year. This Ward needs a strong Advocate to ensure the responsible spending of our tax money.

**Advocating for our schools :** The 32nd Ward has some of the great success stories of the Chicago Public School System including improving test scores, increased parent involvement, etc. Our Local School Councils are among the most active. However, in my own experience, principals and LSCs are burdened by an inefficient and unaccountable bureaucratic system which, instead of facilitating schools' needs, more often than not serve as an impediment. Many do not realize that principals and LSC must often deal with a nameless, faceless bureaucratic quagmire to get the most basic tasks accomplished. Only with such circumstances are exposed can meaningful change take place. Presently schools find themselves with no forum to bring their concerns and, certainly, with no advocate to advance them. As Alderman, I would work to ensure that our principals' and LSCs' ideas and goals are not stifled by an unresponsive bureaucracy. I believe that my background in cutting waste would lend itself to this goal.

**Advocating for improved Quality of Life Concerns:** City Services, Police and Fire, Traffic and Congestion as well as Public Transportation.

**TRANSPARENCY:** This Ward needs an Alderman whose decisions will be made with the welcome input of the community, not despite it. Transparency involves new ways to communicate with residents, including:

--A comprehensive web site detailing dates, times and locations for all Ward services (such as street cleanings, etc.)

--E-mail communications for all those who wish to use this medium to communicate;

--A regular newspaper column pertaining to Ward events and Aldermanic activities, authored by myself, to be published in local publications;

--Hotline: for anyone to contact the alderman with comments, complaints, suggestions;

--Public Record of all Complaints and Requests for City Services and when they were resolved.

Most importantly, before any major decision is made, particularly those involving zoning, the Alderman's office should:

1. Notify all salient parties affected by the decision before a course of action is undertaken;
2. Give everyone affected a meaningful opportunity to voice their opinion;
3. Involve and include the talents and expertise of interested community residents.

**INDEPENDENCE:** I have never belonged to any political organization. I will have no obligation to any political party or any special interest group.

4. How will you solicit and follow citizens' and community groups' recommendations on City matters?

I would conduct the first of its kind comprehensive, Ward-wide, block by block survey. Questions and issues surveyed would not be limited to city services, but would invite respondents to contribute input on any matter of concern pertaining to the City of Chicago. The survey would be designed with the cooperation of urban studies experts from various institutions of higher learning. Preliminary consultation with professors at Loyola University in anticipation of the design and scope of this project has already taken place. The responses derived from this survey would serve as a blueprint for me to address these concerns with each City Department.

## **PLANNING, ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT**

5. a. How should business and commercial development be balanced with residential development in the ward?

The 32nd Ward is infamous for the present Alderman's failure to meaningfully address local citizens', community groups' and businesses' concerns about development. Development currently takes place on an ad hoc basis with no consideration for underlying transportation, traffic, congestion and other basic concerns. Moreover, there is no coordination with other Wards on developments which will necessarily impact one other. Any balance should be achieved with an open and fair process that commences with the presumption of validity of the present zoning code.

The 32nd Ward has undergone substantial development changes. Any proposal for commercial or residential development must either fit within the code or be permitted after a full, open process that takes into consideration all interests.

b. How should downtown development be balanced with community development throughout the city?

Downtown Chicago represents the heartbeat of this City's business, entertainment and recreational opportunities. Its continued success in attracting visitors, major corporations and all elements of urban living makes Chicago a global City. Too often, the situation has been characterized as a "Downtown v. Local Community battle." Contrary to this view, the development of both can be mutually beneficial, provided that individual Aldermen understand and are responsive to the needs of their respective Wards.

6. a. In what ways will you assist in the positive development of neighborhood business areas?

The 32nd Ward has fine local business and community associations whose members represent a cross section of some of the brightest and most talented people in the City. For many years they have advanced comprehensive plans for business development only to be stifled by the present, unresponsive Alderman. I fully intend to utilize the talents and services of these organizations, whose primary interests are the overall betterment of this Ward and City--and not just the current special interests too often are only individually profit-motivated and exploit areas of the Ward.

b. How will you involve ward residents in planning?

In addition to the comprehensive Survey cited in #4 above, I would engage residents, businesses and community organizations through public hearings, through Web based and E-mail communications and through a Hotline.

c. What is your long-range plan for the development of the ward?

The 32nd Ward had undergone as much or more development than an other Ward in the city. The question becomes the balance of sometimes conflicting interests. It is a Ward of new arrivals and long-standing residents.

Any development plan in the 32nd Ward must take into account the cultural and historic diversity of residents and architecture and how they relate to the city as a whole. In addition, any development plan would necessarily involved coordination with Aldermen from all adjoining Wards.

7. How do you intend to handle requests for zoning variances in your ward?

A strong Alderman would not oppose zoning variances for the sake of opposing them but would, instead, eliminate the current system of closed door arrangements which have kept our residents in the dark regarding basic zoning decisions. I would propose:

- Community Advisory Boards be meaningfully consulted regarding any proposed zoning or development changes.
- Truly publicized hearings regarding any changes so that people most affected would have notice;
- Expansion of the geographic area for notice purposes;
- Increased scrutiny for any proposed spot zoning measures. Spot zoning for any individual parcel of property in a manner different from that of a surrounding property. Primarily for the private interests of the owner of the property so zoned may not be illegal per se but may be improper if it does not take into account public safety, health , comfort, morals and general welfare of the community. While there are some very few instances where spot zoning may be a welcome addition to a block, the utmost scrutiny must be exercised;
- Meaningful consideration to community input.

8. a. What steps should be taken to achieve greater accountability and transparency in determining how TIF funds should be spent?

I believe that the City Council should ensure that TIFs were performing consistently with the goals of their creation. It has been my experience that once a TIF program is created, there is no meaningful accountability as to its performance.

I would work to ensure that every TIF district be subject to City Council oversight consisting of full investigative tools such as the right to subpoena documentation regarding program details, expenditures etc. I would also require that TIF districts document what steps they have taken to fully advise and inform citizens and businesses affected of the benefits to be potentially realized by TIF designation. Too often, TIFs are easily created, quickly forgotten and never audited.

b. How will you involve residents in planning and approval of future TIF districts?

Before I proposed any additional TIFs, I would want to ensure that existing TIFs were subject to an oversight process and were meeting their goals. With regard to new TIFs, I would ensure that all affected residents, businesses and community organizations were given a meaningful chance to learn about potential benefits of a TIF and be given the opportunity to voice their opinions. Such community input would shape the goals of the given TIF district.

c. Do you support terminating a TIF when the objectives of the TIF plan have been accomplished before the 23 year period is over?

The chronological passage of time should not be the only determinative factor in evaluating the viability of a TIF. The more significant issue is whether, at any given time the TIF is meeting its objectives. In situations where circumstances change to such an extent that the TIF accomplishes

its purpose or no longer meets the needs for which it was intended, consideration should be given to modifying or terminating it.

d. Do you support extending the South Loop TIF? Why or why not?

Only if it met its previously determined goals and valid reasons existed for an extension.

9. How do you propose to replace property tax revenue for CPS and other taxing bodies that is lost to TIF development?

The purpose of TIF districts is not to take away CPS tax revenue but, rather, to improve economic conditions so that a greater tax base may be realized. The more significant concern is to ensure that the TIF is acting consistent with the goals which created it. Accountability is paramount. If a TIF is meeting its goals, then the long term result will be a healthy business community with an expanded tax base.

10. a. Did you support or would you have supported the Big Box/Living Wage Ordinance?

b. Why or why not?

c. What changes, if any, would you support if the Ordinance were introduced again?

a-c. If any subsidies are sought or realized by a Big Box Store, then I believe that the City can, as part of a contractual process, require that certain conditions such as the Living Wage Ordinance be met. In circumstances where absolutely no government subsidies, tax breaks or other benefits are sought or granted, as an attorney, I have serious concerns about the Big Box Living Wage Ordinance's constitutionality (Prohibitions against Special Legislation) in the manner and form it was written. I support the concept of a living wage and benefits for working people. I believe that the Big Box Living Wage Ordinance and the debate that ensued may be the catalyst for an even more comprehensive legislative initiative addressing these significant concerns.

d. Would you support any kind of municipal living wage ordinance?

I generally support the concept of a municipal living wage. However, broader issues including the State minimum wage, geared to cost of living increases, must be considered.

## **HOUSING**

11. Please comment on the housing problems in your ward.

While the question does not specifically identify the nature of the term "housing problems", housing issues have not been as pronounced in the 32nd Ward as in other parts of the city. The primary concern in the 32nd ward has been the appreciation of property values and resultant higher assessments that have impacted long time single family residence owners. The 32nd Ward has a unique blend of old and new housing. Any housing solution requires a careful balance of all interests.

12. How will you increase low-income rental housing and home ownership opportunities that would be affordable to those at 15%-30% of AMI?

In any situation where tax incentives or any City subsidies are involved, the situation is controlled by a contractual process. The City has the right to negotiate conditions, provided they are consistent with acceptable public policy .

13. a. Do you support one-for-one replacement of each unit of demolished subsidized housing, even though Federal law no longer requires it?

No

b. What should be done to provide housing for those families displaced from public housing and not eligible for relocation under the CHA transformation plan?

I do not believe that there is a blanket response to this question. I need to know what criteria makes them ineligible for this plan. I would need to first determine if the criteria which renders them ineligible produces an equitable result. They may qualify for other programs.

c. How should the transformation plan be amended to adequately provide for the needs of low income people with disabilities?

I require additional information to adequately respond to this question.

d. What should be done to ensure that there is an adequate supply of affordable family sized units available to families in the Section 8 program?

My own experience real estate suggests that one of the main reasons there are less Section 8 units is the widespread conversion of previous rental properties into condominiums. However, with the current slowdown in residential sales, more rental housing is available. Since Section 8 rents are generally higher than market rents, lack of availability of units is not as pronounced a problem as it was several years ago. However, efforts should be made to encourage the availability of affordable by identifying where the needs are greatest and proposing appropriate incentives to maintain such housing.

e. What should be done to provide affordable housing for low-income individuals and families who are not served by any existing programs?

I believe the first step would be to determine how many individuals fall within this defined class and the reasons they do not are not served by any current program. Once established, I would work to tailor programs to address their specific needs. (For example, First-time home buyer incentives.)

14. Do you support halfway houses and shelters for the homeless in your ward?

Yes, provided they meet current zoning, health and welfare ordinances and are well run and regulated.

15. a. Do you think Chicago's Tenants' Rights Ordinance is being adequately implemented?

As an attorney, I believe that implementation should be evaluated on a case by case basis.

b. What changes, if any, should be made?

As per #15. a. above, I believe that this issue does not lend itself to a blanket statement but is more appropriately analyzed on a case by case basis.

16. a. Do you support an inclusionary zoning ordinance which would require developers to set aside 15% of residential new construction or renovation for the creation of affordable housing?

While I acknowledge that affordable housing, particularly in rapidly gentrifying wards, is a priority, as an attorney, I believe that the proposal noted above may not be able to pass constitutional review.

I believe that property rights may potentially be violated in circumstances where a purely private entity, not receiving any government subsidies, tax incentives, or other benefits, would be restricted in its utilization of private property (provided applicable zoning was met.) However, in the case where even one penny of public money is involved, I believe that the City would have

every right to impose conditions on such development. This having been said, I would actively seek and support programs to address affordable housing needs.

## **EDUCATION**

17. a. How will you work to ease overcrowding and improve the quality of public schools and after school recreational activities?

Unlike most alderman, I have had a firsthand involvement with school quality issues as a Local School Council Community Representative. I believe that solutions to issues involving overcrowding and recreational activities are particular to a given school and require creative, individualized solutions. As an Alderman, my priorities would be to work with LSCs to access the particular needs of each school in my Ward. For example, the grammar school where I served was situated in an area increasingly populated by young professionals without children. Consequently, the school's population actually declined.

b. How will you work to improve maintenance and rehab of aging schools?

Quite frequently maintenance staff are "shared" among a number of public schools. This can result in delayed or piecemeal improvements to infrastructure or in no preventative maintenance. Frequently, when problems are finally addressed, repairs are more costly and involved. Since deferred maintenance is a City wide problem, I would support a comprehensive plan for both short and long term planning to ensure a safe and comfortable school environment through better coordination and allocation of resources. I would also pledge that every school in my ward would have an advocate to listen to and act on their behalf.

18. Do you support a city-wide lottery for enrollment in magnet schools?

All student should have an opportunity to enroll in magnet schools of their choosing. In circumstances where space limitations necessarily limit the number of students, I would support a lottery system, unless an more equitable method of selection is proposed.

19. a. What is your assessment of Renaissance 2010 and its implementation in your ward as well as the City as a whole? Please include in your assessment, the role of charter schools as well as the power to reconstitute schools.

The CICS Bucktown Campus is presently the only Charter School in the 32nd Ward. Its relative student performance in reading, math as well as attendance reveals that CICS Bucktown performs better than the comparison school average.

That having been noted, I believe that the Charter School program is still a "work in progress." In my opinion, Charter schools have provided a healthy competition for public as well as private schools. My own canvases of the 32nd ward suggest an overall approval of residents of this particular Charter School.

With regard to the role of Charter Schools in the City as a whole, I believe their full, long term impact cannot yet be evaluated. For example, a Charter grammar school cannot be reasonably evaluated without accessing students' performance at the next level, namely high school. Likewise, a Charter high school cannot be fairly evaluated until students' are evaluated on the next level, for example, college attendance. Hence, since Charter Schools are still developing, I believe it may be premature to evaluate their long term success.

b. At what level of government should decisions be made regarding allocation of Chapter One funds?

I would require more information to respond to this question fully at this time.

c. How would you change the selection and approval process for the mayor's appointments to the Board of Education?

Before I would propose changes to the process in place, I would need to evaluate whether the current process fails to serve the best interests of the Chicago Public Schools.

20. What should the City do to improve the quality of all local schools?

I believe the City must look to increased accountability of the:

-Administration-I would insist on increased individual performance feedback and guidance to teachers and staff.

-Teachers-I would ensure that all licensing and curriculum requirements were being enforced. I would also support increased continuing education.

-Parents- I would support programs, particularly involving the lowest achieving schools, to involve parents in their children's education process. Parental involvement can be the linchpin of a school's success.

21. What are your plans to improve the local schools in your ward?

I would meet separately with every principal and LSC to assess the individual needs and concerns of each school. Most importantly, I would be the voice of that school, working to ensure that the requests and efforts of the principal and LSC did not get lost in the well-known, usual, bureaucratic morass.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

22. As Blue Bag recycling is phased out and replaced with point separation, what steps should be taken to

a. ensure participation of small businesses and non-profits in the recycling program?

If any of the institutions listed above receive any city funded services (such as trash removal), then these entities have a corresponding responsibility to the City and requirements can be imposed on them to enforce recycling. Even in instances where given entities receive no City benefits, I would support programs to educate and encourage voluntary recycling participation.

b. identify adequate markets for recycled materials?

I believe that the identification of adequate markets for recycled materials is a regional issue requiring specialized expertise, not within the exclusive responsibilities of an individual Alderman. I would strongly encourage the coordination of efforts with the County and State to bring about a regional solution.

23. What should the City do to encourage and implement alternative forms of energy?

The City can be a leader in encouraging and implementing environmentally conscious forms of energy by making various creative financial and other incentives available to residents and businesses who choose to invest in such forms of energy. In addition, the City is rich in resources ranging from international corporations to world class institutions of higher learning. I believe the City can also work in conjunction with these entities to solicit new and innovative solutions to its energy needs.

## **PARKS**

24. a. Do you support increased privatization of facilities and services?

I believe that one of the best ways to ensure accountability in public programs is to have a strong, viable and "non-rubberstamp" City Council that would address privatization questions on a case by case basis. Privatization is a complex issue involving various considerations. For example, privatization programs may be temporary in duration or may involve highly specialized services. Since the "devil may be in the detail", I would need to analyze the details to support a comprehensive privatization policy.

b. Have the court decrees mandating equal park services in both programs and capital improvements been adequately achieved in your ward?

I would require more specific park by park data to sufficiently respond to this question.

c. How have cuts in the park district budget affected parks in your ward?

Generally, most dissatisfaction in my Ward has resulted from having to now pay for services which were previously offered at no charge.

25. Do you believe Chicago's park system is adequately funded?

Experience suggests that no public system is adequately funded, as there can always be additional ways to serve users. While I consider parks a valuable asset to be preserved and enlarged, because my Ward's close proximity to Millennium Park, Lincoln Park, Grant Park (as well as the presence of local parks), the park system has not been a primary concern with residents.

26. Do you support siting the main/opening Olympic venue in Washington Park?

Yes. Chicago has a rich history in hosting worldwide events such as the Colombian Exposition and the World's Fair. I support general concept of siting the main Olympic venue in Washington Park. Further, the Olympics and its enhancement of the south side neighborhoods impacted by siting the main Olympic venue in Washington Park have generally been viewed favorably in my community.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

27. a. What will you do to expand CTA services to more neighborhoods?

To the extent that there are needs for expansion of CTA services in other parts of the City, and provided such expansion is deemed viable by applicable engineering and community impact studies, I would be open to bringing about same level of good CTA service that my ward enjoys.

b. Is CTA service sufficient in your ward?

The 32nd Ward is, because of its close proximity to the downtown area, at the crossroads of excellent public transportation services, including both bus and train. Rather than an increase in service, the 32nd Ward may benefit more from better coordination and allocation of existing services. For example, the availability of express bus routes could be expanded during rush hour times on certain Ward routes.

c. Should the City increase its subsidy to the CTA?

Yes. However, urban public transportation is as much a state as well as a federal issue. Every rider on the CTA is one less person driving an automobile. As it is an issue involving multiple interests and jurisdictions, increased subsidies should come from various sources.

28. In what situations would you support permit parking?

Lack of street parking has become a critical issue in the 32nd Ward. It is a direct consequence brought about by irresponsible zoning decisions which fail to take into consideration congestion, transportation and infrastructure concerns. In this Ward, the present Alderman has altered well-established zoning plans of entire neighborhoods through the use of spot zoning, wherein a given parcel can be re-zoned, usually for private benefit. Most troublesome, these changes are often made without any meaningful community notice, input or participation. While spot zoning may involve one parcel at a time, if granted often enough, entire neighborhoods are disrupted, most often resulting in the virtual disappearance of street parking. For example, if a single family residence is converted into 6 condominiums, there are usually at least 10 additional vehicles using street parking that did not previously do so. If spot zoning is allowed in just 5 parcels on a given block, that block has to absorb at least 50 additional vehicles. These problems do not impact only the block involved in such changes. A shortage of parking on one street quickly impacts parking on all nearby blocks.

Rather than address a permit parking on a given street, the more significant problem for the 32nd Ward is the underlying problem of zoning. While permit parking and municipal parking garages can provide temporary relief, without a comprehensive zoning plan, they will not address the underlying problem.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

29. a. Is response time adequate in 911 service?

On city wide level, more specific information would be required to fully respond to this question.

b. Are there inequities in 911 service in your ward? If so, what can be done to redress them?

The issue of 911 response has not been identified as a prevailing problem or complaint with residents in my Ward.

30. a. Do you support community policing?

Yes. This program is effective and is widely welcome in all parts of my Ward.

b. What improvements would you suggest for this program?

I strongly believe in the merits of this program. As an Alderman, I would focus on increasing recruitment and would use my office to widely disseminate information and encourage increased membership.

31. Should the City stop paying legal fees and attempt to recover past legal costs of city employees implicated in the Police Board findings of misconduct related to the Burge case?

If the City discontinues payments, attempts to recover legal costs, or passes a related ordinance, litigation will ensue. As an attorney, I believe that this is ultimately a question for courts to decide. The sooner it is resolved, the better for all involved.

32. Please share your views regarding the functioning of the Office of Professional Standards and whether it should operate more independently of the Police Department.

Having the Office of Professional Standards within the police Department is consistent with the structure of most metropolitan police departments. However, key to the accountability of the Office is the amount of oversight that independent, well-informed members of the Police Board have on the Office.

### **REVENUE AND BUDGET**

33. Do you favor a budget ordinance which would require:

a. public questioning of city department heads concerning their departments' specific budget requests?

Yes

b. budget copies available to the public 30 days in advance of hearings?

Yes

c. restoring citywide community group budget hearings several months prior to the publication of the budget, as were held under the Washington and Sawyer administrations?

Yes

34. a. Do you support casino gambling for Chicago?

Yes

b. Would you support a citywide referendum before any gambling is instituted in the City?

Yes

35. What level of city support do you favor for the arts and cultural events?

The Art and Culture of the City, like the parks, cannot be determined by profit considerations alone. A reasonable allocation of public funds to both established and new arts projects and cultural events should be supported and public opinion as to the nature of such endeavors should be given great weight.

36. Do you support

a. rescinding the recent Mayoral and Aldermanic salary increases?

Yes

b. limiting Mayoral and Aldermanic salary increases to the same percentage as the lowest raise for any class of city employees?

Yes. However, certain circumstances must be considered. The "lowest" raise for any class of city job may be evaluated on a yearly basis while Mayoral and Aldermanic salaries increases are only considered at 4 year intervals. Thus, over a 4 year period, the "lowest" raise for any class of City employee may increase 4 times, for a total that is 4 times higher than the proposed Mayoral and Aldermanic increases apparently based upon only one year's assessment.

37. Do you support increasing the number of staff positions for aldermanic service offices?

I believe the current allocations and number of staff positions are sufficient.

## **CITY COUNCIL**

38. a. What reforms are necessary in the City Council's committee structure?

I believe this question calls for a broader analysis and I would require more information to respond fully.

b. Do you favor keeping the current number of committees?

Yes. However, I would be open to considering expansion, consolidation or restructuring if circumstances merited such modification.

39. a. Do you support a rule requiring the numbering of proposed City ordinances?

Yes

b. Do you support a rule requiring all city council proceedings to be transcribed verbatim and published by the City Clerk?

Yes. I would also support Internet dissemination as well as video accessibility.

c. Do you support mandating the Clerk's office to provide copies of pending ordinances to the public upon request?

Yes

d. Do you support a rule requiring roll call votes?

Yes. Unless it is not practicable for all routine housekeeping measures.

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

40. a. Do you support affirmative action based on race, gender and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees?

Possibly. I absolutely support a nondiscriminatory hiring process of all city employees. However, I would need to analyze the specific language of any particular ordinance prior to supporting it. Sometimes, with broad legislative initiatives, the "Devil is in the Detail."

b. Do you support affirmative action as a criteria in letting city contracts?

Possibly. In negotiating contractual terms, I believe the City has a right to impose requirements on parties wishing to contract with it. However, I would need to analyze the specific language of any particular ordinance to this effect prior to supporting it.

c. Please comment on current women and minority participation in city hiring and contracts. Be sure your comments include firefighter and police officer recruitment and promotion.

My general view is that the City of Chicago been as open to women and minority participation as any major City. I believe that recruitment efforts of qualified candidates must continue. As for as the Police and Fire Departments, since the entry level nature of such jobs is inherently physical, I believe that fairly established physical requirements must be met for the safety of all involved.

41. Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of city employees to institute gender-equal pay for jobs of comparable worth?

I support the concept. However, unlike the pay discrepancies illustrated most often in private industry, this problem does not appear to be at issue with City employment.

42. Do you support requiring all City vendors to provide spousal benefits for same-sex partners of their employees?

No. From a legal standpoint, the State of Illinois has not yet passed legislation which would clearly define the status, obligations, rights and responsibilities of people in a civil union or same sex marriage. Until such time the State definitively passes legislation legalizing civil unions or same sex marriages, I believe the City has no guidance as to the duties, responsibilities, etc., of each a party thereto. For example, Illinois does not recognize common law marriages. As such, the City does not have a legal obligation to extend benefits to common law spouses. The same reasoning is applicable in this case.

### **ETHICS & CAMPAIGNING**

43. Do you support patronage in hiring and promoting public employees?

No

44. Do you support the Accountability in Privatization Ordinance?

Possibly. I require additional information to fully respond to this question.

45. In what circumstances should the City contract for outside professional services? Please comment on any existing abuses.

This is an area where I have a particular expertise. My work in the private sector involved the retention, day to day supervision and auditing of hundreds of professionals including attorneys, physicians, engineers, metallurgists, experts, etc. An underlying concern was to ensure the quality of professional work performed as well as the reasonableness of costs involved in such services.

I believe the City's failure to require strict accountability as well as auditing of professional service providers has taken an enormous toll on City funds as a result of over billing, fraud, unnecessary work performed, mismanagement and graft. While I believe that some circumstances, such as those involving specialized skills, equipment, etc. may suggest the need to contract for outside professional services, such services require constant oversight. As an Alderman, I would like to utilize the expertise I gained in the private sector to combat the abuses which have depleted so much of our scarce City resources.

46. Would you support contracting for outside services with companies located outside Chicago? Why or why not?

I would always first look to contracting locally. However, in the event that local service providers were unavailable or unreasonably cost prohibitive, I would consider contracting for services outside Chicago.

47. a. Will you employ or have you employed staff in your office who hold other public sector jobs concurrently?

No

b. Will you employ or have you employed staff in your office who have either outside employment or contracts with entities which do business with the City?

No

48. Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers or employees?

No

49. Do you support extending all of the provisions of the City Ethics Ordinance to City Council members?

Yes

50. Do you support expanding the jurisdiction of the City Inspector General to include City Council members?

Yes

51. Do you support public financing of municipal campaigns? Please explain your position.

No. If public financing was the only source of campaign finance, I would support it. However, since the Supreme Court has not limited sources of campaign funding, the concept of funding from a City source may be impractical. Moreover, if slated as a Referendum it would likely be defeated.

52. Who are your top 5 contributors and how much has each contributed to your campaign?

Family members. Many others have pledged support.

53. Are you supporting any mayoral candidate?

No.