

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-01**

**A RESOLUTION REGARDING BUDGET FOR JUST AND NECESSARY EXPENSES  
FOR THE VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF COOK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Military Veterans Assistance Act (“MVAA”), 330 ILCS 45/1 et seq., provides that when a Veterans Assistance Commission (“VAC”) is organized pursuant to Section 45/9(a) of the MVAA, the VAC shall be clothed with all powers and may be charged with all the duties devolving upon the different veteran service organization within the county as provided in Section 2 of the MVAA; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 of the MVAA provides that the purpose of the MVAA is to provide just and necessary assistance and services to military veterans who served in the Armed Forces of the United States and whose last discharge from the service was honorable or general under honorable conditions, to their families, and to the families of deceased veterans with service who need such assistance and services; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 of the MVAA further provides that the county board shall provide such sums of money as may be just and necessary to be drawn by the VAC of the county, upon the recommendation of the assistance committee of that VAC; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 of the MVAA provides that funding for VACs may be derived from (i) a tax levied under Section 5-2006 of the Counties Code, 55 ILCS 5/ et seq., and Section 12-21.13 of the Public Aid Code. 305 ILCS 5/ et seq.; (ii) funds from the county general corporate fund; and (iii) State funds from the Department of Human Services; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 of the MVAA requires the Superintendent of the VAC to apply to the circuit court for relief if any supervisor of general assistance or county board fails or refuses after such recommendation to provide just and necessary sums of money for such assistance; though the VAC would prefer to avoid any such litigation if at all possible; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 5-2006 of the Counties Code and Section 12-21.13 of the Public Aid Code does not apply to Cook County because it has a population of greater than 3 million; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 12-21.13 of the Public Aids Code authorizes counties of less than 3 million population to levy for assistance to military veterans and their families, a tax of an amount equal to 0.02% of the last known assessed value of the taxable property in the county; and

**WHEREAS**, 0.02 percent of the assessed value of Cook County for the 2022 tax year is \$36,927,660; and

**WHEREAS**, the VAC of Cook County (“VACCC”) has requested Cook County to provide an amount of \$7,148,141 (“Initial Request”) **amended 2,918,141**, substantially less than the permissible other counties, for the just and necessary expenses to provide assistance and services to military veterans and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, to properly serve the veterans within the county, the VAC must hire additional Veteran Service Officers and Caseworkers, and increase transportation services, and expenses for an Economic and Development Center; and

**WHEREAS**, the VAC shall provide just and necessary assistance and services to military veterans and their families through, among other things, an increased workforce, adequately trained staff, efficient transportation services, and a sufficient facility for support; and

**WHEREAS**, the VAC has presented its budget, approved by the superintendent of the Commission and reported to the full Commission membership, to the county for the payment of money pursuant to Sections 45/2(1) and 45/9(h) of the MVAA; and

**WHEREAS**, the VAC, upon the recommendation of the assistance committee, finds these expenses just and necessary for the provision of assistance and services to military veterans and their families in accordance with the MVAA;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Chairman of the Veterans Assistance Commission of Cook County, as follows:

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals shall be and are hereby incorporated as findings of fact as if said recitals were fully set forth herein.

**Section 2.** The Commission hereby adopts the budget for Fiscal Year 2025 attached herein as Exhibit A (“Budget”).

**Section 3.** The Budget herein adopted shall be delivered to the county board as the sums of money just and necessary to be drawn by the VAC to provide assistance and service to veterans and their families during the 2025 Fiscal Year.

**Section 4.** The Commission and the superintendent shall have oversight of the distribution of all money and supplies appropriated for the benefit of military veterans and their families, subject to the rules, regulations, administrative procedures or audit reviews as are required by the MVAA and as are necessary as approved by the Commission to carry out the spirit and intent of the MVAA.

PASSED and APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.



**President, Veterans Assistance Commission**

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

**EXHIBIT A**