

IVI-IPO 2015 CHICAGO ALDERMANIC QUESTIONNAIRE - SECTION 1

DATE: December 19, 2014

WARD: Fourth Ward

NAME William D. "Will" Burns

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CAMPAIGN MANAGER Andrew Thode

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED 4600 NUMBER REQUIRED 473

Please provide the following background information:

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

Alderman 2011 to Present

State Representative 2009 to Present

B. Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.

See above.

C. What is your primary occupation?

Alderman.

D. Briefly list your civic activities of the past ten years.

Illinois State Representative 2009-2011

Deputy Political Director, Quinn for Illinois 2010

Vice President, Conlon Public Strategies 2007-2009

Content and Issues Department, Obama for America 2008

Deputy Chief of Staff to the Senate President 2005-2007

Senior Advisor to the Senate President 2003-2005

Vice President, Chicago Urban League 2001-2003

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

I have studied political science, urban politics, and African-American politics. My experience as a legislative aide and state representative have been very useful in the City Council.

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F. What candidates have you supported in past elections? Please be specific in describing your role in each campaign.

Please see answer D. I have also supported Democrats for re-election to the Illinois House and Senate through campaign contributions.

G. Please list all endorsements you have received so far.

Cook County President-Elect Toni Preckwinkle, Senator Kwame Raoul, Representative Barbara Flynn Currie, State Representative Christian Mitchell, and Alderman Pat Dowell.

H. 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?

In my first term as alderman I have worked to improve the quality of life in the Fourth Ward through economic development, job creation, public safety, and public education. Thousands of new jobs and dozens of new stores, and hundreds of units of new housing are on their way to the ward. Projects that had been postponed like the arts and recreation center in Madden Park are back online. At the city level I was honored to fight for a \$13 per hour city minimum wage that will lift 410,000 Chicagoans out of poverty. I helped to re-write the Chicago Ethics Ordinance and added more money from the TIF program to build affordable housing in the Five Year Housing Plan.

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

The campaign budget is roughly \$200,000. The campaign has \$225,000 on hand.

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

The campaign includes two full time paid staff, several consultants, and interns. Our campaign has a volunteer database of several hundred people.

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Most questions on this questionnaire can be answered by checking either YES or NO. Others are essay questions and all have the option of answering in greater detail. Just hit enter at the end of the question and begin typing your answer in the additional space.

CITY COUNCIL REFORM AND ETHICS

| | YES | NO | |
|-----|--------------|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Yes | | Do you favor maintaining the current number of City Council committees? |
| | ESSAY | | Which committees, if any, would you combine or eliminate? I don't support reducing the committees. |
| 2. | ESSAY | | What reforms are necessary in the City Council's committee rules and structure? I am open to reforms that make it easier to bring ordinances to the floor from the Rules Committee. |
| 3. | Yes | | Would you give the Inspector General's office independent subpoena power or other compulsory process that can be directed against city officials, agencies and employees without necessitation the approval of the Mayor or Corporation Counsel? |
| 4. | | No | Should the Inspector General be able to initiate his or her own investigations of Aldermen without a complaint from outside the office? |
| 5. | Yes | | Should the Inspector General be able to pursue anonymous complaints? |
| 6. | | No | Do you support patronage in hiring and promoting public employees? |
| 7. | | No | Will you employ or have you employed staff, in your office who hold other public sector jobs concurrently? |
| 8. | | No | 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? |
| 9. | Yes | | Will you vote for an ordinance mandating that the City contest unemployment claims by former employees who were fired for cause? |
| 10. | Yes | | Will you vote for an ordinance forbidding the City to hire or contract the services of anyone previously fired for cause from the City or any other unit of government? |
| 11. | | No | Will you support an ordinance to reduce the number of wards? |
| 12. | | | Have you joined or will you join: The Paul Douglas Caucus The Independent Progressive Caucus |
| | Yes | | Both – Although the progressives stopped inviting me to meetings. |
| 13. | Yes | | Do you support changing the state statute to return to filling aldermanic vacancies by special election, rather than Mayoral appointment? |
| 14. | | | Will you vote for an ordinance requiring redistricting of the wards to be based on non-partisan criteria and not to benefit any specific individual or political party? I would like to see a specific proposal before expressing support. |
| 15. | | No | Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers or employees? |
| 16. | | | Will you or have you accepted campaign donations from people or businesses seeking zoning changes in your ward? I comply with all applicable federal, state, and municipal laws governing campaign contributions. |
| 17. | Yes | | Do you support public financing of municipal campaigns? |
| | ESSAY | | Please explain your position. |

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| | | Public financing levels the playing field between candidates and emphasizes the importance of small donors. |
| 18. | ESSAY | Who are your top 5 contributors and how much has each contributed to your campaign? My top five contributors can be found at the Illinois State Board of Elections website. |
| 19. | | What changes would you support to the redistricting process? My top concern would be to protect minority voting rights pursuant to Section 2 and Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. |
| REVENUE AND BUDGET | | |
| 20. | | Will you vote to hire independent analysts to conduct a forensic audit of past City spending? I would like to see a specific proposal before expressing support. |
| | | Will you vote for a budget ordinance which would require: |
| 21. | | public questioning of city department heads concerning their departments' specific budget requests? I would like to see a specific proposal before expressing support. |
| 22. | Yes | making budget copies available to the public 30 days in advance of hearings? It may be more cost efficient to make sure the budget is online 30 days in advance of hearings. |
| 23. | Yes | restoring city-wide community group budget hearings several months prior to the publication of the budget, as were held under the Washington and Sawyer administrations? |
| 24. | ESSAY | What additional revenue sources, if any, would you propose? We need additional revenue sharing from the State of Illinois and the federal government. |
| 25. | | Do you support casino gambling for Chicago? I am open to potentially supporting a land based casino in Chicago under certain conditions: the land based casino must be sited to attract business from conventioners and tourists; all of the gaming positions must be located within the casino; and special attention must be paid to ensure minority and women owned business enterprises participate in the management of the casino; revenue from the Chicago casino would be used to reduce the city's unfunded pension liabilities. |
| 26. | | Will you vote to require a citywide referendum before any gambling is instituted in the City? The State of Illinois will determine whether the City of Chicago can have casino. Video poker does not generate much revenue for cities, so it is unlikely to come up for a vote any time soon. |
| 27. | | Will you vote to roll back Mayoral and Aldermanic salaries to pre-2007 levels? I have not taken a cost-of-living-allowance in the three years I have served in the Council. |
| 28. | Yes | Will you vote for an ordinance limiting future Mayoral and Aldermanic salary increases to the same percentage as the lowest raise for any class of city employees? |
| 29. | | Do you agree with the criticism that City government is top heavy with management? |

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| | | | I believe that the City needs greater revenue sharing from the state and federal government to hire more line staff. |
| | ESSAY | | Please explain your position. |
| 30. | ESSAY | | What measures will you vote for to reform the city pension plan and ensure its solvency? I am happy to support additional revenues that would be part of any comprehensive plan to fix the city's pension systems. |
| 31 | ESSAY | | How would you modify (if at all) the benefit and contribution levels and eligibility requirements for public employee pensions? Any reduction in benefits or increase in contributions should be part of a negotiation between annuitants and the City. |
| 32. | Choose One | | Should discretionary funds for ward services and infrastructure improvements be allocated |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | in equal amounts to each ward |
| | | | based on the size of each ward |
| | | | based on the needs of each ward |
| | YES | NO | |
| 33. | | | Will you institute participatory budgeting to allow ward residents to vote on discretionary spending in your ward? Menu requests come from constituents, including block clubs and community organizations. My staff and I allocate resources across each community in the ward. |
| PRIVATIZATION | | | |
| 34. | ESSAY | | Which city services or assets, if any, do you believe should be privatized and what is your criteria? My sole criteria is whether privatizing the asset is, net of any job loss, a benefit to the City and its residents. In many cases privatization deals only work by reducing labor costs and shifting labor costs to profit for investors. Those are not deals that I would support. |
| 35. | YES | | Will you vote for an ordinance requiring an independent analysis of any lease or outsourcing arrangement? That's the purpose of the independent budget office. |
| 36. | YES | | Will you vote for an ordinance requiring detailed analysis and evaluation of any lease or outsourcing arrangement at least 30 days prior to the City Council vote? |
| 37. | ESSAY | | Before voting on privatization contracts, what will you do to ensure that they deliver the maximum return and best service for city residents in the long term? See my answer above. |
| 38. | ESSAY | | What procedures will you implement to ensure that privatization arrangements are not being used to move patronage workers outside of the scope of the Rutan decision requirements or any other anti-patronage rules or protocols? See my answer above. |
| PLANNING, ZONING, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | | | |
| 39. | ESSAY | | How will you involve ward residents in planning? Through planning charrettes and visioning workshops. |
| 40. | ESSAY | | What is your long-range plan for development of the ward? |

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| | | My long range plan is to create a ward with a mix of housing options including rental, for sale, and subsidized and to attract the amenities that build community. |
| 41. | ESSAY | <p>What criteria do you or will you use in determining whether or not to grant a zoning change or variance?</p> <p>In many cases our commercial corridors are governed by planning studies which direct land use decisions including zoning.</p> |
| 42. | ESSAY | <p>How will you involve residents in planning, approval, and oversight of TIF districts?</p> <p>The Fourth Ward has TIF advisory councils, and public meetings are held before the allocation of TIF resources.</p> |
| 43. | | <p>Will you vote to terminate a TIF if the objectives of the TIF plan have been accomplished before the 23 year period is ended?</p> <p>In many instances TIF bond deals require the TIF to complete its full 23 year period.</p> |
| 44. | Yes | <p>Will you vote to return unspent and uncommitted TIF funds on an annual basis to the various taxing bodies?</p> <p>I have supported declaring TIF surpluses in the past.</p> |
| 45. | ESSAY | <p>How do you propose to replace property tax revenue for CPS and other taxing bodies that is lost to TIF development?</p> <p>The real solution to CPS's financial crisis is to boost state funding for public schools.</p> |
| 46. | | <p>Will you support a moratorium on creation of any new TIF districts until new funding sources are identified to replace the revenue diverted to the TIF?</p> <p>The truth is that TIF is frequently the only money available for economic development. TIFs should only be created in areas where without TIF funding economic development will not occur.</p> |
| 47. | Yes | <p>Will you vote for an ordinance requiring that large corporate entities receiving \$250,000 or more in public subsidies, and their tenants, must pay their workers a living wage (currently \$11/hour)?</p> |
| 48. | Yes | <p>Will you vote to invest substantially more in job-training and the creation of transitional job programs in disadvantaged communities, including the formerly incarcerated, homeless, youth, and non-English speakers?</p> |
| HOUSING | | |
| 49. | Yes | <p>Will you vote to amend the Vacant Properties Ordinance to require mortgage servicers to register their properties?</p> |
| 50. | Yes | <p>Do you support enacting an ordinance to preserve Single-Room Occupancy housing?</p> <p>I co-sponsored the SRO preservation ordinance.</p> |
| 51. | | <p>Will you vote for an inclusionary zoning ordinance requiring developers to set aside 30% of residential new construction or renovation for the creation of affordable housing?</p> <p>I would like to see a specific ordinance before expressing support.</p> |

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| 52. | ESSAY | <p>What measures will you support to guarantee that some of the foreclosed properties saved through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program are made affordable to families at 40% and 60% of AMI?</p> <p>The Five Year Housing Plan is the platform to review NSP initiatives.</p> |
| 53. | ESSAY | <p>What procedures and safeguards would you put in place on conversion/demolition of SRO's and other low income housing to ensure that affordable housing will continue to be available for low income tenants who would otherwise be displaced?</p> <p>I supported the SRO preservation ordinance.</p> |
| 54. | ESSAY | <p>What measures will you support to ensure that there is an adequate supply of affordable family sized units available to families in the Section 8 program?</p> <p>I support enrolling more landlords in the Section 8 program who own properties in opportunity communities. That means increasing the size of the voucher to make those rents accessible to low income families.</p> |
| 55. | ESSAY | <p>What measures will you support to provide affordable housing for low-income individuals and families who are not served by any existing programs?</p> <p>We refer families to affordable housing providers and shelters when they need services.</p> |
| | YES | NO |
| 56. | YES | |
| 57. | | |
| 58. | | |
| 59. | YES | |
| 60. | | |
| 61. | Choose One | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| I'd like more information about determining the AMI for Chicago. | | |
| EDUCATION | | |
| 62. | Choose One | |
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| | | | Maintaining the current system of Mayoral appointment |
| | X | | A mix of elected and appointed members |
| | YES | NO | |
| 63. | | | Will you support a city-wide lottery for enrollment in magnet schools? We need to ensure access for community residents and racial minorities in magnet schools. |
| 64. | X | | Will you support LSCs in maintaining full powers, and support them through adequate funding levels that provide training and support for LSCs to do their jobs? |
| 65. | X | | Will you support a moratorium on school closings until a detailed analysis of the impacts of shuffling children is completed, and a real plan to address the quality of education and safety for every child is in place? |
| 66. | X | | Will you support development and implementation of a more comprehensive and accurate approach to evaluate student and teacher performance than reliance on the SAT and ACT tests? |
| 67. | | X | Would you favor repealing (or modifying) the 70% requirement for voting to authorize teacher strikes? |
| 68. | ESSAY | | 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. Renaissance 2010 did not operate in the Fourth Ward. I have no information to evaluate Ren 2010. I believe that every effort should be undertaken by CPS before reconstituting schools. |
| 69. | ESSAY | | What should the City do to improve the quality of all local schools? Find the best school leaders and give them resources to execute their plan. |
| 70. | ESSAY | | What are your plans to improve the local schools in your ward? I ask my school principals for what they need to make their schools great and help to get it. |
| 71. | ESSAY | | How would you modify (if at all) the benefit and contribution levels and eligibility requirements for public school teacher pension? Those levels should be determined through negotiation between annuitants and the Chicago Public Schools. |
| ENVIRONMENT | | | |
| 72. | YES | | Will you vote for the Clean Power Ordinance? |
| 73. | | No | Will you vote to privatize Chicago's water delivery system? |
| 74. | YES | | Will you vote to ban Styrofoam food containers in Chicago public schools? |
| 75. | YES | | Will you vote to ban Styrofoam food containers in Chicago restaurants and food delivery services? |
| 76. | | | Will you vote to adopt the water quality standards recommended by the Pollution Control Board? I need more information about the PCB standards. |
| 77. | ESSAY | | What should the City do to encourage and implement alternative forms of energy? The City should encourage energy suppliers to purchase more renewable energy sources. |
| 78. | ESSAY | | What other environmental initiatives, if any, do you propose? We need a global compact to reduce carbon emissions. We need President Obama to take executive action to reduce emissions from power plants. |

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| PARKS | | | |
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| 79. | | | Do you support election of the Chicago Park District Board? |
| 80. | X | | Do you support increased privatization of park facilities and services? |
| | ESSAY | | Why or why not? I am skeptical about privatization of public services generally. |
| 81. | Yes | | Do you support prioritization of land acquisition and capital improvements first to those neighborhoods which are underserved by existing facilities? |
| TRANSPORTATION | | | |
| 82. | YES | | Will you vote to increase the City subsidy to the CTA? |
| 83. | Rank 1-5 or say no to any | | Please indicate which CTA expansion plans, if any, you support and rank them in order of priority (1 highest) |
| | 1 | | Red Line south to 130th Street |
| | | | Orange Line to Ford City Mall |
| | | | Downtown Circulator |
| | | | Downtown-O'Hare Express |
| | | | Other – please specify |
| | YES | NO | |
| 84. | YES | | Do you support renegotiation of Chicago's parking meter privatization deal? |
| 85. | | NO | Do you support privatization of Midway Airport? |
| 86. | YES | | Do you support the O'Hare expansion plan? |
| CRIMINAL JUSTICE | | | |
| 87. | YES | | Is 911 response time adequate? |
| | ESSAY | | If not, how can it be improved? 911 response to violent crimes is good. |
| 88. | | NO | Are there inequities in 911 service in your ward? |
| | ESSAY | | If so, what can be done to redress them? |
| 89. | YES | | Do you support re-allocating police services from low-crime to high-crime neighborhoods? |
| 90. | ESSAY | | What changes, if any, would you suggest for the CAPS program? The CAPS officers in my ward do a great job. |
| 91. | YES | | Will you vote for more funding for alternative crime prevention programs such as Cease Fire? |
| 92. | ESSAY | | What measures will you support to stop the schools to prison pipeline? We need to create more restorative justice programs in CPS. |
| 93. | YES | | Do you support gun control? |
| 94. | ESSAY | | What measures, if any, should the City Council adopt in response to recent court decisions striking down Chicago's handgun ban? We need state and federal legislative solutions. |
| 95. | YES | | Will you vote to order the City to 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? |

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| 96. | ESSAY | <p>Please share your views regarding the functioning of the Independent Police Review Authority and whether it should operate more independently of the Police Department.</p> <p>I am open to strengthening IPRA's independence from the CPD.</p> |
| CIVIL RIGHTS | | |
| 97. | YES | Do you support affirmative action based on race, gender and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees? |
| 98. | YES | Do you support affirmative action as a criteria in letting city contracts? |
| 99. | ESSAY | <p>Please comment on current participation of individuals with disabilities in city hiring and contracts. I am happy to work with advocates of the disabled on achieving equity in city hiring and contracts.</p> |
| 100. | ESSAY | <p>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.</p> <p>We must continue to monitor the rate of minority participation in city hiring and contracts. The last three years have shown a marked improvement, but there is still more work to do.</p> |
| 101. | YES | Do you favor restructuring the wage scale of city employees to institute gender-equal pay for jobs of comparable worth? |
| 102. | YES | Will you vote to require all City vendors and contractors to provide spousal benefits for same-sex partners of their employees? |
| 103. | ESSAY | <p>Will you vote for the Municipal ID ordinance?</p> <p>I need more information on the municipal ID ordinance.</p> |
| ALDERMANIC PRIORITIES | | |
| 104. | ESSAY | <p>What employment, if any, other than alderman, do you intend to hold?</p> <p>I have provided contractual services from time to time.</p> |
| 105. | ESSAY | <p>How will you divide your time between your aldermanic duties and your other occupation?</p> <p>My top priority is serving the people as alderman.</p> |
| 106. | ESSAY | <p>Please specify the minimum hours per week you will spend performing your aldermanic duties.</p> <p>I work seven days a week as alderman of the Fourth Ward.</p> |
| 107. | ESSAY | <p>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.</p> <p>My office is open Monday through Friday 9am to 5pm. All my staff are paid through the City of Chicago. We have five full-time staff and interns.</p> |
| 108. | ESSAY | <p>What services need improvement in your ward? How will you achieve this?</p> <p>My staff and I interface with applicable City departments to facilitate service requests.</p> |
| 109. | ESSAY | <p>What are your top priorities for the Ward?</p> <p>Economic development, job creation, public schools, and public safety.</p> |
| 110. | ESSAY | <p>How will you work with community groups and residents on City matters?</p> <p>I have an open door policy, ward meetings, and regularly scheduled late night office hours.</p> |

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