

Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., Chairperson,
By the Committee on Finance, Personnel, and Audit, reporting on:

File No. 15-529

(ITEM) A resolution By the Committee on Finance, Personnel, and Audit, relating to an informational report from the Director of Audits, Office of the Comptroller, and Corporation Counsel, on the application of the Minimum Wage Ordinance to the MidAmerican Building Services housekeeping contract, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted a Minimum Wage Ordinance for County workers and many contractors doing business with Milwaukee County (the County) on March 20, 2014 (File No. 13-955); and

WHEREAS, the Minimum Wage Ordinance is often referred to as the “Living Wage” and is outlined in Chapter 111 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the County’s Audit Division is responsible for the enforcement of the Minimum Wage Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, Personnel, and Audit, at its meeting of July 15, 2015, reviewed an informational report from the Director of Audits, who is charged with overseeing compliance with the Living Wage requirement, the Office of the Comptroller, and Corporation Counsel, related to the circumstances of a housekeeping contract with MidAmerican Building Services (MidAmerican); and

WHEREAS, MidAmerican has been providing housekeeping services on a month-to-month contract basis since January 17, 2013; and

WHEREAS, upon adoption of the County’s Minimum Wage Ordinance, the minimum hourly rate was \$11.47 per hour, which increased to \$11.66 per hour in February 2015; and

WHEREAS, based on preliminary estimates provided by MidAmerican, the monthly additional cost of meeting the County’s Minimum Wage Ordinance requirement is approximately \$33,500 per month, or \$502,500 for the period effective June 1, 2014, through August 30, 2015, to pay workers the higher wage and retroactively pay for hours already worked under the hourly threshold; and

WHEREAS, ensuring the MidAmerican employees benefited from the modest Living Wage requirement, as well as many other employees working for Milwaukee County or its vendors, was key to the passage of the ordinance and should be honored by policymakers; and

46 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, Personnel, and Audit, at its meeting of
47 July 15, 2015, recommended adoption of this By the Committee resolution (vote 8-1);
48 now, therefore,
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50 BE IT RESOLVED, the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) is
51 authorized to process an appropriation transfer to the appropriate departmental unit
52 from the Appropriation for Contingencies (Org. 1945) in an amount not to exceed
53 \$505,000 for the period effective June 1, 2014, through August 30, 2015, to pay
54 MidAmerican Building Services (MidAmerican) for the cost of providing their employees
55 the County-required Minimum Wage (Living Wage) upon receipt and verification of
56 actual costs by the Audit Services Division; and
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58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Director of Procurement, DAS, is requested to
59 submit to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors a plan to ensure that
60 MidAmerican or any other housekeeping vendor, complies with Chapter 111, Milwaukee
61 County's Minimum Wage Ordinance, after August 2015.
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