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**JOURNAL of the PROCEEDINGS
of the
CITY COUNCIL
of the
CITY of CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

Special Meeting -- Wednesday, September 14, 2016

at 9:30 A.M.

(Council Chamber -- City Hall -- Chicago, Illinois)

OFFICIAL RECORD.

RAHM EMANUEL
Mayor

SUSANA A. MENDOZA
City Clerk

Attendance At Meeting.

Present -- The Honorable Rahm Emanuel, Mayor, and Aldermen Moreno, Hopkins, Dowell, King, Hairston, Sawyer, Mitchell, Harris, Beale, Sadlowski Garza, Thompson, Cárdenas, Quinn, Burke, Lopez, Foulkes, D. Moore, Curtis, O'Shea, Brookins, Muñoz, Zalewski, Scott, Solis, Maldonado, Burnett, Ervin, Taliaferro, Reboyras, Santiago, Waguespack, Mell, Austin, Ramirez-Rosa, Villegas, Mitts, Sposato, Laurino, O'Connor, Napolitano, Reilly, Smith, Tunney, Arena, Cappleman, Pawar, Osterman, J. Moore, Silverstein.

Absent -- Alderman Cochran.

Call To Order.

On Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at 9:30 A.M., the Honorable Rahm Emanuel, Mayor, called the City Council to order. The Honorable Susana A. Mendoza, City Clerk, called the roll of members and it was found that there were present at that time: Aldermen Moreno, Hopkins, Dowell, King, Hairston, Sawyer, Mitchell, Harris, Beale, Sadlowski Garza, Thompson, Cárdenas, Quinn, Burke, Lopez, Foulkes, D. Moore, Curtis, O'Shea, Brookins, Muñoz, Zalewski, Scott, Solis, Maldonado, Burnett, Ervin, Taliaferro, Reboyras, Santiago, Waguespack, Mell, Austin, Ramirez-Rosa, Villegas, Mitts, Sposato, Laurino, O'Connor, Napolitano, Reilly, Smith, Tunney, Arena, Cappleman, Pawar, Osterman, J. Moore, Silverstein -- 49.

Quorum present.

Pledge Of Allegiance.

Alderman O'Connor led the City Council and assembled guests in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

National Anthem Of United States Of America.

Sarah Gorecki sang the national anthem of the United States of America.

National Anthem Of Ireland.

Paddy Horan sang the national anthem of Ireland.

Invocation.

Father Tom Hurley of Old St. Patrick's Church opened the meeting with prayer.

Placed On File -- CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING.

[F2016-40]

The Honorable Susana A. Mendoza, City Clerk, informed the City Council that the following call for a special meeting was filed in her office on Monday, September 12, 2016, at 9:17 A.M.:

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

September 12, 2016.

Honorable Susana A. Mendoza
City Clerk
City Hall, Room 107
121 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602

DEAR MS. MENDOZA -- I hereby call a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Chicago, to be convened at 9:30 A.M. on Wednesday, September 14, 2016, in the City Council Chamber in City Hall, for the following purposes and for no other purpose whatsoever:

9/14/2016

SPECIAL MEETING

29649

To consider a congratulatory resolution concerning the Honorable Mary Therese Winifred Robinson, former President of Ireland.

To bestow the Chicago Medal of Merit upon President-Emeritus Robinson.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) RAHM EMANUEL,
Mayor.

Rules Suspended -- COMMENDATIONS EXTENDED TO HONORABLE MARY THERESE WINIFRED ROBINSON, FORMER PRESIDENT OF IRELAND, FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS IN FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

[R2016-634]

The Honorable Rahm Emanuel, Mayor, presented the following communication:

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

September 14, 2016.

To the Honorable, The City Council of the City of Chicago:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN -- I transmit herewith, together with Aldermen Burke, O'Connor and Tunney, a congratulatory resolution concerning the Honorable Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) RAHM EMANUEL,
Mayor.

Alderman Burke moved to *Suspend the Rules Temporarily* for the immediate consideration of and action upon the said proposed resolution. The motion *Prevailed*.

The following is said proposed resolution:

WHEREAS, The members of this Chamber are pleased and honored to welcome to Chicago Mary Robinson, the seventh, and first female, President of Ireland; former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; founder and President of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative; and, most recently, newly-appointed United Nations Special Envoy on El Niño and Climate; and

WHEREAS, Mary Robinson was born in Ballina, County Mayo, Ireland. Her parents, Aubrey de Vere Bourke and Tessa Bourke, were both medical doctors. One of five siblings, she attended Ireland's Mount Anville Secondary School, and studied law at the University of Dublin (Trinity College) and at The Honorable Society of King's Inns, Ireland's oldest School of Law, before accepting a postgraduate fellowship to Harvard University; and

WHEREAS, After completing her legal studies in the United States, Mary Robinson returned to Dublin, where she served for one year as a barrister. In 1969, at age 25, she was appointed Reid Professor of Law at Trinity College. A distinguished constitutional lawyer and renowned supporter of human rights, in 1987, she was elected to the Royal Irish Academy and, from 1987 to 1990, she served as a member of the International Commission of Jurists in Geneva, Switzerland. In 1988, Mary Robinson and her husband Nicholas founded the Irish Centre for European Law at Trinity College. Ten years later, in 1998, Mary Robinson was elected Chancellor of Trinity College; and

WHEREAS, An astute activist and politician, who used the law to effect social change, Mary Robinson was elected in 1969 to the upper house of the Irish Parliament, where she served as a senator for 20 years. A strong proponent of civil rights, and especially for women's rights, Mary Robinson led the fight in Parliament to secure the right of Irish women to sit on juries; to abolish the requirement that all women upon marriage resign from the civil service; to legalize contraception and promote equal economic rights; and to recognize the right of women to divorce and live independently. From 1979 to 1983, she also served on the Dublin City Council, where she successfully resisted the development of Wood Quay, one of Europe's best preserved Viking sites; and

WHEREAS, In 1990, with broad-based support from Ireland's Labour Party, Green Party and Workers' Party, Mary Robinson was elected as Ireland's first woman president, declaring, in her inaugural speech, that: "The stage is set for a new common European home based on respect for human rights, pluralism, tolerance and openness to new ideas"; and

WHEREAS, Widely regarded as a transformative figure for Ireland and for the Irish presidency, Mary Robinson breathed new life into the role. As President, she worked tirelessly to reform Ireland's prisons, to decriminalize homosexuality, to admit Ireland into

the European Economic Community, and to change the face of Anglo-Irish relations by becoming the first serving Irish president to visit the United Kingdom and meet Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace. From her first days in office, Mary Robinson recognized and honored the contributions of millions of Irish emigrants during the 18th and 19th centuries, and of their descendants, by burning a lamp in the shape of a candle in the window of the presidential residence, deftly using the symbolism of the Irish diaspora and potato famine to encourage Ireland to support developing nations, and to fight famine and genocide in Somalia, Rwanda and other countries in Africa and around the world; and

WHEREAS, On September 12, 1997, Mary Robinson was named United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, where she reprioritized the office by emphasizing human rights nationally and regionally. Her many accomplishments include becoming the first United Nations High Commissioner to visit China and Tibet; strengthening the monitoring of human rights in conflict areas; connecting climate change, human rights and gender; chairing the Asia Regional Preparatory meeting for the 2001 "World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination and Xenophobia" in Tehran, Iran; and presiding over the 2001 "World Conference Against Racism" in Durban, South Africa; and

WHEREAS, In 2002, Mary Robinson founded the non-governmental organization Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative in an effort to put human rights standards and the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable at the heart of global governance and policymaking by fostering more equitable international trade and development, strengthening responses to HIV/AIDS in Africa, and shaping more humane migration policies; and

WHEREAS, Since July 18, 2007, when former President of South Africa Nelson Mandela convened a group of world leaders, the Elders Group of World Peacemakers, to contribute their collective wisdom, influence and experience to tackling the world's toughest problems, Mary Robinson has been active in The Elders' work as a forceful advocate for human rights and dignity in Africa and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, In July of 2009, President Barack Obama awarded Mary Robinson the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor bestowed by the United States; and

WHEREAS, Since 2009, Mary Robinson has continued to bring attention to urgent international issues, and to urge citizens and nations to make common cause for justice, as Honorary President of Oxfam International; as Chair of the International Institute for Environment and Development; as founding member and Chair of the Council of Women World Leaders; as Chair of the Board of Global Alliances for Vaccines and Immunization; as a member of the Club of Madrid; as United Nations Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region of Central Africa; as United Nations Special Envoy for Climate Change; and, most recently, as United Nations Special Envoy on El Niño and Climate; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this 14th day of September 2016, do hereby commend Mary Robinson for her lifetime of achievement in the field of human rights; and

Be It Further Resolved, That, in recognition of Mary Robinson's invaluable contributions to humanity as an agent for change, and for her devotion to ending discrimination, breaking down barriers, uplifting mankind, and setting a standard of excellence to which we all should strive, we wish to bestow upon her Chicago's highest honor, the Medal of Merit; and

Be It Further Resolved, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mary Robinson as a sign of our respect, admiration and good wishes.

On motion of Alderman Burke, seconded by Aldermen Thompson, O'Connor and Tunney, the foregoing resolution was *Adopted* by a viva voce vote.

At this point in the proceedings, the Honorable Rahm Emanuel, Mayor, rose and on behalf of the people of Chicago extended a warm welcome to the Honorable Mary Therese Winifred Robinson, former President of Ireland, on her visit to Chicago to attend a fundraising lunch for the proposed Mary Robinson Centre, Ireland's first Presidential Library to be located in Balina, County Mayo. Mayor Emanuel lauded President-Emeritus Robinson for her lifelong efforts to give a "voice to the voiceless" and ensure that their struggles and challenges are brought to the forefront. Noting the propensity for world leaders to champion an issue or moral cause in their post-presidency years, Mayor Emanuel commended President-Emeritus Robinson for her courage as an activist and agent for change throughout her tenure as President of Ireland. A strong proponent of civil rights, gay rights, women's rights, and human rights, President-Emeritus Robinson was a pioneer and transformative leader in Ireland and throughout the world, the Mayor observed, and always maintained a moral certitude in her decisions. In awarding the Medal of Merit to President-Emeritus Robinson, which is the highest civilian honor bestowed by the City of Chicago, we are recognizing and thanking her not only for a life of leadership, accomplishment and service, the Mayor continued, but also for the tremendous relationship that she helped nurture between the City of Chicago and the people of Ireland, whether in business, labor or public service.

Presentation Of Chicago Medal Of Merit.

The Honorable Rahm Emanuel, Mayor, invited President-Emeritus Mary Therese Winifred Robinson, accompanied by Alderman Burke, to the Mayor's rostrum where he bestowed upon her the Chicago Medal of Merit.

Alderman Burke then moved to *Suspend the Rules Temporarily* to permit President-Emeritus Robinson the privilege of the floor. The motion *Prevailed*.

Addressing the City Council and assembled guests from the Clerk's rostrum, President-Emeritus Robinson expressed appreciation to Mayor Emanuel and the members of the City Council for the honor accorded her and for their accolades and warm reception. President-Emeritus Robinson also conveyed her gratitude to Alderman Burke, Alderman Tunney,

Alderman O'Connor and Alderman Thompson for co-sponsoring this event and for their kind words. Reminiscing with fondness about her many visits to Chicago over the years, President-Emeritus Robinson recalled a particular visit in March of 1980 when, as a senator, she was invited to an evening event to address the Chicago City Council on issues concerning global affairs. However, it was an event earlier that afternoon that captured her attention, President-Emeritus Robinson recounted, as she listened to another speaker, a presidential nominee, Ronald Reagan, who skillfully entertained the audience with Irish jokes in honor of Saint Patrick's Day. On later visits to Chicago as President of Ireland, President-Emeritus Robinson described the many events she attended and cultural highlights she experienced, but most importantly the ever present kindness and generosity of the people of Chicago.

"Now, the focus of my work is on sustainable development and climate change or, as I prefer to use the term 'climate justice'", President-Emeritus Robinson observed, which "links development, climate change, and human rights". Reflecting on the many new issues and challenges she faces as the United Nations Special Envoy on El Niño and Climate, President-Emeritus Robinson spoke of her expeditions across the globe witnessing firsthand the increasing severity and frequency of flooding, drought and famine brought about through climate change and the catastrophic and lasting impact on the poorest countries and communities who are least equipped to recover.

To effectively confront climate change it is vitally important for cities to implement sustainable development goals, President-Emeritus Robinson maintained, and commended Mayor Emanuel and the City of Chicago for their leadership in formulating the Chicago 2015 Sustainable Development Action Agenda and President Barak Obama for his successful efforts to finalize a joint ratification with China last December regarding the landmark Paris Agreement on climate action. Supporting Chicago's active membership in the 40-city Climate Positive Development Program (C40), President-Emeritus Robinson also congratulated Mayor Emanuel for serving as Chair of the Sustainable Infrastructure Finance Network for the organization and declared her support for the Chicago Forum on Global Cities sponsored by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs.

Citing the goals of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, President-Emeritus Robinson affirmed the fundamental importance of providing and promoting economic, social, and environmental sustainability. In confronting the scourge of violence and crime which has scared the landscape of many cities we must look to new solutions not found simply in laws and policing, President-Emeritus Robinson argued, but through social inclusion and sustainability as advocated in U.N. Sustainable Development Goal 16 which states "to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, to provide access and justice for all, and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels".

President-Emeritus Robinson concluded her remarks by thanking Mayor Emanuel and the members of the City Council for the honor accorded her and observed how inconceivable the possibility that 36 years after her first visit to Chicago in March 1980 she would be receiving this prestigious honor. "I feel very humbled", she declared, "but I also feel very energized".

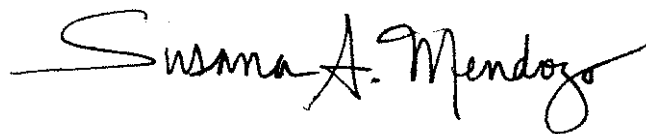
PRESENCE OF VISTORS NOTED.

The following individuals were in attendance:

Honorable Billy Lawless, Irish Expatriate Senator; Orla McBreen, Consul General of Ireland in Chicago; Ragnar Almqvist, Vice Consul of Ireland; Margaret O’Ryan Lombardo, Co-Chair of Mary Robinson Centre Fundraising Host Committee; Yvonne Derring Bruce, Mayo Association member and Co-Chair of Mary Robinson Centre Fundraising Host Committee; Kathy Taylor, Co-Chair of Mary Robinson Centre Fundraising Host Committee; Robert Hoetlerhoff, Mary Robinson Centre Fundraising Host Committee member; Margaret McDermott, former Presence Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center CEO and Mary Robinson Centre Fundraising Host Committee member; Kevin Cooney, attorney; Terry Johnson, attorney and Notre Dame coach; Bill O’Sullivan, President of Gaelic Park and Mary Robinson Centre Fundraising Host Committee member; Lorraine McGuire, Mayo Association member and Mary Robinson Centre Fundraising Host Committee member; Ruth Cowley, Mayo Association member and Mary Robinson Centre Fundraising Host Committee member; Tom Coffey, CEO of Haymarket Public Strategies; Gary Reidy, Mary Robinson Centre Fundraising Host Committee member; Brian Mullin, Mayo Association member and CIIS Board member; Timothy Dever, Mary Robinson Centre Fundraising Host Committee member; James Sheehan, Mary Robinson Centre Fundraising Host Committee member; Tim Egan, 2nd Ward Democratic Committeeman, CEO of Roseland Hospital and Mary Robinson Centre Fundraising Host Committee member; Brian Sheehan; Shane Murphy; and Derek Leonard of Mary Robinson.

Adjournment.

Alderman Burke moved that the City Council do *Adjourn*. The motion *Prevailed* and the City Council *Stood Adjourned*.



SUSANA A. MENDOZA,
City Clerk.

APPENDIX A
LEGISLATIVE INDEX

JOURNAL of the PROCEEDINGS
of the
CITY COUNCIL
of the
CITY of CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Special Meeting – Wednesday, September 14, 2016

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Date: 9/14/2016

CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE INDEX

1

CITY COUNCIL

Special Meetings

September 14, 2016 at 9:30 A.M.

Emanuel (Mayor) F2016-40
Filed [C.J.p. 29648]

COMMENDATIONS & DECLARATIONS

Robinson, Mary (Hon.), former President
of Ireland

Lifetime achievement in field of
human rights

Emanuel (Mayor), and Others R2016-634
Adopted [C.J.p. 29649]