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**COPY**



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

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**Special Meeting—Friday, March 21, 1986**

**at 10:00 A.M.**

**(Council Chamber—City Hall—Chicago, Illinois)**

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**OFFICIAL RECORD.**

**HAROLD WASHINGTON**  
Mayor

**WALTER S. KOZUBOWSKI**  
City Clerk

### **Attendance at Meeting.**

*Present* -- Honorable Harold Washington, Mayor, and Aldermen Roti, Rush, Tillman, Beavers, Humes, Hutchinson, Vrdolyak, Huels, Majerczyk, Burke, Brady, Langford, Streeter, Kellam, Kelley, Sherman, Stemberk, Krystyniak, Marzullo, Nardulli, Smith, D. Davis, Hagopian, Santiago, Gabinski, Mell, Frost, Kotlarz, Banks, Damato, Laurino, O'Connor, Pucinski, Natarus, Oberman, Hansen, McLaughlin, Orbach, Schuler, Volini, Orr, Stone.

*Absent* -- Aldermen Evans, Bloom, Sawyer, Madrzyk, Sheahan, Henry, W. Davis, Cullerton.

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### **Call to Order.**

On Friday, March 21, 1986 at 10:40 A.M. (the hour appointed for the meeting was 10:00 A.M.) Honorable Harold Washington, Mayor, called the City Council to order. Daniel J. Burke, Deputy City Clerk, called the roll of members and it was found that there were present at that time: Aldermen Roti, Rush, Tillman, Beavers, Humes, Hutchinson, Vrdolyak, Huels, Majerczyk, Burke, Brady, Langford, Streeter, Kellam, Kelley, Sherman, Stemberk, Krystyniak, Marzullo, Nardulli, Smith, D. Davis, Hagopian, Santiago, Gabinski, Mell, Frost, Kotlarz, Banks, Damato, Laurino, O'Connor, Pucinski, Natarus, Oberman, Hansen, McLaughlin, Orbach, Schuler, Volini, Orr, Stone -- 42.

Quorum present.

On motion of Alderman Huels, it was ordered noted in the Journal that Alderman Sheahan was absent due to illness.

Alderman Sawyer and Alderman Cullerton were absent due to City business.

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### **Invocation.**

Reverend Alex Peloso, Pastor, St. Callistus Church, opened the meeting with prayer.

*Placed on File -- CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING.*

The following communication calling for a special meeting was received in the City Clerk's Office on March 19, 1985, at 3:36 P.M.

March 19, 1986.

*Honorable Walter S. Kozubowski  
City Clerk  
City Hall, Room 107  
Chicago, Illinois 60602*

DEAR MR. KOZUBOWSKI -- We, the undersigned Aldermen of the City of Chicago, pursuant to Illinois law and ordinances, do hereby call a Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Chicago, to be held on Friday, March 21, 1986 at 10:00 A.M. in the City Council Chamber of the City of Chicago, for the following purpose and no other:

To consider a resolution paying tribute to and honoring Alderman Vito Marzullo for his many years of distinguished public service in both the State legislature and the Chicago City Council.

Very truly yours,  
(Signed) GEORGE J. HAGOPIAN,

(Signed) FRED B. ROTI,

(Signed) EDWARD M. BURKE.

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At this point in the proceedings, Alderman Burke presented communications from The Honorable Walter S. Kozubowski, City Clerk of Chicago, The Honorable Alan J. Dixon, United States Senator from the State of Illinois and The Honorable Paul Simon, United States Senator from the State of Illinois. Alderman Burke then moved that said communications be printed in full text in the Journal of the Proceedings of the City Council. The motion *Prevailed*.

The following are said communications:

3/21/86

SPECIAL MEETING

28651



CITY OF CHICAGO

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

ROOM 107 CITY HALL

WALTER S. KOZUBOWSKI  
CITY CLERK

TELEPHONE  
744-6861

March 31, 1986

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

Ladies and Gentlemen -- While I can not be with you in person this day, on which the City Council of Chicago will gather in Special Meeting to honor the Dean of the City Council, Alderman Vito Marzullo, I must add my voice to those that will be raised in his praise. In honoring this man, we are, of course, recognizing the very embodiment of the term "public servant".

The notion of America as a land of opportunity, a country in which the immigrant as well as the established can prosper, is an ideal central to our national psyche. It is an ideal which, brought to fruition, lends a special resilience to the multihued social fabric that is Chicago . . . an ideal epitomized by Vito Marzullo. Yet, we honor Vito Marzullo not simply for his career successes, for this country has afforded many the opportunity to attain financial and social success, we honor Vito Marzullo for the manner in which he chose to succeed. That is, Vito Marzullo has succeeded through service to others.

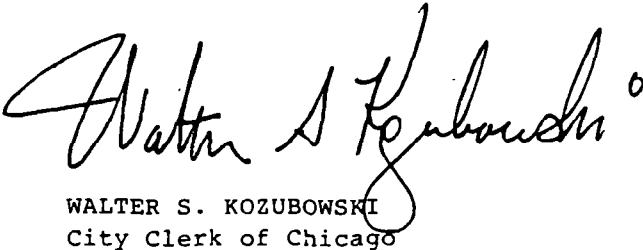
Alderman Marzullo's tenure and his impact on all ensures that this meeting will be treated to many a personal anecdote. I will say only that I shall never forget and have tried to assume as my own guiding principle, the humility with which the Alderman served. Dedication and loyalty to, as well as a profound respect for his constituents and colleagues have been the hallmark of Vito Marzullo's career.

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March 31, 1986

The retirement of Alderman Vito Marzullo surely marks the end of an era -- for the City Council, for Chicago, indeed for a way of political life. Vito, I convey to you the old Polish sentiment -- Zycze Ci Sto Lat! -- ("Wishing you 100 years"). May God always be with you and watch over you and your family.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Walter S. Kozubowski". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

WALTER S. KOZUBOWSKI  
City Clerk of Chicago

3/21/86

SPECIAL MEETING

28653

UNITED STATES SENATE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

March 21, 1986.

*The Honorable Vito Marzullo  
Alderman  
Chicago City Council  
City Hall  
121 North LaSalle Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60602*

DEAR VITO -- I am so sorry that I am unable to congratulate you in person on your 30 years of public service.

You are one of the people that I have always looked up to and admired as a young man. Indeed, you are a great inspiration to all of us in politics. Your overwhelming commitment to the City of Chicago and to your community is recognized and appreciated by many, many people throughout the State of Illinois. This commitment to service is a model to me and to the great numbers of people you have touched throughout your career.

You and your family can feel very proud today. We all share this great pride when we think of Vito Marzullo the Alderman, the family man, and our friend.

Warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,  
(Signed) ALAN J. DIXON,  
*United States Senator.*

UNITED STATES SENATE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

March 21, 1986.

Vito Marzullo, a venerable figure in Chicago politics for 66 years, is being honored by the Chicago City Council as he prepares to retire. At age 89, I expect Vito Marzullo will remain an active and vital force in City politics.

His story crystallizes the ideal we all share of America as the land of opportunity. An immigrant from his native Italy, Marzullo came to this country alone as a boy in 1910. From 1920 to 1953, he was a star precinct captain, delivering huge majorities for candidates like Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman and fellow immigrant Anton Cermak.

He was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1940 and served until 1953. He returned to Chicago politics, serving as ward alderman and in 1960 also was elected ward committeeman.

Marzullo is best known for his skillful leadership of campaigns -- his own and those of other Democrats. In 22 consecutive elections, he won huge victories and never knew defeat.

Today, the Chicago City Council is meeting in special session to honor its longest-serving member. I extend my congratulations to Vito Marzullo and wish him all the best.

(Signed) PAUL SIMON,  
*United States Senator.*

## PRESENCE OF VISITORS NOTED.

Honorable Harold Washington, Mayor, called the City Council's attention to the presence of the Honorable James R. Thompson, Governor of the State of Illinois.

Alderman Burke then called the Council's attention to the presence of the following distinguished visitors:

The Honorable Michael A. Bilandic -- Justice, Appellate Court of Illinois;

The Honorable George Dunne -- President, Board of Commissioners of Cook County, Illinois;

The Honorable William Clark -- Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the State of Illinois;

The Honorable James Murray -- Justice, Appellate Court of Illinois;

The Honorable Seymor Simon -- Justice, Supreme Court of the State of Illinois;

The Honorable Stanley T. Kusper, Jr. -- County Clerk, County of Cook, Illinois;

The Honorable John P. Daley -- Illinois State Representative, Twenty-first Legislative District;

The Honorable Roland Lebonatti -- Member, United States House of Representatives (Retired);

The Honorable Irene Hernandez -- Commissioner, Board of Commissioners of Cook County, Illinois;

Mr. Marco Domico -- Democratic Ward Committeeman, Twenty-fifth Ward, City of Chicago;

Mr. Thomas Donavan -- President of the Chicago Board of Trade;

The Honorable Juan M. Soliz -- Illinois State Representative, Twentieth Legislative District;



The Honorable Leon Despres -- Alderman, Fifth Ward, City of Chicago (Retired);

The Honorable Sidney A. Jones III -- Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois;

The Honorable Edward Rosewell -- Treasurer, County of Cook, Illinois;

The Honorable Richard Clewis -- Alderman, Forty-fifth Ward, City of Chicago (Retired);

The Honorable William Singer -- Alderman, Forty-third Ward, City of Chicago  
(Retired);

The Honorable John Stroger -- Commissioner, Board of Commissioners of Cook County,  
Illinois;

The Honorable Thomas Hynes -- Assessor, County of Cook, Illinois;

The Honorable Richard M. Daley -- State's Attorney, County of Cook, Illinois;

The Honorable Thaddeus S. Lechowicz -- Illinois State Senator, Sixth Senatorial  
District.

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CONGRATULATIONS EXTENDED TO ALDERMAN VITO MARZULLO  
ON OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM  
CHICAGO CITY COUNCIL.

Alderman Burke presented the following proposed resolution:

WHEREAS, This moment in Chicago signals a change of such magnitude that the members of the Chicago City Council are bound to solemnize today, March 21, 1986, as a day of singular meaning in the history of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, When this special session of the Council adjourns, Alderman Vito Marzullo, Dean of the City Council, a public servant of immense compassion, a sublime man who has touched the lives of countless thousands, will retire as Alderman of Chicago's 25th Ward; and

WHEREAS, Vito Marzullo's candor and conviction have always accompanied his good counsel and advice to make him a friend to all of us and many who have preceded us in this body; and

WHEREAS, Devoted to enduring family and community values, Alderman Marzullo has resided in his neighborhood since 1918 and in the same home on S. Oakley for 30 years, presiding lovingly over a family of two sons, four daughters and nineteen grandchildren, acting as good neighbor and friend to thousands; and

WHEREAS, Vito Marzullo emigrated to Chicago from Italy in 1909 at age 12 declaring "I loved America even when I was in Italy" and began work as a factory worker, then apprentice machinist, and later began in public life as a clerk in the County Treasurer's Office; and

WHEREAS, His devoted service to the Democratic Party began in 1919 when he became a precinct captain, and through the years piloted his ward through the history of Chicago in three quarters of the 20th Century, on the way earning the respect and admiration of men and women in all walks of life throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, In lectures to students at Harvard University, Northeastern Illinois University and the Alumni Association of the University of Illinois from which he received its Distinguished Service Award, Alderman Marzullo confided that service and communication were the keys to public life, and he said of his constituents: "We go to church with them, we go to wakes and we go to social affairs and civic affairs and they see the precinct captain all year round, and once you are elected, you don't run away from your people"; and

WHEREAS, One night a week, beginning at 5:30, Vito Marzullo has been at his desk in the 25th Ward office where he meets with a succession of his constituents, counseling, advising, maintaining communication, offering service; and

WHEREAS, Vito Marzullo has run for public office 23 times, has had opposition at the polls only twice and was chosen seven times to serve in the Illinois General Assembly as State Representative, seven times as Ward Committeeman and nine times, embracing 33 years, as Alderman; and

WHEREAS, Vito Marzullo has served in public life during the administration of nine mayors -- Thompson, Dever, Cermak, Kelly, Kennelly, Daley, Bilandic, Byrne and Washington; now, therefore;

*Be It Resolved*, That the Mayor and members of the City Council salute this great man of compassion and conviction, offering our profound thanks for his kindness, his political counsel and example, expressing our congratulations on a retirement well deserved, offering our prayer that the grace of God and His blessings will be with him during long and happy years as political observer, and your colleagues, Vito Marzullo, will carry with them through the years this thought: "I served with Vito Marzullo, I shook his hand."

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

On motion of Alderman Burke, seconded by Aldermen Roti, Volini, Natarus, Laurino, Damato, Stone, Frost, Mell, Banks, Humes, Pucinski, Oberman, Streeter, Langford, Majerczyk, Vrdolyak, Huels, Nardulli, Hagopian, Rush, Gabinski, Tillman, Smith and D. Davis, the foregoing proposed resolution was *Adopted*, unanimously.

Alderman Burke then moved to *Suspend the Rules Temporarily* to allow Justice Seymour Simon and Governor James R. Thompson the opportunity to address the City Council. The motion *Prevailed*.

Subsequent to the remarks of Justice Simon and Governor Thompson, Mayor Washington addressed the City Council, guests and Alderman Vito Marzullo by noting that the various tributes to Alderman Marzullo made evident the existence of a common thread in the Alderman's interactions with others. Alderman Marzullo was, observed the Mayor, aggressively active in boosting people, a person ready to help anyone and a reliable source of good, tough, sage advice. Stating that Alderman Marzullo typifies Chicago at its best, the Mayor recognized that "people all over this City loved you and loved you deeply." Speaking on behalf of all the citizens of Chicago, the Mayor then wished Alderman Marzullo "a good life and 120 years -- plus!"

Upon the motion of Alderman Burke, the specially designated committee of Aldermen Laurino, Frost and Roti, accompanied by the strains of "America the Beautiful" and "Chicago" rendered by Franz Bentler and his Royal Strings, then escorted Alderman Vito Marzullo to the Mayor's rostrum. Acting on behalf of the full City Council and all the citizens of the City of Chicago, the Mayor thereupon presented Alderman Marzullo with a sterling silver plate.

Thanking all present in the Council Chamber, as well as those who were unable to attend the ceremonies, Alderman Marzullo stated that he had come to the United States with an over-riding goal -- to become an American citizen. His success in meeting that goal, as well as all other successes in his life, the Alderman continued, were achieved with the help of God as well as the good will and strength of his family. Alderman Marzullo also observed that throughout his sixty-six years of public service, his successes derived not from his ethnic heritage, not because he was an intellectual, nor as a consequence of a personal fortune. Rather, his successes were a consequence of his service to the people. In working with people from all walks of life, all races, all creeds, the Alderman noted that the question he asked was not as to political affiliation -- the question was "How can we serve you?"

Expressing his gratitude for the honor and recognition accorded "this little greenhorn . . . who ended up to be the Dean of the City Council of the City of Chicago", Alderman Vito Marzullo concluded his remarks by expressing his desire to "remain in your service."

Following Alderman Marzullo's remarks, Sergeant-At-Arms Michael Coletta presented Alderman Vito Marzullo with the name plate from his desk in the Council Chamber.

Alderman Burke next introduced Mrs. Letitia Marzullo, Alderman Marzullo's wife of sixty-five years, their sons William and Robert, and daughters Helen, Adeline, Ann and Elenore.

**Adjournment.**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Walter S. Kozubowski".

WALTER S. KOZUBOWSKI,  
*City Clerk.*