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

Special Meeting -- Wednesday, December 15, 1999

at 9:30 A.M.

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

OFFICIAL RECORD.

RICHARD M. DALEY
Mayor

JAMES J. LASKI
City Clerk

Attendance At Meeting.

Present -- The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, and Aldermen Granato, Haithcock, Tillman, Preckwinkle, Hairston, Lyle, Beavers, Dixon, Beale, Pope, Balcer, Frias, Olivo, Burke, Thomas, Coleman, Peterson, Murphy, Rugai, Troutman, DeVille, Munoz, Zalewski, Chandler, Solis, Ocasio, Burnett, E. Smith, Carothers, Wojcik, Suarez, Matlak, Mell, Austin, Colom, Banks, Allen, Laurino, O'Connor, Doherty, Natarus, Daley, Hansen, Levar, Shiller, Schulter, M. Smith, Stone.

Absent -- Alderman Moore.

Call To Order.

On Wednesday, December 15, 1999 at 9:30 A.M., The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, called the City Council to order. The Honorable James J. Laski, City Clerk, called the roll of members and it was found that there were present at that time: Aldermen Granato, Haithcock, Tillman, Preckwinkle, Hairston, Lyle, Beavers, Dixon, Beale, Pope, Balcer, Frias, Olivo, Burke, Thomas, Coleman, Peterson, Murphy, Rugai, Troutman, DeVille, Munoz, Zalewski, Chandler, Solis, Ocasio, Burnett, E. Smith, Carothers, Wojcik, Suarez, Matlak, Mell, Austin, Colom, Banks, Allen, Laurino, O'Connor, Doherty, Natarus, Daley, Hansen, Levar, Shiller, Schulter, M. Smith, Stone -- 48.

Quorum present.

OPENING MUSICAL SELECTION.

The Curie High School Band, under the direction of Mr. Dale Craine, performed the musical selections "America The Beautiful" and "Auld Lang Syne".

Invocation.

His Eminence Francis Cardinal George opened the meeting with prayer.

POSTING OF COLORS.

A contingent of Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets under the command of Major James O'Rourke, from the Chicago Military Academy, posted the colors to the accompaniment of the following musical selections: "When The Saints Go Marching In", "To The Colors" and "The Army Song".

NATIONAL ANTHEM.

Soloist Tawana Henderson of the Jones Academic Magnet High School Lyric Choir sang the National Anthem.

Placed On File -- CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING.

The Honorable James J. Laski, City Clerk, informed the City Council that the following call for a special meeting was filed in his office on Friday, December 10, 1999 at 3:07 P.M.:

12/15/99

SPECIAL MEETING

20529

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

December 10, 1999.

Honorable James J. Laski
City Clerk
City Hall, Room 107
121 North LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602

DEAR MR. LASKI -- 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, December 15, 1999, in the City Council Chambers in City Hall, for the sole purpose of considering a resolution and related ceremonies in observance of the end of the 1900s and the coming of the year 2000.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) RICHARD M. DALEY,
Mayor.

Rules Suspended -- ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HISTORICAL
ACHIEVEMENTS IN CHICAGO AND CELEBRATION
OF NEW MILLENNIUM.

The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, on behalf of himself and the members of the City Council, presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Our City's "I Will" spirit has made the past one hundred years more than a century of progress and proven that Chicago is "the city that works"; and

WHEREAS, From stockyards to world financial markets, from railroads to the world's busiest airport, from a boulevard system to a museum campus, from the Chicago school of architecture to the Picasso, and from Riverview Park to a new Navy Pier, during the 20th century our city has blossomed into a world-class commercial and cultural center; and

WHEREAS, As we attended a world's fair, pioneered the skyscraper and applauded Nobel Prize winners, our city participated in many of the most important achievements of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, With great pride, our city has enjoyed the sounds of a world-famous symphony orchestra, cherished the performance of a world-renowned opera company, cheered the Cubs, White Sox, Bulls, Bears and Blackhawks to thrilling victories, hosted more political conventions than any other city, laughed at improvisational theater and listened to the Blues; and

WHEREAS, Our city's beautiful skyline and expansive lakefront exist today as the result of Daniel Burnham's visionary Plan of Chicago, and as we celebrate the turn-of-the-century, many of his ideas will be incorporated in the new Millennium Park currently under construction; and

WHEREAS, At the end of the 19th century, the ashes of the Great Chicago Fire rekindled the city's spirit, and now, as the 20th century draws to a close, our spirit remains strong and vibrant; and

WHEREAS, As we look back over the last century and acknowledge the accomplishments and sacrifices of prior generations, it is now our turn to enter a new century and leave a lasting legacy of equal achievement for future generations; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this fifteenth day of December, 1999, do hereby take great pleasure in celebrating the turn-of-the-century and wishing all Chicagoans well in the 21st century.

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

On motion of Alderman Burke, the foregoing proposed resolution was *Adopted* by yeas and nays as follows:

Yeas -- Aldermen Granato, Haithcock, Tillman, Preckwinkle, Hairston, Lyle, Beavers, Dixon, Beale, Pope, Balcer, Frias, Olivo, Burke, Thomas, Coleman, Peterson, Murphy, Rugai, Troutman, DeVille, Munoz, Zalewski, Chandler, Solis, Ocasio, Burnett, E. Smith, Carothers, Wojcik, Suarez, Matlak, Mell, Austin, Colom, Banks, Allen, Laurino, O'Connor, Doherty, Natarus, Daley, Hansen, Levar, Shiller, Schuller, M. Smith, Stone -- 48.

Nays -- None.

MUSICAL SELECTION.

Members of the Jones Academic Magnet High School Lyric Choir, under the musical direction of Ms. Gale Klopack, performed the musical selections "Jubilate Deo" and "Dry Your Tears Afrika".

REMARKS BY THE HONORABLE RICHARD M. DALEY.

When you talk about Chicago's achievements over the past one hundred years, it's very tempting to focus on major events and great projects.

This century began with one of the major engineering accomplishments of all time, reversing the flow of the Chicago River on the second day of 1900.

Chicago gained international acclaim -- and delayed the local onset of the Great Depression for a year -- with the Century of Progress World's Fair of 1933 -- 1934.

O'Hare Airport opened to commercial traffic in 1955 and quickly became the world's busiest.

The Sears Tower became the world's tallest building in 1974 -- and then lost the title. But the next century may see the construction of an even taller building in Chicago.

These are impressive accomplishments, but they tell only part of the story of Chicago -- and not even the most important part.

Chicago's most important resource, and the real secret of its greatness, is -- and always has been -- its people.

This city has been blessed with people of great energy, great vision and great social conscience. People like:

Jane Addams, who not only provided education and social services to struggling immigrants on the West Side, but led the fight for juvenile courts, factory inspections and the eight-hour working day.

Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, who founded Provident Hospital, the nation's first interracial hospital, to provide training for African-American physicians and nurses. He also performed the nation's first successful heart surgery.

William Rainey Harper who built the great University of Chicago from scratch -- with John D. Rockefeller's money.

Gwendolyn Brooks, the first African-American woman to win a Pulitzer Prize.

Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, beloved by people of all religions for his message of love, peace and tolerance.

Harold Washington, who broke down barriers and opened wider the doors of opportunity for all our citizens -- doors that will never again be closed.

And Richard J. Daley, who built much of the city we see today and made Chicago the city that works.

The list is endless. Thousands have left their mark -- in business, education, literature, music, public service and other fields.

They have in common the Chicago qualities of great vigor, public spirit and a belief that no problem is insurmountable. Chicagoans do not give up easily.

And for every well-known person who has helped make Chicago great, there are thousands of unsung heroes in neighborhoods from Hegewisch to Edgebrook.

One of them was Arnold Mireles, who was murdered two years ago this month in retaliation for his efforts to rid his neighborhood of gangs, drugs and slumlords.

And there are many others who, thank God, have not had to pay that high price:

- people who come home from work dead tired, but still manage to get to the C.A.P.S. meeting, because they're determined to rid their neighborhood of gangs, guns and drugs.
- people who care for an elderly relative, but also volunteer at their children's school
- people who work two jobs and still find time to coach a Little League team or work in a neighborhood organization or charity.

In other words, people who look beyond their narrow, personal needs to make a contribution to the community.

Without them, Chicago would not be where it is today.

With them, Chicago will become an even greater city in the 21st century than it has been in the 20th.

Thank you.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS PROVIDED BY MEMBERS OF
THE CHICAGO CITY COUNCIL.

At this point in the proceedings, Alderman Burke moved that the City Clerk *Accept For Publication* written aldermanic remarks regarding the millennium. The motion *Prevailed*.

The following written statements were provided by members of the Chicago City Council:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Chicago City Council:

Just sixteen days from today, you and I will be only hours away from the dawn of a new millennium and a new century. It will mark an extraordinary moment of transition in our shared human history. It is a time filled with promise, expectation and, for some, fear. Y2K approaches not without a little dread.

One hundred years ago, Chicagoans were enthralled with the approach of the 20th century. They faced the future with courage and a remarkable sense of wonder. How could they not?

Within the living of many Chicagoans, it seemed as though there was no limit to the human imagination or what it was possible for human endeavor to accomplish. In the aftermath of the incomparable World's Columbian Exhibition of 1893, the city's fresh, "modern" persona had been displayed for all the world to see.

As the approaching new century came into view, Chicagoans were excited for all that loomed in the horizon. Electricity, the horseless carriage, the telephone, a resplendent economy and nine national political conventions since 1860 had bolstered Chicago's self-assurance and anticipation of what lay ahead.

Chicagoans looked to a new century galvanized by the pluck and inventiveness that already had made the city the undisputed capital of the American heartland. Local politics took place somewhere between the dignified, erudite refinements of Mayor Carter Harrison II and the shifty shenanigans and mayhem of Aldermen Michael "Hinky-Dink" Kenna and "Bathhouse John" Coughlin of the then infamous 1st Ward.

It was the age of wide industrial fortunes and handsome philanthropy. As the 19th century came to a close in Chicago, nothing stirred hearts more on the south side than the news that a new baseball league to rival the National League was going to be organized. And soon Charles Comiskey announced the formation of the Chicago White Stockings who would play at the club's new stands at 39th and Wentworth. (They lost their home opener to Milwaukee 5 to 4.)

The new century was filled with promise. As the century began, Chicagoans were buried under heavy snow, but nonetheless celebrated the opening of the Drainage Canal at Lockport which let the waters of Lake Michigan flow into the mighty Mississippi. And for the first time since the Chicago Fire of 1871 fish were caught in the Chicago River, now made clean by the working of the Drainage Canal. No one could have predicted the extraordinary invention and destruction that the 20th century would signal to the world. But the 1,698,595 Chicagoans who made up the City of Chicago then, were ready for anything, as they watched the slow erosion of their cow-town personality and its exchange for a brash yet elegant urbanity that was to glisten in the new age.

When we reflect on the century and the millennium, and the thousands of years of human history that have transpired, it further underscores our own mortality and individual insignificance. But as we approach the end of the century, we are given a unique life experience -- the opportunity to experience a new beginning, to greet a new century and a new millennium -- something few others can claim.

I believe that the unique inspiration of our existence can be best expressed in an ode of an anonymous and curious origin.

One Solitary Life.

He was a young man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He was raised in another village, working as a carpenter until the age of thirty, when He became an itinerant preacher.

In all His life, He never wrote a book, held a public office, or attended a college. He had no home or family of His own. Large cities were unknown to Him and He was never more than two hundred miles from the place of His birth. He did none of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials, but Himself.

After three years as a preacher, public opinion turned against Him. His friends deserted Him, leaving Him to suffer the mockery of a trial at the hands of His enemies. He was sentenced to death and was nailed to a cross between two thieves. As He was dying, His executioners gambled for His robe -- His only possession on Earth.

Nineteen centuries have passed since His death, and today He is the central figure of the human race and the leader of the column of progress. All time is measured by His birth. All the armies that have ever marched, all the navies that have ever sailed, all the kings that have ever reigned and all the governments that have ever ruled, combined, have not influenced the life of man upon this earth nearly as much as that One Solitary Life.

(Signed) EDWARD M. BURKE,
Alderman, 14th Ward.

Generations of people live full lives entirely in one century We have the privilege of moving beyond that with the vitality, the spirit, the pride in our own enlivened sensitivity expressed here today as we all strive to "put the frosting on the planet's virtual birthday cake" We're here because we are working to make

a positive difference!

Our world has reached a new maturity . . . the "teen" centuries are ending now. In our century our world has come of age.

The end of the decade . . . the end of an era . . . it's a spiritually moving, mind-boggling brand new beginning for accomplishing the goals we share . . . for relegating to history our own imperfections, individually and societally, and doing what we know we must, because we know we can!

A new millennium . . . is as close as we'll ever get to a clean slate. We should celebrate a very special, very awesome probability: that children born today should never know the struggles of our quest for ethnic and racial respect They must not be housed . . . under the auspices of government assistance . . . in downtrodden, crime-ridden beehives of discontent. They will learn, but perhaps not as soon as we did, that this world is not yet perfect. But it is better, and perhaps, most importantly, that this world shall be better because they can contribute, in their own ways, to making it so.

Closing in on the local perspective . . . our great mayor and this honorable body, meeting here for the final time in the second millennium, carry forward the advantage of bold, young leadership. The majority of us work full time at our city council and community responsibilities. Our mayor has spearheaded courageous, innovative initiatives that have truly made our "neighborhoods alive".

- T.I.F N.I.F.! (economic progress)
- education management (learning progress)
- affordable housing (quality of life progress)
- environmental sensitivity (protection of life progress)
- and so many more. . . .

We are working together, and it is working well. We are ready, new millennium. Here we come!

(Signed) ARENDA TROUTMAN,
Alderman, 20th Ward.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Thank you for affording me this opportunity to address this gathering.

We are on the verge of dawning a new century. A century in which we don't have a clue as to what we will face.

I've got to tell you Mr. President. I am tremendously concerned about the aspects of our future. I am fearful that we will take into tomorrow our dreadful inadequacies of today, bias, self-centeredness and probably the most perverse of all "Racism".

In this century, we saw black homes burned, black people turned away from the polls, segregated schools and lunch counters. We saw the doorways to institutions of higher learning blocked by elected officials. We witnessed communities right here in our city demonstrate the height of racial prejudice, in where black people could afford to buy or live but were turned away because of the color of their skin.

This was a city that the great Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King described as the most racist city in America, and he had experienced racism all over this entire country.

Yes blacks can now drink at any water fountain, eat at any lunch counter in the United States and vote their choices, but the long arms of racism are strong, active and even in this day vicious.

The city of Chicago must stand up and lead the world into the new millennium not only in name as the city with "Big Shoulders", but the city that shares its shoulders with all races, creeds, color, genders and sexual preferences that are in need of fairness, justice and equity.

In the 21st century, we as a people must work together to cure HIV, AIDS, STDs and cancer and most of all racism. In our city we must never again experience brutality in our police department, racial epithets in our fire department or unfair practices in any city department.

The unified goal in the 21st century for all of us must be to work together toward building a greater city for every citizen in Chicago. We must also fight with every measure to rid our streets of gangs, drugs, guns and violence of any sort. Education has to be our number one priority, because without it, the city as we know it will certainly perish.

Chicago is a great city, but if we work at it together we can make it even better.

Thank you, thank God and may the 21st century be the one that goes down in the record books as the century that Chicago showed the world that it really does work for all of its people and that other cities, states and countries will leap to follow our lead toward a better world.

Thank you again and the City Council.

(Signed) ED H. SMITH,
Alderman, 28th Ward.

Dear Sir and Colleagues:

In the wake of the last Council meeting of the century and on the threshold of the new millennium, I take this opportunity to express with pride, humility and appreciation, the feeling I've had at being given the chance to serve this city as a member of this august body after the untimely death of my husband Lemuel. I am proud to have played a part by making my contribution to this legislative assembly, and letting history place whatever value it deems fit upon it.

This assembly has weathered many stormy and contentious times in its deliberative processes. Yet this body, much like a kaleidoscope that makes one pattern more beautiful than the other after each turn, continued to emerge stronger and more dedicated to the proposition of serving the people who have entrusted to it their confidence and future.

To the future generations who will review our efforts to leave a legacy that would allow those who go on to succeed us to flourish, I hope we are bound to be, like the obedient servant in the biblical parable whose conscientiousness prompted his master to say after he performed a charge above and beyond the call, "Well done, oh good and faithful servant". To those in the 21st century and beyond, I ask that we be remembered to those who may follow them and ad-infinitum. May your existence be blessed with peace and not chaos.

(Signed) CARRIE M. AUSTIN,
Alderman, 34th Ward.

This is our year 1999 A.D. approaching the Second Millennium 2000 A.D.. For others it is Hebrew 5760, Buddhism 2543, Muslim 1420, Hindu 1921, Chinese 4697, Ethiopian 1993, Mayan 5119 and Roman Julian 2752. Thus the counting of time is not new to us alone but it is an ecumenical and all inclusive phenomenon which gives us a sense of order, cohesiveness, and a time for reflection and thought.

Now our civilization has decided to pass at the proper moment from one millennium to another. We reflect upon the past and look to the future. In the past we passed from 999 A.D. to 1000 A.D.. The world then as we know it was in a state of chaos. Charlemagne during the latter part of the first millennium was desperately attempting to hold European civilization together politically, by forming the Holy Roman Empire, creating the early medieval kingdoms later resulting in the monarchical countries of England, France, Spain, Italy, Germany and Russia.

The monarchies of Europe remained in existence for over 1,000 years from the First Millennium through part of the Second Millennium. The world experienced the First World War in 1914 resulting in the destruction of the monarchies in Europe. These monarchies were replaced by new political institutions namely, free consolidations of power called republics or forced consolidations of power called dictatorships.

Fortunately we live in a free society, a republic founded in the Second Millennium, in the year 1789 A.D. called the United States of America. We elect peers to administer and legislate our political and economic affairs. We are guaranteed individual freedoms, of speech, of assembly, of religion, of press and of public trials. Our founding fathers shrewdly organized a system wherein no one possesses too much power. The entire system seems to check and balance itself both geographically and functionally; when one person or group or series of groups seek to upset this balance the system by its very nature repudiates the usurpation of power.

As we look to the Third Millennium there exists the danger of this finely tuned balance of power being usurped. Lack of thought, desire for efficiency, invasion of scientific technology into our private lives and fear of the unknown may cause a change in the system. The profound question to ask ourselves: Will we remain free? I think we will.

(Signed) BURTON F. NATARUS,
Alderman, 42nd Ward.

CLOSING MUSICAL SELECTION.

The Curie High School Band performed the musical selections "God Bless America" and "Chicago".

PRESENTATION OF MILLENNIUM STAR TO
THE HONORABLE RICHARD M. DALEY, MAYOR.

At this point in the proceedings, a delegation of aldermen consisting of Edward M. Burke, Lorraine L. Dixon and Bernard L. Stone approached the Mayor's rostrum where, on behalf of the Chicago City Council, they presented a "Millennium Star" to The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor.

CLOSING PRAYER.

Rabbi Elliot B. Gestel of Congregation Rodfie Zedek offered the closing prayer.

BENEDICTION.

Reverend Clay Evans, Pastor of Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, delivered the benediction.

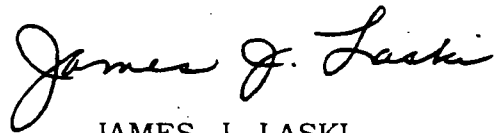
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SPECIAL MEETING

20541

Adjournment.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James J. Laski".

JAMES J. LASKI,
City Clerk.

