

City of Chicago



R2022-1024

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Meeting Date:

10/26/2022

Sponsor(s):

Burke (14)

Type:

Resolution

Title:

Tribute to late John W. Rowe

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, John W. Rowe has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 77; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of his passing by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

WHEREAS, John is survived by his loving wife, Jeanne who resides in Naples, Florida, and in Chicago, as does their son, William, an attorney; and

WHEREAS, John holds undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Wisconsin, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and the Order of the Coif; and

WHEREAS, He has also received the University of Wisconsin's Distinguished Alumni Award; and

WHEREAS, He holds honorary doctorates from the University of Wisconsin, DePaul University, Illinois Institute of Technology, Drexel University, University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, Bryant College, Thomas College and Dominican University; and

WHEREAS, John was a Senior Chief Executive in the utility industry, having served in such positions since 1984; and

WHEREAS, He led Exelon from its formation in 2000 through the completion of its acquisition of Constellation Energy in 2012; and

WHEREAS, John previously held Chief Executive Officer positions at the New England Electric System and Central Maine Power Company, served as General Counsel of Consolidated Rail Corporation, and was a partner in the law firm of Isham, Lincoln & Beale; and

WHEREAS, He was a past Chairman of Edison Electric Institute; and

WHEREAS, He was the non-executive Chairman of the Board of SunCoke Energy and previously served on the boards of Northern Trust, Allstate, UnumProvident and Bank Boston. He was a former Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Holocaust Museum and the Advisory Council to the Oriental Institute; and

WHEREAS, John was a former Chairman of the Commercial Club of Chicago, the Chicago History Museum, The Field Museum and Illinois Institute of Technology ("IIT"). He was a member of the boards of the Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Artis-Naples, Kids First Chicago, the Illinois Network of Charter Schools, New Horizons of Southwest Florida, the Northwestern University Settlement House, The Pritzker Military Library, and a past President of the Wisconsin Alumni Research

Foundation, He was a Co-Chairman of the American Business Immigration Coalition; and

WHEREAS, John and Jeanne have founded two Professorships of Architecture and a Chair in Sustainable Energy at IIT, as well as the Rowe Chair in the History of American Politics, the Rowe Professorship in Byzantine History and the Rowe Professorship in Greek History at the University of Wisconsin, the Rowe Center in Virology at the Morgridge Institute, the Curator of Evolutionary Biology at the Field Museum and the Rowe Professorship in Egyptian history at the University of Chicago, The Rowes co-founded the Rowe-Clark Math and Science Academy and the Rowe Elementary/Middle School. They also served as patrons of the Pope John Paul II parochial school; and

WHEREAS, To his beloved family, John imparts a legacy of generosity, compassion, devotion to family and unwavering faith in God; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this twenty-six day of October, 2022, do hereby commemorate John for his grace-filled life and do hereby express our condolences to his family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of John W. Rowe.

Edward M. Burke Alderman, 14th Ward