

(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--Tuesday, December 15, 1992

at 9:00 A. M.

(Council Chambers--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 Mazola, Preckwinkle, Bloom, Steele, Beavers, Dixon, Shaw, Buchanan, Huels, Fary, Burke, Coleman, Streeter, Murphy, Rugai, Troutman, Evans, Garcia, Laski, Miller, Medrano, Gutierrez, Hendon, E. Smith, Suarez, Gabinski, Mell, Austin, Wojcik, Banks, Giles, Laurino, Doherty, Natarus, Eisendrath, Hansen, Levar, Schulter, M. Smith, Moore, Stone.

Absent -- Aldermen Rush, Tillman, Madrzyk, Jones, Burrell, Bialczak, Cullerton, O'Connor, Shiller.

Call To Order.

On Tuesday, December 15, 1992, at 9:00 A.M., The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, called the City Council to order. The clerk called the roll of members and it was found that there were present at that time: Aldermen Mazola, Preckwinkle, Bloom, Steele, Beavers, Dixon, Shaw, Buchanan, Huels, Fary, Burke, Coleman, Streeter, Murphy, Rugai, Troutman, Evans, Garcia, Laski, Miller, Medrano, Gutierrez, Hendon, E. Smith, Suarez, Gabinski, Mell, Austin, Wojcik, Banks, Giles, Laurino, Doherty, Natarus, Eisendrath, Hansen, Levar, Schulter, M. Smith, Moore, Stone -- 41.

Quorum Present.

Invocation.

The Reverend Clay Evans, Pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church, opened the meeting with prayer.

Placed On File -- CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING.

The clerk informed the City Council that the following call for a special meeting was filed in the Office of the City Clerk on Wednesday, December 9, 1992 at 3:29 P.M.:

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

December 9, 1992.

*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 of the City of Chicago, to be convened at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, December 15, 1992, in the City Council Chamber in City Hall, for the purpose of considering a resolution honoring the life and memory of Kathy Osterman, and for no other purpose whatsoever.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) RICHARD M. DALEY,
Mayor.

OPENING MUSICAL SELECTION.

Mr. Courtney Duncan performed an a cappella rendition of "The Greatest Love of All".

Rules Suspended -- TRIBUTE TO LATE MS. KATHY OSTERMAN.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

December 15, 1992.

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 departed friend and colleague, Kathy Osterman.

Your favorable consideration of this resolution will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) RICHARD M. DALEY,
Mayor.

The following is said proposed resolution:

WHEREAS, Kathy Osterman arrived in Chicago as a young woman determined to make the best possible life for her children; and

WHEREAS, Kathy had the intelligence, talent and strength to accomplish this task even when it required changing the entire city for the better; and

WHEREAS, She began by plunging into the issues of her community, working with her neighbors to organize the EPIC Block Club and then expanding her horizons to larger concerns, as in her founding of Operation Lakewatch; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Osterman entered government service more than a decade ago as Supervisor of the Cook County State's Attorney's Community Unit, creating crime prevention programs and activities in Chicago and its suburbs; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council was blessed with her presence in 1987 when the citizens of the 48th Ward elected her as their Alderman; and

WHEREAS, She was a most dedicated and beloved member of this Council, energetically representing the interests of her constituents and championing historic legislation such as the Human Rights Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Osterman was appointed Director of the Mayor's Office of Special Events in 1989 and quickly demonstrated that she and that important position were a perfect match; and

WHEREAS, Our Special Events "czarina" did a spectacular job in producing the city's music and neighborhood festivals, Taste of Chicago, and other huge and successful events including the Welcome Home Parade and the Chicago Bulls victory rallies; and

WHEREAS, She used these events, as well as the resources of the Chicago Film Office and the Chicago Office of Tourism, to boost Chicago's economy by hundreds of millions of dollars and thus created jobs and economic opportunities for many thousands of our fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, This is only the briefest summary of Kathy Osterman's innumerable contributions to the City of Chicago and its people; and

WHEREAS, This magnificent woman, who was on a first-name basis with all Chicagoans, was taken from our midst after a long and valiant battle against cancer, during which she never lost her bravery or compassion; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Osterman was a great and dear member of our community whose life enriched the lives of her family, friends and neighbors and serves as an inspiration to us all; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled on this fifteenth day of December, 1992, do hereby salute Kathy Osterman because she achieved her greatness in a way that always revealed her great love for every resident of Chicago and her belief that all people are deserving of respect, dignity and kindness.

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

On motion of Alderman Burke, seconded by Aldermen Mazola, Preckwinkle, Bloom, Beavers, Dixon, Shaw, Buchanan, Huels, Fary, Coleman, Streeter, Murphy, Rugai, Troutman, Evans, Garcia, Miller, Medrano, Gutierrez, Hendon, E. Smith, Suarez, Gabinski, Mell, Austin, Wojcik, Banks, Giles, Laurino, Doherty, Natarus, Eisendrath, Hansen, Levar, Schuler, M. Smith and Stone, the foregoing proposed resolution was *Adopted* by a rising vote.

Alderman Burke moved to *Suspend the Rules Temporarily* for the purpose of allowing Mr. James Sheahan and Mr. Bruce DuMont to address the City Council. The motion *Prevailed*.

Speaking from the Clerk's rostrum, Mr. Sheahan drew upon his long-standing friendship with Kathy Osterman to recall events at various stages of her public career which reflected the essence of her persona. From their first meeting as staff members in the office of then Cook County State's Attorney Richard M. Daley, Kathy Osterman was, Mr. Sheahan stated, a person who seemed able to tap an unlimited reservoir of dedication to her colleagues and to her work. In remembering her aldermanic race, Mr. Sheahan called Kathy Osterman an incomparable campaigner who overwhelmed her supporters, those who had been disinterested in the race and even voters who had ostensibly been supporters of her opponents with her tenacity, dedication and vivaciousness. Referring to her tenure as Director of the Mayor's Office of Special Events, Mr. Sheahan stated that Kathy Osterman routinely accomplished what others maintained was not possible. Whether working with the film industry, assisting Chicago tourism or developing festivals, Kathy Osterman loved every aspect of her office. In 1980, Mr. Sheahan recalled, after one week of government service in the office of the Cook County State's Attorney, Kathy Osterman had expressed her interest in directing the Mayor's Office of Special Events. Concurring with the earlier declaration of Alderman Burke, Mr. Sheahan observed that Kathy Osterman was indeed "born for the job" of Director of the Mayor's Office of Special Events. Speaking on behalf of the staff of the Mayor's Office of Special Events, Mr. Sheahan stated "we'll miss her".

Speaking from the Director's box, Mr. Bruce DuMont, husband of Kathy Osterman, stated that while the sentiment that she was "born for the job" of Director of the Mayor's Office of Special Events was accurate, that she was "born for Chicago" was truth. She was friendly, beautiful, big, bold, strong, fearless, tough and world-class, he continued, and emulated Daniel Burnham himself in that she made no small plans. Mr. DuMont remembered his wife as a person who chose to leave the security of the sidelines and dedicate herself to improving the lives of others. Kathy Osterman epitomized the "I Will" spirit of Chicago, Mr. DuMont declared, both as a community leader and a Director of the Mayor's Office of Special Events whose foundation was one of involvement and accomplishment. Reflecting upon his wife's refusal to allow her illness to dictate her life, on how she had worked to within forty-eight hours of her passing, Mr. DuMont observed that of all the things said about Kathy Osterman, the word that best described her was "courage". Kathy Osterman died, he stated, surrounded by friends, overlooking the city she loved. On behalf of her sons, Harry Joe and Matthew, her step-daughter Jennifer DuMont, her brother William Lonergan and himself, Mr. DuMont then

extended his sincere appreciation to all those who had expressed their support and conveyed his heartfelt thanks for the special support, love and affection of Mayor Daley, his wife Maggie and their family.

At this point in the proceedings, The Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor, rose to extend his condolences, on behalf of the Daley family and the people of Chicago, to the family of Kathy Osterman. Remarking upon the outpouring of affectionate anecdotes and reminiscence, the Mayor observed that the Special Meeting of the City Council served as a celebration, rather than a mourning, of Kathy Osterman's life. In remembering her as a selfless person who constantly gave of herself, Mayor Daley spoke of Kathy Osterman's service in the Office of the Cook County State's Attorney. Dedicated to the principle of a court system focused upon and in service to the people, Kathy Osterman constantly demonstrated a special empathy for crime victims and their families. Speaking of her as the alderman of the forty-eighth ward, the Mayor described Kathy Osterman as a person fiercely proud of her constituents, a person whose understanding of the difficulties and complexities of the job imbued her with perpetual respect for the Council and its members. Kathy Osterman's tenure and success as Director of the Mayor's Office of Special Events was not about nor a consequence of parties, the Mayor continued, but was predicated upon her abiding commitment to help others. Kathy Osterman was devoted to smashing the walls of separation and isolation by bringing all people together at the City's special events. Recalling her last public appearance at the lighting of the City's official Christmas tree, Mayor Daley described Kathy Osterman's joy at being able to provide something of the Christmas experience to those too poor to afford a Christmas tree. In concurring with Mr. Bruce DuMont's statement that the best description of Kathy Osterman was contained in a single word -- courage, the Mayor concluded his remarks by declaring that Kathy Osterman personified that which is much needed by our society -- unselfishly giving of oneself.

MUSICAL SELECTION.

Mr. Courtney Duncan and Mr. Darius Brooks performed the musical selection, "Wind Beneath My Wings".

BENEDICTION.

Monsignor John J. Egan of DePaul University delivered the benediction.

CLOSING MUSICAL SELECTION.

Mr. Jimmy Walker performed the musical selection, "Sweet Home Chicago".

Adjournment.

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



WALTER S. KOZUBOWSKI,
City Clerk.

