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

Special Meeting--Tuesday, December 1, 1987 at 5:30 P.M.
(Council Chamber--City Hall--Chicago, Illinois)

OFFICIAL RECORD.

DAVID D. ORR
Interim Mayor

WALTER S. KOZUBOWSKI
City Clerk
Attendance At Meeting.


*Absent* -- Alderman Austin.

Call To Order.

On Tuesday, December 1, 1987, at 9:15 P.M. (the hour appointed for the meeting was 5:30 P.M.) Alderman David D. Orr, Interim Mayor, called the City Council to order. The Honorable Walter S. Kozubowski, 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, Sawyer, Beavers, Caldwell, Shaw, Vrdolyak, Huels, Fary, Madrzyk, Burke, Carter, Langford, Streeter, Kellam, Sheahan, Jones, J. Evans, Garcia, Krystyniak, Henry, Soliz, Gutierrez, Butler, Smith, Davis, Hagopian, Figueroa, Gabinski, Mell, Kotlarz, Banks, Giles, Cullerton, Laurino, O'Connor, Pucinski, Natarus, Eisendrath, Hansen, Levar, Shiller, Schulter, Osterman, Orr, Stone -- 49.

Quorum present.

Invocation.

Reverend Willie Mae Barrow and Rabbi Solomon Gutfstein opened the meeting with prayer.

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

The Honorable Walter S. Kozubowski, City Clerk, informed the City Council that the following call for a Special Meeting was filed in the Office of the City Clerk on November 30, 1987, at 5:17 P.M.:


Honorable Walter S. Kozubowski
City Clerk, City of Chicago:

DEAR MR. KOZUBOWSKI -- We, the undersigned Aldermen, hereby call a Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Chicago for Tuesday, December 1st, 1987, at 5:30
P.M. in the City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor, City Hall, for the sole and only purpose of electing an Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago.

Sincerely,

(Signed) ANNA R. LANGFORD,  
Alderman, 16th Ward,

(Signed) KEITH CALDWELL,  
Alderman, 8th Ward,

(Signed) SHENEATHER BUTLER,  
Alderman, 27th Ward.

Alderman Caldwell moved that the City Council do adjourn, to meet at 10:00 A.M. on Friday, December 4, 1987 and further moved that his name be removed from the call for the Special Meeting.

Thereupon, the clerk called the roll and the motion to adjourn failed to pass by yeas and nays as follows:


Aldermen Natarus and Figueroa then moved for a verification of the foregoing roll call vote.

**Recess Taken.**

Alderman Burke moved that the City Council recess for one (1) hour.

The clerk called the roll and the yeas and nays were as follows:


Thereupon, the clerk re-called the roll and the motion to Recess Prevailed by yeas and nays as follows:


At the conclusion of the recess, Interim Mayor Orr called the Council to order and the meeting Resumed.

Alderman Bloom moved that the City Council do adjourn.

The clerk called the roll and the motion to adjourn failed to pass by yeas and nays as follows:


DECLARATION OF VACANCY IN OFFICE OF MAYOR OF CITY OF CHICAGO AND ESTABLISHMENT OF PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF ACTING MAYOR.

Alderman Natarus presented the following proposed declaration:

WHEREAS, Harold Washington, up to and including the 25th day of November, 1987 was duly elected and qualified Mayor of the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Harold Washington died on the 25th day of November, 1987, by means whereof a vacancy now exists in the Office of Mayor of the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Illinois Revised Statutes, Chapter 24, Section 3-4-6 mandates that the City Council of the City of Chicago elect one of its members Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago; and
WHEREAS, The City Council of the City of Chicago hereby desires to fulfill its statutory mandate and to immediately proceed with the election of one of its members as Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago; now, therefore,

Be It Declared, By the City Council of the City of Chicago that a vacancy now exists in the Office of Mayor of the City of Chicago, by reason of the death of Harold Washington; that the City Council of the City of Chicago does now proceed pursuant to Illinois Revised Statutes, Chapter 24, Section 3-4-6 to elect one of its members as Acting Mayor to hold that office of Acting Mayor until the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with law.

That pursuant to said statutory mandate, the City Council of the City of Chicago does hereby declare that the procedure for the election of the Acting Mayor shall be in the following manner:

1. The name of a candidate shall not be submitted in nomination without the written consent of the candidate.

2. The meeting shall only consider the election of an Acting Mayor. No other substantive proposals shall be introduced.

3. Any member of the City Council may nominate a City Council member who has consented as a candidate for Acting Mayor.

4. The written consent of the candidate shall be filed with the City Clerk prior to nomination.

5. After the nominations are closed, the Clerk shall call the roll beginning with the 1st Ward.

6. A majority vote of all of the aldermen present will be necessary to elect an Acting Mayor, then if no candidate receives a majority vote on the first ballot, balloting will continue until a candidate does receive a majority vote.

Alderman Bloom raised a point of order, stating that the Declaration was not in order and could not be considered as it did not comport with the notice and call of the meeting and was contrary to the provisions of Municipal Code Chapter 4, Section 4-1 restricting the business of a Special Meeting to the purpose or purposes specified in the call.

The Chair ruled the point of order Well Taken.

Alderman Natarus moved to Appeal the Ruling of the Chair, stating that the Declaration was within the purview of the call as the purpose of the Special Meeting was the election of an Acting Mayor and the Declaration was essentially a reiteration of the Illinois statute mandating such election and would set forth the rules under which said election would proceed.

The Chair then stated, "Shall the ruling of the Chair be sustained?"
Thereupon, the ruling of the Chair was Overruled by yeas and nays as follows:


Alderman T. Evans then raised a point of order, stating that Rule 41 of the Council's Rules of Order required all ordinances, petitions, orders, resolutions, communications or other propositions be referred, without debate, to committee and only be acted upon at a subsequent meeting and further holding that Rule 41 therefore required the matter introduced by Alderman Natarus be referred to the Committee on Committees, Rules and Ethics.

The Chair ruled the matter be sent to the Committee on Committees, Rules and Ethics.

Alderman Natarus moved to Appeal the Ruling of the Chair, arguing that the purpose of the Declaration was to set forth specific rules for the conduct of the Special Meeting called pursuant to notice and further arguing that it would therefore be illogical to send the Declaration to committee as the Special Meeting would be concluded before the Declaration could be considered and reported out by the committee.

At this point in the proceedings, Alderman Henry moved that the City Council do adjourn, to meet at 2:00 P.M. on Friday, December 4, 1987.

Alderman Burke then raised a point of order, stating that the motion before the body prior to the Chair's recognition of Alderman Henry was Alderman Natarus' appeal of the Chair's ruling and arguing that there must therefore be a roll call vote on the appeal before a subsequent motion could be entertained.

The Chair ruled that a motion to adjourn always took precedence and if the motion did not pass, the body would then proceed with Alderman Natarus' appeal.

Alderman Burke moved to appeal the ruling of the Chair.

The Chair then directed the clerk to call the roll on Alderman Henry's motion to adjourn.

Thereupon, the clerk called the roll and the motion to adjourn failed to pass by yeas and nays as follows:

Alderman Natarus renewed his motion to Appeal the Ruling of the Chair in regard to Alderman T. Evans' point of order relating to Rule 41.

After reviewing Alderman T. Evans' point of order regarding Rule 41 and his ruling on same, the Chair then stated, "Shall the ruling of the Chair be sustained?"

Thereupon, the ruling of the Chair was Overruled by yeas and nays as follows:


Alderman Bloom then presented the following substitute Declaration:

WHEREAS, Harold Washington, up to and including the 25th day of November, 1987, was duly elected and qualified Mayor of the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Harold Washington died on the 25th day of November, 1987, by means whereof a vacancy now exists in the Office of Mayor of the City of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 24, paragraph 21-5.1 of the Illinois Revised Statutes provides that in the event of a vacancy in the Office of Mayor of the City of Chicago, the Vice Mayor shall serve as Interim Mayor until the City Council shall elect one of its members Acting Mayor or until the mayoral term expires; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that the City Council establish rules for the election of the Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Chicago, That a vacancy now exists in the Office of Mayor of the City of Chicago by reason of the death of Harold Washington; and

Be It Further Resolved, That the City Council do now proceed to elect one of its number as Acting Mayor until such time as the vacancy be filled in accordance with law; and

Be It Further Resolved, That the election of the Acting Mayor shall be done in the following manner:

1. The name of a candidate shall not be submitted in nomination without the written consent of the candidate.
2. The written consent of the candidate shall be filed with the City Clerk prior to nomination.

3. Any member of the City Council may nominate a member of the City Council who has consented as a candidate for Acting Mayor. Seconding of nominations shall be permitted.

4. After nominations are closed, the City Council shall recess and devolve into a committee of the whole to examine the candidates.

5. Upon completion of the activities of the committee of the whole; the City Council shall reconvene for the purpose of voting. The Clerk shall then conduct the election by calling the roll.

6. A majority vote of all aldermen entitled by law to be elected will be necessary to be elected Acting Mayor. If no candidate receives a majority vote on the first ballot, balloting shall continue in like manner until a candidate does receive the requisite vote. An alderman who was not a candidate on a ballot may become a candidate, in the manner described above, on subsequent ballots.

After debate, Alderman Cullerton moved to lay on the table the foregoing proposed substitute Declaration.

The clerk called the roll on the motion to lay on the table the proposed substitute Declaration and it was found that the yeas and nays were as follows:


Alderman Gutierrez then moved for a verification of the foregoing roll call vote.

Thereupon, the clerk re-called the roll and the motion to *Lay on the Table Prevailed* by yeas and nays as follows:


At this point in the proceedings, Alderman Gutierrez moved that the City Council do adjourn, to meet at 2:00 P.M. on Friday, December 4, 1987.

Thereupon, the clerk called the roll and the motion to adjourn failed to pass by yeas and nays as follows:


Alderman Rush then moved that the proposed Declaration introduced by Alderman Natarus be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Alderman Natarus moved to lay on the table Alderman Rush's motion to refer.

The clerk called the roll on Alderman Natarus' motion to lay on the table and the yeas and nays were as follows:


Alderman Rush next moved for a verification of the foregoing roll call vote.

The clerk re-called the roll and the motion to **Lay on the Table Prevailed** by yeas and nays as follows:


Alderman J. Evans then moved that the City Council do adjourn, to meet at 2:00 P.M. on Friday, December 4, 1987.
Thereupon, the clerk called the roll and the motion to adjourn failed to pass by yeas and nays as follows:


**Nays** -- Aldermen Roti, Shaw, Vrdolyak, Huels, Fary, Madrzyk, Burke, Langford, Kellam, Sheahan, Krystyniak, Hagopian, Gabinski, Mell, Kotlarz, Banks, Cullerton, Laurino, O'Connor, Pucinski, Natarus, Eisendrath, Hansen, Levar, Schulter, Osterman, Stone -- 27.

Alderman Smith then presented the following amendment to the proposed Declaration introduced by Alderman Natarus:

"I hereby move to amend the procedures for the election of the Acting Mayor in the following respect:

At least 24 hours shall elapse between the close of nominations and the election for the Acting Mayor to allow the members of the City Council to hear from their constituents and proceed with due deliberation on a matter of such great importance to the citizens of the City of Chicago."

Alderman Madrzyk moved to lay on the table Alderman Smith's proposed amendment.

The clerk called the roll on Alderman Madrzyk's motion to lay on the table and it was found that the yeas and nays were as follows:


Alderman Davis then moved for a verification of the foregoing roll call vote.

The clerk re-called the roll and the motion to *Lay on the Table* Prevailed by yeas and nays as follows:


At this point in the proceedings, Alderman Eisendrath moved the Previous Question.

Thereupon, the clerk called the roll and the motion Prevailed by yeas and nays as follows:


The Chair then directed the clerk to call the roll on the proposed Declaration introduced by Alderman Natarus and it was found that the yeas and nays were as follows:


The Declaration was Approved.

Alderman Tillman then moved that the City Council do adjourn.

The clerk called the roll and the motion to adjourn failed to pass by yeas and nays as follows:


Placed On File -- CONSENTS FOR NOMINATION.

Interim Mayor David D. Orr requested that the City Council stand at ease for the purpose of allowing aldermen the opportunity to file written consents for nomination with the City Clerk.

After a brief period, the Chair called the Council to order. The following written consents for nomination were filed with the City Clerk:

December 1, 1987.

I, Eugene Sawyer, hereby consent to the placing of my name in nomination for the Office of Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago.

(Signed) EUGENE SAWYER,
Alderman, 6th Ward.

I, Timothy C. Evans, hereby consent to have my name placed in nomination for the Office of Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago.

(Signed) TIMOTHY C. EVANS,
Alderman, 4th Ward.

The Chair then asked the City Clerk if any other written consents had been filed. The Clerk responded in the negative.

Nomination Of Candidates For Office Of Acting Mayor.

Alderman Davis submitted the following nomination to the City Council:

Whereas, a vacancy exists in the Office of Mayor due to the death of the Honorable Harold Washington, Mayor; and

Whereas, the Illinois Revised Statutes; Chapter 24.3-4-6 provides that the City Council shall elect one of its members Acting Mayor who shall perform the duties and possess all rights and powers of the Mayor until a successor to fill the vacancy has been elected and been qualified; and

Whereas, a call for a special meeting of the City Council has been wired for the sole purpose of electing an Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago and for no other purpose
whatsoever, now, therefore, I hereby nominate the Honorable Timothy C. Evans, alderman of the 4th Ward, for the Office of Acting Mayor.

(Signed) DANNY K. DAVIS, Alderman, 29th Ward.

Alderman Langford submitted the following nomination to the City Council:

December 1, 1987.

To The Honorable David D. Orr and the City Council of the City of Chicago:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN -- I hereby place Alderman Eugene Sawyer of the 6th Ward in nomination for the Office of Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago.

(Signed) ANNA R. LANGFORD, Alderman, 16th Ward.

The nomination of Alderman T. Evans was seconded in remarks delivered by Aldermen Gutierrez, Rush, Jones, Figueroa, J. Evans, Shiller, Streeter, Tillman, Garcia, Smith, Bloom, Caldwell and Eisendrath.

The nomination of Alderman Sawyer was seconded in remarks delivered by Aldermen Henry, Stone, Natarus and Shaw.

Alderman Burke then moved that the nominations be closed.

The clerk called the roll on Alderman Burke's motion to close nominations and it was found that the yeas and nays were as follows:


Nays -- Aldermen Tillman, Giles -- 2.

The motion Prevailed and nominations were closed.

Election Of Acting Mayor.

Interim Mayor Orr delineated the voting procedure to be followed for election of the Acting Mayor, explaining that the clerk would call on each alderman in sequential order, beginning
with the first ward, who would then publicly state the name of the nominee of his or her choice.

The Chair then directed the clerk to call the roll and the votes for Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago were cast as follows:


Interim Mayor David D. Orr announced the election results and declared Alderman Eugene Sawyer elected Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago.

Alderman Hansen moved to reconsider the foregoing vote. The motion was lost.

Alderman Burke then requested the record reflect that the vote electing Alderman Sawyer Acting Mayor was cast at 4:01 A.M., on Wednesday, December 2, 1987.

The Honorable Walter S. Kozubowski, City Clerk, then presented the following communication:

December 1, 1987.

To The Honorable David D. Orr
and the City Council of
the City of Chicago:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN--I hereby resign my position as Alderman of the 6th Ward effective immediately upon my election as Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago.

Respectfully,
(Signed) EUGENE SAWYER.

Oath Of Office For Acting Mayor.

The Honorable Walter S. Kozubowski, City Clerk of Chicago, invited the family of the The Honorable Eugene Sawyer to the Mayor's rostrum where the Clerk administered the oath of office for Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago to the Honorable Eugene Sawyer.
ACCEPTANCE SPEECH OF ACTING MAYOR EUGENE SAWYER.

The Honorable Eugene Sawyer, Acting Mayor of the City of Chicago, delivered the following address to the City Council and assembled guests:

I come to you at this time bearing a heavy heart. Chicago has lost one of its great sons and Black Chicago has lost one of its greatest leaders. Yet, the wave of progress ushered in by our late Mayor's two successive victories cannot be rolled back because of his death. Fate has made a different choice for our great city. I humbly accept your choice of me to guide our city and I promise you that I will continue the programs and policies of our late Mayor. I thank all of my colleagues who voted for me and extend my hand in friendship to those who did not support me. You have heard questions about my support of the reform movement. Let me end all speculation now. The reform movement initiated by Harold Washington shall remain intact and go forward. It will continue, untainted by special interests for the rich and powerful. This city government will be an open city government — open to all of the people, all of the time. Our city's elected officials will be responsible to the people. There shall be no cronyism or favoritism. When Harold proclaimed "the machine" is dead, he was speaking the absolute truth. I will continue to ensure that the old politics of who you know and what's in it for me shall forever be put to rest. Harold's victories symbolized a new sun shining on our city and my administration will fight to keep the clouds from coming over it. I shall continue to unite Black, White and Hispanic; Slav and Jew; Christian and Asian; White Ethnics and New Immigrants. Yes, this will be difficult work, but I know that with the help of the people of Chicago, their elected officials, their ministers, priests and rabbis, we can overcome our differences and heal those wounds that have kept us from coming together to build an even greater city.

Finally, I pledge to you that the sacrifices of our late Mayor will not be in vain.

Since we have much to do, let me be brief and to the point. I want my colleagues and the community at large to know who Gene Sawyer really is.

When I was at Alabama State University, I had the privilege of meeting and knowing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. My fraternity provided security for Dr. King and I was a member of that security team. I came to know Dr. King well.

Like Harold Washington, I joined the Regular Democratic Organization in Chicago. I was elected Democratic Committeeman of the 6th ward in 1968 and Alderman in 1971. Until my election today as Acting Mayor, I was the Senior Black Alderman of the City Council.

I have not forgotten the lessons taught by Dr. King. When Congressman Harold Washington announced his candidacy for Mayor in the Democratic Primary of 1983, I was the first Democratic Committeeman to support him. The 6th ward, under my leadership as Committeeman, gave Harold Washington the largest vote of any ward in both the primary and general elections in 1983, and again for his re-election in 1987. I was a supporter of Harold Washington from the very beginning.
I am honored to say that the Mayor trusted me. When I was elected as President Pro Tem. of the City Council in 1983, the Mayor knew that the gavel was being placed in capable hands upon his absence.

During the days of the council wars, there were those who wanted me to be less than loyal to the Mayor, but I was absolutely supportive of the Mayor's policies. During Mayor Washington's administration, I was a staunch supporter of the Mayor, not a critic, to the very end. I will continue to support and advance the Mayor's progressive reform agenda. I will continue his efforts to reform our educational system to provide decent education for our children. I will continue his program to provide decent affordable housing for those who need shelter, including the homeless. I will continue his program to create jobs and opportunities for all our people. I will continue the Mayor's affirmative action programs in hiring, purchasing and contracts for Blacks, Hispanics and Women. I will continue his programs to provide effective health programs and to reduce infant mortality, which is so prevalent in some of our communities. I will support our Police Department, as our Mayor did, in providing safety for our seniors and our citizens generally. I will support the Mayor's Economic Development Programs. In short, I will continue the Mayor's programs and develop new ones where needed.

As a result of Harold Washington's great leadership, Chicago will never be the same. As he stated so emphatically, patronage as we once knew it, is dead, dead, dead! Moreover, I will support the Mayor's effort to create open, accountable, ethical government, with fairness and justice for all.

In addition, I will support the Mayor's national urban agenda, to reorder our national priorities in order to bring the funds and resources back to our cities to create jobs, education, housing, health, and other vital programs.

I shall put my administration at the disposal of all of the people to build an even greater Chicago: a wealthier Chicago; a Chicago where everyone has a place. This, I feel, would certainly be a fitting legacy to our fallen leader.

And last, but certainly not least, to my friend, Mayor Harold Washington, who left his gavel in my hand each time he left this Council Chamber, I pledge to you my friend... I will never let you down. I will never violate the trust you vested in me, for you were the greatest. I say, farewell to you my buddy... I will never, never, never let you down... "God Bless."

Alderman Natarus moved that the acceptance speech of Acting Mayor Sawyer be printed in pamphlet form by the City Clerk and distributed to all public agencies within the City of Chicago.

The motion Prevailed by a viva voce vote.
Adjournment.

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

WALTER S. KOZUBOWSKI,
City Clerk.