



City of Chicago



R2015-100

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

3/10/2015

Sponsor(s):

Emanuel (Mayor)
Beale (9)
Hairston (5)
Harris (8)
Austin (34)
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Arena (45)
Zalewski (23)
O'Connor (41)
Laurino (39)
O'Connor (40)
Smith (43)
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O'Shea (19)
Silverstein (50)
Pope (10)
Pawar (47)
Cappleman (46)
Balcer (11)
Quinn (13)
Cullerton (38)
Cardenas (12)
Reilly (42)
Sawyer (6)
Sposato (36)
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Colón (35)
Mell (33)
Waguespack (32)
Suarez (31)
Reboyas (30)
Graham (29)
Maldonado (26)
Munoz (22)
Dowell (3)
Thomas (17)
Mitts (37)
Lane (18)
Osterman (48)
Holmes (7)
Brookins (21)
Burnett (27)

Fioretti (2)
Moreno (1)
Foulkes (15)
Chandler (24)
Solis (25)
Moore (49)
Mendoza (Clerk)
Resolution

Type:

Title:

Tribute to late Honorable JoAnn Thompson

Committee(s) Assignment:

SUSA.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

March 10, 2015

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I transmit herewith a resolution honoring the life and memory of our dear friend and colleague JoAnn Thompson.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rahm Emanuel".

Mayor

A resolution

adopted by The City Council
of the City of Chicago, Illinois



Presented by CITY CLERK SUSANA A. MENDOZA
MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL on MARCH 10, 2015

Whereas, With profound sadness and an overwhelming sense of loss, the Members of this Chamber mourn the death, on February 9, 2015, at age 58, of our friend and colleague Alderman JoAnn Thompson. Affectionately known as "Jo" by her family and close friends, Alderman Thompson served the people of the 16th Ward, comprising the Englewood and Gage Park neighborhoods, with impeccable dignity and honor; and

WHEREAS, Born on September 18, 1956, Alderman Thompson was raised on the South Side of Chicago. An intelligent and gifted person, who readily took on difficult assignments, Alderman Thompson served as a lieutenant in the Cook County Department of Corrections prior to becoming an alderman; and

WHEREAS, A strong and resilient woman, Alderman Thompson was not a stranger to hardship. She overcame a period of homelessness, rebounded from the death of her beloved husband in 1992, and triumphed in a bout with alcoholism following that tragic loss. Alderman Thompson was a conqueror, crediting God and a social worker at the Chicago Christian Industrial League with helping her to turn her life around. She took justifiable pride in her recovery, telling her constituents: "I represent hope"; and

WHEREAS, First elected to the Chicago City Council on April 17, 2007, and re-elected on April 5, 2011, Alderman Thompson was a tireless advocate for her community. She sponsored 437 pieces of legislation, and she was instrumental in enacting legislation to ban the sale of flavored tobacco and synthetic marijuana in Chicago. An exceptional leader, Alderman Thompson served as the Vice Chair of the City Council Committee on License and Consumer Protection, as an active member of the Black Caucus, and as Committeeman of the 16th Ward; and

WHEREAS, A public servant *par excellence*, who cared deeply about children, Alderman Thompson understood that the prosperity of a community is expressed in the advancement of its people. Committed to bringing jobs, economic prosperity and educational opportunities to the 16th Ward, Alderman Thompson attracted a Whole Foods grocery store to the corner of Halsted Street and 63rd Street in Englewood; lobbied Federal and State legislators to provide capital improvement funding for all schools and parks in the 16th Ward; and secured a \$3.5 million appropriation for a new lunchroom, play lot, restored gymnasium, green space and teachers' parking lot at Oliver Wendell Holmes Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Thompson was a fierce advocate for Chicago's most vulnerable citizens. She cared deeply about the elderly, veterans, the chronically homeless, the disabled and the sick. Thanks to her efforts, the Bethel Terrace Senior Apartments complex, which provides affordable, independent housing for senior citizens, was expanded and three additional residence complexes for senior citizens were built in the 16th Ward; Hope Manor II, one of the first gender-specific housing complexes for veterans in the Nation and the first veterans' housing complex in the 16th Ward, was constructed; Mercy Housing Englewood, a \$17 million, 99-unit, supportive housing development for the chronically homeless and disabled, opened its doors; and the Access Health Medical Campus, which includes a first-of-its-kind-in-Illinois WIC facility and research center, was built at 52nd Street and Ashland Avenue; and

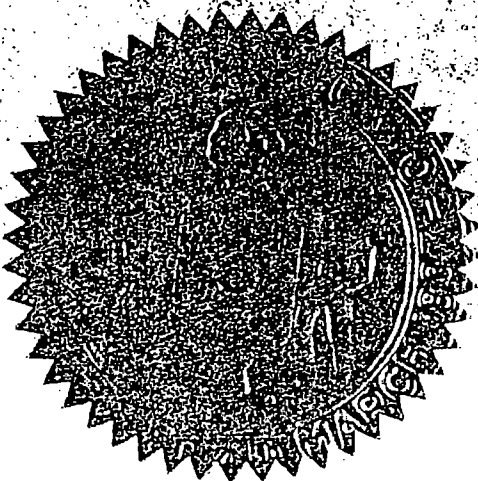
WHEREAS, A firm believer in neighborhood beautification and quality of life, Alderman Thompson co-sponsored six TIF/NIP programs, totaling more than \$5 million, that awarded grants to more than 300 neighborhood residents for sorely needed repairs to their property; co-sponsored the innovative "Lots of Change" program, which brought 2,100 college students from across the Country to the 16th Ward to assist in the clean-up of vacant lots; and established the first-ever 16th Ward Musical Festival and the award-winning 16th Ward Track and Field Team; and

WHEREAS, Widely admired for her personal courage, leadership and grace, Alderman JoAnn Thompson will always be remembered for her caring spirit and genuine smile, and as an exemplary public servant with an abiding affection for the people of Chicago. Her legacy of service, love and compassion survives in the beautiful family she left behind; and

WHEREAS, Alderman JoAnn Thompson is survived by her three children, Joseph, Melanie and Latrece; and by her five grandchildren, DeVon, Ernest, Jerrika, Miayah, and Jessica; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this tenth day of March, 2015, do hereby honor the life and memory of our dear friend and colleague Alderman JoAnn Thompson and extend our heartfelt condolences to her family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be presented to the family of Alderman JoAnn Thompson as a sign of our sympathy and respect.




MAYOR


CITY CLERK

Anty C. Beale 9th

Isabel V. Fairston 5th

Michelle A. Harris 8th

Carrie M. Austin 34th

Edward W. Bunker

~~John S. Bunker~~ 45

Mary A. Conrad 41

Margaret Lawrence 39

Patrick J. Connor 40th

Nicholas S. Sinder 43

James J. J. J. 44

Mary J. J. J. 19

Rev. J. J. J. 50

John A. Pope 10th

John A. Pope 47

James Appleman 46

James B. Balcer 11

Mary J. J. 13

Samuel M. Cullen 38

John A. Conrad 42

Rock T. J. (6)

Nathaniel B. B. 31st

~~John S. Bunker~~ 35th

John T. M. 33rd

Scott W. W. 32

Ray J. J. 31st

John T. J. 29th

John T. J. 26th

John T. J. 22nd

John T. J. 34th

John T. J. 17


John T. J. 37

John T. J. 18th

John T. J. 48th

John T. J. 14th

John T. J. 21

Walter  27+4
~~Paul W. [unclear] - [unclear]~~
