

BY ALDS. PEREZ, STAMPER, TAYLOR, DIMITRIJEVIC, MOORE, PRATT, BURGELIS,  
ZAMARRIPA, COGGS, CHAMBERS, BAUMAN, WESTMORELAND, SPIKER

*Resolution expressing condolences to the family and friends of Samuel Johnson.*

**WHEREAS,**

## **SAMUEL JOHNSON**

*passed from this life, on March 11, 2026, and services were held for family and friends on March 28, 2026, at St. Matthew CME Church, 2944 N. 9th Street; and*

***WHEREAS,** Samuel Johnson was a quiet, powerful force in Milwaukee's civic endeavors, and was a founding partner behind one of the city's most enduring community institutions, the Community Brainstorming Conference Breakfast Forum that began in 1986 in collaboration with Reuben Harpole and a small group of area residents; and*

***WHEREAS,** Samuel Johnson helped grow the annual event from a modest gathering in a church basement to a widely-attended program that has hosted hundreds of discussions on employment, education, economic development, public safety, and health, and was rooted in Johnson's belief that they focus not on division, but on issues that affect the entire community; and*

***WHEREAS,** Samuel Johnson's commitment to service ran deep, as demonstrated by his commitment to being all-inclusive, including preparing and serving breakfast to all attendees, and cultivating a space where voices that were often unheard could influence public conversation and policy in Milwaukee; and*

***WHEREAS,** Samuel Johnson will be remembered as a man who sought to enact meaningful change, and helped build a civic tradition that continues to encourage community participation, honest dialogue, and collective responsibility for the city's future; now, therefore, be it*

***RESOLVED,** That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith offers its sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Samuel Johnson and mourns the passing of this accomplished and dedicated man; and, be it*

***FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Samuel Johnson.*

***Introduced by Common Council members José G. Pérez, Russell W. Stamper, II, Larresa Taylor, Marina Dimitrijevic, Sharlen P. Moore, Andrea M. Pratt, Peter Burgelis, JoCasta Zamarripa, Milele A. Coggs, Mark Chambers, Jr., Robert Bauman, Lamont Westmoreland, and Scott Spiker, and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on April 21, 2026.***