(Published by the Authority of the City Council of the City of Chicago)

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

Special Meeting-Monday, October 16, 1989

at 10:00 A.M.

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

OFFICIAL RECORD.

RICHARD M. DALEY Mayor WALTER S. KOZUBOWSKI City Clerk

Attendance At Meeting.

Present -- The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, and Aldermen Roti, Rush, Tillman, T. Evans, Bloom, Beavers, Caldwell, Shaw, Vrdolyak, Huels, Fary, Madrzyk, Burke, Langford, Streeter, Kellam, Sheahan, Jones, J. Evans, Garcia, Krystyniak, Gutierrez, E. Smith, Davis, Figueroa, Gabinski, Mell, Austin, Kotlarz, Banks, Cullerton, Laurino, O'Connor, Pucinski, Natarus, Eisendrath, Hansen, Levar, Shiller, Schulter, M. Smith, Orr.

Absent -- Aldermen Steele, Carter, Henry, Soliz, Butler, Giles, Stone.

Call To Order.

On Monday, October 16, 1989, at 9:30 A.M., The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, called the City Council to order. Mr. 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, T. Evans, Bloom, Beavers, Caldwell, Shaw, Vrdolyak, Huels, Fary, Madrzyk, Burke, Langford, Streeter, Kellam, Sheahan, Jones, J. Evans, Garcia, Krystyniak, Gutierrez, E. Smith, Davis, Figueroa, Gabinski, Mell, Austin, Kotlarz, Banks, Cullerton, Laurino, O'Connor, Pucinski, Natarus, Eisendrath, Hansen, Levar, Shiller, Schulter, M. Smith, Orr -- 42.

Quorum present.

Invocation.

The Reverend Milton Brunson, Pastor, Tabernacle Baptist Church of Austin, opened the meeting with prayer.

Placed On File -- CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING.

Mr. Daniel J. Burke, Deputy City Clerk, informed the City Council that the following call for a special meeting was filed in the Office of the City Clerk on October 4, 1989, at 10:00 A.M.:

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR CITY OF CHICAGO

October 4, 1989.

Honorable Walter S. Kozubowski City Clerk City Hall, Room 107 121 North LaSalle Street Chicago, Illinois 60602

DEAR MR. KOZUBOWSKI -- I hereby call a special meeting of the City Council, to convene in the City Council Chamber in City Hall at 10:00 A.M. on October 16, 1989, for the purpose of receiving the Mayor's budget message, and for no other purpose whatsoever.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) RICHARD M. DALEY, Mayor.

BUDGET ADDRESS OF THE HONORABLE RICHARD M. DALEY, MAYOR.

The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, delivered the following budget address for the year 1990:

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On October 13, 1989, the Executive Budget of the City of Chicago for the year 1990 was filed with the City Clerk.

This budget is now submitted to you, the City Council, for deliberation and approval. This budget represents more than a package of programs.

It's our opportunity as a city to assess what we've accomplished. It's also our opportunity to measure how far we have to go.

Our goal is to build a city that offers a better life to each of its people. This budget for 1990 takes us a step closer to that goal.

I expect the members of this Council to vigorously debate the merits of this budget. After all, that's your job.

But I want to thank you for your cooperation during the few months I've been in office. We've proved that we can overcome political differences in order to make our city better.

I'm proud of what we've accomplished in the last few months by working together. On behalf of the city we love, we lowered our voices and rolled up our sleeves.

Problems and disagreements are being debated openly and responsibly.

People are working together in a climate of mutual respect and toleration. Here in the City Council, we're conducting the city's business in a businesslike way. And this spirit of cooperation has spread throughout Chicago. This year, for example, our public schools opened on time.

That may seem like a small achievement. But we saw the terrible impact when the school doors failed to open. It drained our community spirit and sapped our city's strength.

This year, we've embarked on a bold, new experiment to save Chicago's school system. Parent and community involvement has reached an all-time high.

The entire nation was watching, and the people of Chicago responded -- not just in certain schools, but in every community across our city.

Last week's elections were a first step in making our schools more accountable. Together, we took that first step.

We must also continue to work together to make city government more accountable. We must continue to cut the waste of tax dollars and provide services more efficiently. My 1990 budget provides the services taxpayers want and deserve with 1,000 fewer positions.

This is my first budget. It fulfills my promise to cut real estate taxes by 25 Million Dollars. We are holding the line on spending and I am again calling on other taxing bodies to do the same.

The City Colleges have followed my lead, but taxpayers will get no relief if other units of government don't do the same. City government is only 26 percent of our property tax bills.

I went to all three public hearings this summer and I heard the cries of taxpayers throughout the city. If I had let city government continue to spend on the course it was on when my administration began, every taxpayer in the city would face another 150 Dollar hike in their tax bills. We have held the line.

We have made significant progress. This budget will take the next step:

- -- We will work to improve public safety -- in our communities and on public transportation.
- We will work for cleaner streets and better sanitation.
- And we will work for affordable housing and job opportunities for every Chicago family.

I know that every member of this Council shares these hopes and dreams for our city. And I know that we can work together for the changes that really count.

I know that you share my commitment to fairness for every community. We can't move forward as a city by leaving anyone behind.

I know that we share these goals because Chicago is home to each and every one of us. It might mean something different to each individual who lives here. But all of us love Chicago and are proud to call it home.

We must continue to work together for a brighter future for all our people. And in this common effort, our new budget can point the way.

Of all the services provided by city government, none is more important than maintaining public safety.

The 1990 budget will allow nearly 500 police officers now detailed to civilian or internal functions to be reassigned to law enforcement duties.

And we can do even more with the officers we have by using them more efficiently. Last week at the Columbus Day Parade, we began using private ushers for crowd control.

This, too, will be expanded in 1990 to minimize the number of officers taken out of the districts where they should be fighting crime.

More than 500 new police cars will be purchased to meet this expanded need and replace worn-out vehicles.

Throughout my campaign, I talked about the Crime Lab's inability to handle cases in a timely manner. Many cases were dismissed because the Lab could not analyze suspected drugs in time for the court hearings.

My new budget includes 3.5 Million Dollars to build a new Crime Lab, replacing the outmoded facility at police headquarters.

For the Fire Department, we recently purchased 8 new ambulances and are ordering 18 more, replacing worn-out vehicles with the latest technology.

A program to refurbish pumper trucks, begun this year, will also be expanded to give firefighters better equipment.

For all of these improvements to mean anything, we must have the best possible emergency dispatch system. With the approval of the City Council, a surcharge on phone bills will fund construction of a new 911 system.

In emergencies, when seconds count, the outmoded technology of the current 911 system delays response time for police, fire and medical personnel. That threatens the health and safety of all Chicagoans.

These improvements are vitally needed to enhance public safety, but public safety also includes public health.

In these past few months, the City's Health Department has seen dramatic improvements. Our innovative program to cope with the measles epidemic drew national praise.

The Outbreak and Control Center established this summer will maintain its vigilance against any new epidemics in 1990.

We are in the final stages of completing our A.I.D.S. Strategic Plan. Chicago's Health Department must have a blueprint for effectively coping with this growing national health crisis.

New strategies to reduce infant mortality and lead poisoning are also high on my agenda, as are the city's trauma system and health clinics.

And another 30 food inspectors will be hired. They are desperately needed to help guard against poisoning incidents.

In another effort to better serve the health needs of our communities, my 1990 budget includes staffing to open the long-delayed Roseland Health Center.

And to give Chicagoans access to their vital records in their communities, those records will be made available at local offices near their homes.

The city will continue its summit with state and county officials to build a model health care system accessible to all Chicagoans.

Another major area of concern to the people of Chicago is basic city housekeeping services. The 1990 budget includes a variety of improvements in this area.

My new towing program, which has taken more than 20,000 abandoned vehicles off the street since July, is an example of the great improvements we can make by forming partnerships with the private sector.

It is a program that pays for itself and has nearly doubled the number of abandoned cars being removed from the streets.

For 10 years, our forestry program has been neglected, but in my new budget it will get the attention it deserves.

Next year alone, we will trim more than 80,000 trees and remove thousands of dead trees and stumps. And to beautify and improve the environment, we will plant thousands of new trees.

The new recycling program will continue and we will provide Super Carts to those 10 wards which are still waiting for this basic service improvement after years of delay.

We will increase special bulk trash pick-ups and collect leaves and grass clippings in the summer and fall. These were services that were cut back in the past, but you demanded them and we are responding.

Up until now, there has been only one street sweeper for every two wards. For 1990, we'll have 25 new street sweepers, so each ward can have its own.

The city has thousands of EMCO dumpsters that were too large for residential alleys. They will be moved to where they can be of value -- to serve schools, C.H.A. facilities and police stations.

One housekeeping concern that is also a matter of public health is the problem of rats. We will step up our rodent control program in low and moderate income areas citywide.

I have traveled throughout this city, and I have seen the many streets, viaducts and bridges that desperately need repair.

It will take billions of dollars to rebuild Chicago's infrastructure. To keep our streets, sidewalks and bridges in safe condition requires a major commitment well into the next century.

I've already been to Washington, D. C. to lay the groundwork for more federal funds and, in 1990, this commitment begins in earnest. We will start an ambitious, five-year capital improvement program to rebuild and resurface many miles of arterial streets and sidewalks. The number of asphalt repairs will be increased by 60 percent and we will spend millions more to repair and maintain our crumbling bridges.

Money to repair curbs and gutters, to maintain street lights and traffic signals, and to replace underground cables is all being increased.

Over the next three years, we will spend nearly 18 Million Dollars to renovate 15 branch libraries and three C.H.A. study centers and continue construction of the Harold Washington Central Library.

Public transportation is one of the lifelines of Chicago and its importance is also reflected in the 1990 budget. Construction of the Southwest Transit Line and its related improvements will move forward, as will construction of the O'Hare Airport "People Mover" and planning for the downtown "Circulator" project.

In some parts of the city, sewer lines are 100 years-old and incapable of handling current demand. My new budget addresses this problem with a bond issue for sewer projects to relieve flooding.

Public safety and city housekeeping services are of vital importance, but so are the other responsibilities we share that directly affect the quality of life for all Chicagoans.

These challenges are not neglected in my 1990 budget. They range from a program to provide home-delivered meals to disabled senior citizens on Saturdays, to major economic development initiatives creating thousands of new jobs for city residents.

In June, this Council approved the one-cent cigarette tax to help obtain housing for the homeless. Also enacted was the Low-Income Housing Trust Fund to help finance affordable housing programs in the neighborhoods.

The Department of Human Services will have nearly 900 more beds to shelter the homeless this winter -- an increase of almost 50 percent -- and will work to make that number even higher in 1990.

The Department of Housing is setting up a demonstration program, combining public and private resources, to create new low-income housing in the city.

We have earmarked over 10 Million Dollars for affordable housing programs, including loan programs to assist people in buying and repairing homes.

10 Million Dollars is a lot, but not enough to meet the need. There's no way to raise taxes high enough to provide affordable housing for all those in need. In the last 10 years, the federal government has cut back its housing assistance nationwide by about 75 percent.

The best solution we have now is to be more creative in building partnerships with the private sector, leveraging government money into many times that amount to get these units built.

Affordable housing is only a dream to those among us who are without jobs. We will be testing new job training programs to make sure they are accountable, and that people get skills now for jobs that exist now.

For many Chicagoans, there is a direct link between joblessness and drugs. A child who drops out of school because he's using or selling drugs has little chance of getting a good job.

I recently obtained a grant from the Department of Labor to design a training program for high-risk youth living in extreme poverty and we are budgeting funds to expand this effort in 1990.

Drugs and gangs go hand and hand, and no community is untouched by these problems.

Despite the best intentions, the city's efforts to fight the influence of the gangs and drugs have failed. We are going to continue this fight, but we will shift the emphasis.

Instead of waiting until our children reach high school, the city will start its prevention efforts with grade school in an effort to reach children at the same time they're being tempted with these destructive activities.

We want to create an atmosphere in Chicago where there is hope for the future. A cornerstone in that effort must be economic development.

The wrecking ball swings tomorrow on Block 37 of the North Loop Redevelopment -between State Street and Dearborn, Randolph and Washington. Rising on that site will be a new multi-use facility combining office and retail space.

This development will help revitalize State Street and create even more jobs.

Economic development can range from major projects like the Reservations Center at O'Hare -- with more than 2,000 new jobs -- to assisting local merchants who have devoted their lives to our communities.

All are important and all deserve equal attention from city government.

I am making good on my promise to help all businesses by creating a "One-Stop" program to streamline the application process for the many city permits.

We will aggressively lobby for every dollar we can get from the federal government for economic development. Those efforts have already paid off, bringing us 4.8 Million Dollars in U.D.A.G. grants.

Those funds will generate 56 Million Dollars in new investment and over 900 jobs.

So that we do get every dollar we're entitled to from Washington, we are budgeting nearly 750 Thousand Dollars to ensure a complete count in the 1990 census.

This money is a good investment, since an undercount of 100,000 people could cost us more than 100 Million Dollars in federal funds during the next 10 years.

Another good investment is our effort to promote Chicago as a good place to work and visit. The 1990 budget will help do that by consolidating our programs to market the city.

These are only highlights of the 1990 budget. There are other programs to cut even more government waste and save millions of dollars more by selectively privatizing services.

We are a city that is starting to move forward again on behalf of all the people who live and work here.

This is the message I get in my meetings with Chicagoans from all walks of life.

The people of Chicago are impatient to get back to the real issues facing the city -- safer streets, better schools, good jobs, affordable housing and to enjoy the benefits of working hard for themselves and their families.

This budget reflects these goals.

This isn't a budget filled with grand promises. It's a budget that's committed to making steady, affordable progress.

No budget can solve every one of our problems. But this budget represents a strong step forward in making Chicago a better place to live.

These programs and our city won't succeed unless we continue to work together.

In recent days, thousands of Chicagoans have come together on behalf of our schools and our children. It will take the same kind of commitment to overcome our other problems.

I know we can do it. We all love Chicago too much not to do it. We can overcome any obstacle and build the city of our dreams.

I am grateful for the opportunity to lead our city toward that brighter future. For me, there could be no better job.

Most of all, I'm grateful to the people of Chicago. Their energy and their talents make our city great.

If we respect one another and care for one another, there is nothing we cannot accomplish. We are all one family and Chicago is our home.

Thank you.

Alderman Burke then presented the following motion:

"I hereby move that the Mayor's budget message be incorporated within a special pamphlet by the City Clerk and made available for general distribution."

The motion Prevailed by a viva voce vote.

Adjournment.

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

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WALTER S. KOZUBOWSKI, City Clerk.