



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Cook County Building, Board Room,  
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

**Consent Agenda**

**Thursday, December 14, 2023, 10:00 AM**

[24-0433](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE YEARS OF DEDICATION & SERVICE OF COMPTROLLER LAWRENCE L. WILSON**

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence L. Wilson has proudly devoted the past three decades serving the public sector, he enthusiastically began his public service career as a high school teacher within the Chicago Public School system. Lawrence was determined to improve the educational and economic trajectory of historically disenfranchised youth through guidance and mentorship, having attributed such resources as the catalyst behind his own success; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence succeeded in elevating the lives and opportunities for his students, he recognized the significance of obtaining an advanced degree to further extend his ability to serve others. Lawrence was the first in his immediate family to graduate from college and he earned a graduate degree from an Ivy League school. Lawrence worked two jobs and performed maintenance work to cover his tuition. Obtaining an MBA from Cornell University as a Black man in the early 1970s was fraught with discrimination and racism. However, Lawrence persevered, further prepared himself by receiving the Professional Accounting Program Certificate from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, passing the CPA exam in 1979, and ultimately obtained prominent roles in public accounting, investment banking, consulting and executive leadership; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence launched his government finance career in 1986, when Mayor Harold Washington appointed him deputy comptroller. Lawrence continued to oversee all of Chicago's enterprises and accounting needs under the administrations of Mayors Sawyer and Daley respectively; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence served as deputy commissioner of finance in planning and development for the City of Chicago, a position he truly loved, because it resulted in commercial development which created and retained employment opportunities, revitalized local neighborhoods and provided loans, bonds and tax incentives to local businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Illinois appointed Lawrence financial advisor for the City of East St. Louis, he implemented a balanced budget that took a city experiencing insolvency to financial solvency. East St. Louis received the first State Distressed Cities Act loan, which averted bankruptcy; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence expanded his professional portfolio into non-profit executive management, he served as senior vice president and chief financial officer for the American Heart Association; CFO for the Chicago Urban League; CFO and interim president and CEO for Bethel New Life; and comptroller for the Chicago Housing Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence first joined Cook County in 1993 and served as CFO for the Forest Preserves of Cook County, he implemented controls over cash management for all golf courses located within Cook County. Lawrence also developed a plan for a computerized office automation network; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence would later rejoin Cook County in 2012, serving as comptroller, his efforts resulted in the reduction of the County's audit findings 10 to 1 in his first year because he eliminated financial reporting weaknesses; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence excelled at resolving financial complexities, the County received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for fiscal years 2013 through 2021, from the Government Finance Officers Association, a notable achievement given the County had last received the honor in fiscal year 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence helped implement the Oracle financial (ERP) system, he also devised a system of ePayables which has continued to provide revenue enhancement; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence took the helm as interim CFO for seven months in 2022, and simultaneously executed the duties of comptroller, he ensured that the County maintained fiscal stability through two bond issuances totaling \$489 million. Lawrence also renewed both a \$130 million letter of credit and \$175 million line of credit; and assisted local tax jurisdictions in financial need through the development of a bridge loan program; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence served as Board President of the \$16 billion Pension Fund, he maintained operations while executive leadership transitioned and helped pass significant pension funding legislation; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence served as chair of the Deferred Compensation Committee, he led implementation of governance improvement, developed a new pricing model and reduced operating costs of the County's \$2 billion supplemental retirement plan; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence received many accolades during his illustrious career, he's always been deeply appreciated by Cook County's 20,000 plus employees who have always been paid on time while he was comptroller; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence is retiring from public service, he'll be embarking upon a new career as professor, fulfilling his calling to teach and mentor young adults; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence will be missed as he's been an indispensable financial force and mentor to many; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence should be immensely proud of his countless professional accomplishments, roles and accolades, he would say his most important title and achievement has and will always be that of father and husband; and

**WHEREAS**, Lawrence leaves an indelible impression amongst his peers for his leadership, invaluable mentorship, holiday karaoke sing-alongs and indisputable passion for golf; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, hereby honor and recognize Lawrence L. Wilson for his work on behalf of the residents of Cook County; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be rendered to Lawrence L. Wilson as a means of communicating our sincere appreciation.

[24-0406](#)

**Sponsored by:** JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGNEN, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET GAINER, MONICA GORDON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, TARA S. STAMPS and MAGGIE TREVOR, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**CHICAGO FIREFIGHTER ANDREW “DREW” BENJAMIN PRICE, IN MEMORIAM**

**WHEREAS**, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom has called Andrew Price from our midst; and

**WHEREAS**, Andrew Price was the beloved husband of Lara Price; and

**WHEREAS**, Andrew Price was the beloved son of Rochelle and Grant Price; and

**WHEREAS**, Andrew Price was the dear brother of Courtney, Carissa, Jordan, and Natalie; and

**WHEREAS**, Andrew Price was the dear in-law of Karen and Tim Radez, Vanessa and Greg Mohr, Megan Price, Justin Reynolds and Justin Weber; and

**WHEREAS**, Andrew Price was the fond uncle of many nieces and nephews; and

**WHEREAS**, Andrew Price graduated from the Chicago Fire Academy in 2009, giving 14 years of dedication and service where he was an instructor at the academy and proudly drove truck 44; and

**WHEREAS**, Andrew Price touched the lives of many and will be remembered by all who knew him; and

**WHEREAS**, all who knew him will attest that Andrew Price was a kind and compassionate man, virtuous of character and gentle in spirit, admired and respected by his many friends and neighbors, and dearly loved by his family; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**,by the Board of Commissioners of Cook County that the Board does hereby offer its deepest condolences and most heartfelt sympathy to the family of Andrew Price and joins them in sorrow at this time of loss; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body, and a suitable copy of the same be tendered to the family of Andrew Price so that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[24-0305](#)

**Sponsored by:** DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**RECOGNIZING THE 100th BIRTHDAY OF ROSE MARY MCGATHEY**

**WHEREAS**, Rose Mary McGathey was born on December 5, 1923; and

**WHEREAS**, Rose Mary McGathey was married to Richard McGathey on May 15, 1949; and

**WHEREAS**, Rose Mary and her husband Richard moved into the village of East Hazel Crest right after their marriage in 1949; and

**WHEREAS**, Rose Mary McGathey continues to reside in the Village of East Hazel Crest in Cook County; and

**WHEREAS**, Rose Mary and her husband modeled respect, compassion and commitment to mankind to mold the lives of their nine children who are kind, caring, successful adults; and

**WHEREAS**, Rose Mary has dedicated her life to service as exemplified by her volunteer work and generously shared her talents, patience, time and energy throughout her life, coaching neighborhood children in the fine art of Mexican music and dance, engaging students as she taught religious education at Saint Anne's school, where neighborhood children attended; and

**WHEREAS**, Rose Mary gave her time generously to the Village Volunteer Fire Department and fire department auxiliary and displayed her energy as she participated in the fire department's costume contest to the delight of all children. Rose Mary McGathey has created lasting memories for many of the youth of East Hazel Crest who had the good fortune of crossing her path; and

**WHEREAS**, Rose Mary McGathey currently enjoys the company of her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren along with her many friends and neighbors;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board

of Commissioners does hereby celebrate Rose Mary McGathey as a distinguished member of the community; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, she be honored on the occasion of her 100th birthday for showing her kindness, compassion, creativity, respect, and selfless service with all of those she encountered. East Hazel Crest is a better community because Rose Mary McGathey lives there; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and a suitable copy be presented to Rose Mary McGathey and her family as a symbol of our respect and esteem.

[24-0364](#)

**Sponsored by:** DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE LIFE OF LUCILLE STEELE**

**WHEREAS**, Lucille Steele was born January 3, 1936. Lucille was the only child born to the union of Deacon Alfred Bennett and Christine Bennett in Mason, Tennessee. Lucille attended Union Hill School in Tennessee until the death of her dad. Christine subsequently relocated to Blytheville, Arkansas; and

**WHEREAS**, Lucille had two children while living in the south, a son, and a daughter: Johnny (deceased) and Pamela. She worked as a farm laborer harvesting cotton, but always had a powerful desire for something more; and

**WHEREAS**, Lucille made the strategic decision to move to Chicago, because she wanted a better life and more opportunity for her children. Leaving her family to pursue that goal was a difficult choice, but she knew it felt right and she trusted her instincts to guide her; and

**WHEREAS**, her mother, Christine, stayed behind to care for Johnny and Pamela while Lucille found work in a factory making parts for telephones, and saved enough money to get an apartment for her family to live in. It was in a neighborhood where her children could get the education that she knew would be the foundation for their success. As a determined single parent, it didn't take her long to accomplish her goals, and soon thereafter she moved her family to Chicago for a fresh start; and

**WHEREAS**, Lucille gave birth to her last child, Chrystal, and continued to grow with the help of her mother, Christine, and the support of Chrystal's godparents and friends. Her life was blessed. Lucille wanted nothing but the best for her children, and she gave them long talks about the importance of education and how it could open doors to opportunity, eliminate poverty and cultivate their minds and spirit; and

**WHEREAS**, Lucille and her family learned about a ministry headed by C.V. Bass and his brother,

Reverend James Bass at Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, where she became an active member, contributing her tithes and offerings each week and Reverend Bass baptized her children; and

**WHEREAS**, Lucille sang in the Gospel choir, modeled in fashion shows, served in the food ministry and was infamously known for her caramel pound cakes and homemade ice cream. She also served as the supervisor of the Angelic Choir for years, mentoring over 40 youths and teaching them to love gospel music. She was very passionate about her relationship with God and invited many to give their life to Christ; and

**WHEREAS**, in her neighborhood on the west side of Chicago, Lucille was known as “The Snowball Queen”. With an assist from her mother, Christine, and daughter, Chrystal, she sold snowballs, snacks, dinners, candy and her famous cake and ice cream for the neighbors to enjoy. Everyone loved her! Young people were drawn to her and would sit and talk with her while eating a snowball or ice cream; and

**WHEREAS**, Lucille was also a fashionista who took pride in wearing beautiful clothes, and lots of bling. She always had her makeup, nails and hair pulled together, even if she planned on being home all day. She was a social butterfly and the life of the party at the senior center where she and Vernon spent most of their time. She loved animals. She loved to sing, made time to visit the sick, and she enjoyed telling jokes and reciting poetry; and

**WHEREAS**, Lucille really missed her calling and could have been a standup comedian, and if she told the same joke more than once, it still made everyone laugh as much as it did the first time, they heard it. That’s how Lucille approached life: always finding the humor in a situation, until she couldn’t anymore. In the final years of her life, she relied on the comfort provided by her caregiver, Carmen; and

**WHEREAS**, Lucille transitioned into eternity on November 10, 2023, at Elmhurst Hospital. She leaves to cherish her memory and celebrate her life, her husband Vernon Steele, daughters, Pamela Wiggins (Thomas) and Chrystal Kyles (Joseph), grandchildren Jannea, Jessica, Joslynn, and Kyris, the Pruitt family of cousins from South Bend, Indiana, and a host of God’s children, church families, close friends, and neighbors. She will truly be missed by all;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby honor the life of Lucille Steele as a distinguished member of the community;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and a suitable copy be presented to the family of Lucille Steele so that her memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[24-0369](#)

**Sponsored by:** DONNA MILLER, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**HONORING THE LIFE OF EDWARD P. MYERS**

**WHEREAS**, Almighty God in His infinite wisdom called from our midst Edward P. Myers, age 76, of Sauk Village, IL, on Sunday, November 12, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, Edward P. Myers began his fifty-two years of service to the Village of Sauk Village as a Building Official and Code Enforcement Supervisor from 1986 through 2001, and again in 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, Edward began his distinguished career with the Sauk Village Fire Department in 1971 and was an outstanding firefighter being promoted to Engineer in 1976; and

**WHEREAS**, Edward continued to exhibit motivation and leadership abilities, and was promoted to Lieutenant in 1980, and Captain in 1991; and

**WHEREAS**, Edward was promoted to Assistant Chief in 2002 and served as such until his retirement in 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, Edward was elected to the Sauk Village Board of Trustees in 2009, and re-elected in 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, Edward also worked in the Village of Steger for a number of years as their Code Enforcement Official; and

**WHEREAS**, considering Edward's substantial contributions to Sauk Village, Illinois, on October 8, 2023, the Corporate Authorities honored him with an honorary street designation on 221st Street and Orion Avenue; and

**WHEREAS**, Edward was the beloved husband of the late Carol J. Myers, nee Bretveld; Loving father of Phillip (Sandy) Myers, Deborah (Jeffrey) Szela, and Paul (Kandace) Myers; Dear grandfather of Courtney (Bob) Myers, Lauren (Nathan) Myers, Tabbitha Anderson, and Lucas (fiancée Mary) Myers; Dear brother of Tommy Larry Myers, the late Mary Langford, and the late Sharon Meeker; Preceded in death by his parents Tommy Lee and Elizabeth Myers. He will truly be missed by all;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the President and Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby honor the life of Edward P. Myers as a distinguished member of the community and exemplary public servant; and



**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT,** this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and a suitable copy be presented to the family of Edward P. Myers so that his memory may be so honored and ever cherished.

[24-0509](#)

**Sponsored by:** KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING WORLD AIDS DAY 2023**

**WHEREAS,** World AIDS Day is observed on December 1st each year and serves as a day of solidarity for people around the world who are currently affected by HIV and to remember those who have died from AIDS-related illnesses; and

**WHEREAS,** the first World AIDS Day took place in 1988, providing a platform to raise awareness about HIV and AIDS and honor the lives affected by the epidemic; and

**WHEREAS,** since the first World AIDS Day 35 years ago, continual progress has been made in preventing, detecting, and treating HIV - greatly reducing annual HIV diagnoses and transmissions; and

**WHEREAS,** for example, HIV.gov reports that estimated new HIV infections have declined 12 percent from 2017 to 2021; and

**WHEREAS,** this progress is thanks to organizations that tirelessly work to combat this virus, including the Cook County Health Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center, which was founded by the Cook County Bureau of Health Services to focus on the prevention, care, and research of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases; and

**WHEREAS,** since it opened its doors in 1998, the CORE Center has remained one of the largest HIV/AIDS clinics in the United States and treats more than 6,000 patients annually; and

**WHEREAS,** through partnerships with people living with HIV, community-based organizations, health care providers, government agencies and others, Illinois has dramatically shifted the impact of HIV/AIDS across the state through Getting to Zero Illinois, a state-wide initiative to end the HIV epidemic in the state by 2030, which is coordinated through organizations such as the AIDS Foundation Chicago and the Illinois and Chicago Departments of Public Health; and

**WHEREAS,** despite these advancements, about 39 million people worldwide continue to live with HIV, including more than one million people in the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** according to the Global Burden of Disease study, nearly one million people die yearly from HIV/AIDS; and

**WHEREAS**, stigma, discrimination, and health access disparities remain formidable barriers to effective HIV testing, prevention, and care,

**WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, as of 2019 though only 13 percent of the U.S. population is Black, they account for 42.1 percent of HIV infection cases; and

**WHEREAS**, roughly 13% of those with HIV in the U.S. don't know they have it and need testing; and

**WHEREAS**, in honor of the 35th commemoration of this important day, this year's theme for World AIDS Day is "World AIDS Day 35: Remember and Commit."; and

**WHEREAS**, through remembrance, we draw strength and determination to redouble our efforts in fighting the disease and providing support to those with HIV; and

**WHEREAS**, through commitment, we acknowledge our collective responsibility to act, whether through working to improve health equity, promoting education and awareness, or supporting organizations that work tirelessly to serve those at risk and living with HIV;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim December 1st, 2023, to be World AIDS Day in both commitment and remembrance of all those impacted by HIV and AIDS-related illnesses; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that suitable copies of this proclamation be given to local organizations serving those impacted by HIV and AIDS-related illnesses.