



Office of the Chicago City  
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R2011-1219

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

**Meeting Date:** 10/5/2011  
**Sponsor(s):** Reilly, Brendan (42)  
**Type:** Resolution  
**Title:** Congratulations extended to William "Bill" Birch  
**Committee(s) Assignment:**



Congratulations Extended to William "Bill" Birch

Whereas, William "Bill" Birch wanted nothing more than to follow in his father's footsteps as a cameraman and he made it happen; and

Whereas, His long career started when he took a job at MovieTone News. He was in famed director Frank Capra's unit in World War 2 and filmed sites throughout the Pacific including Guam, Okinawa, and recorded Douglas MacArthur's landing in the Philippines; and

Whereas, After World War 2 he returned to Chicago and worked for NBC and has been director of photography and cameraman on feature films, documentaries and commercials. In 1965 Mr. Birch started his own company; and

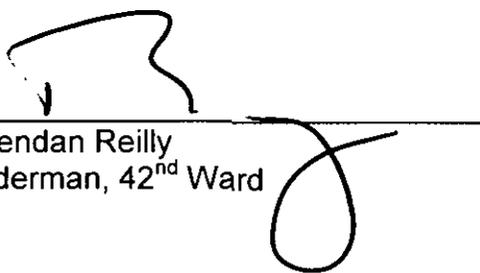
Whereas, During his career, he interviewed U.S. Presidents Harry Truman and John F. Kennedy, and notable people like, Fidel Castro (in the mountains of Cuba), George S. Patton and Douglas MacArthur; and

Whereas, He was first camera operator on the classic Chicago film, "Blues Brothers"; and

Whereas, Bill Birch's varied career officially came to an end when he officially retired at the age of 93. 70 years after he started his career at MovieTone News in Chicago, went as far as Guam, the Philippines, Okinawa and Cuba and he ends his career where it began; now, therefore

Be it Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council, assembled this 5th day of October, 2011 A.D., do hereby express our gratitude for the service William "Bill" Birch has provided to our community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to William "Bill" Birch.



Brendan Reilly  
Alderman, 42<sup>nd</sup> Ward