

BY ALDS. MURPHY, DONOVAN, KOVAC, COGGS, PEREZ

*Resolution expressing condolences to the family and friends of Richard “Dick” Tierney, who passed from this life on September 11, 2014.*

**WHEREAS,**

**RICHARD “DICK” TIERNEY**

*passed from this life at the age of 86 on September 11, 2014, and a Mass of Christian Burial was held on September 16, 2014 at St. Patrick's Church, 723 W. Washington St.; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Richard “Dick” Tierney became the first fire chief of Fox Point in 1951, and he later opened the Irish Abbey restaurant in Brown Deer and he also owned two King Q pool halls and two Sample Warehouse clothing stores; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Dick Tierney championed the preservation of Celtic culture and heritage, and was one of four members of a board responsible for finding a home for the Irish Community and Heritage Center in 1996, and each of the four board members chipped in 25 cents to purchase the impressive brick and stone Grand Avenue Congregational Church at 2133 W. Wisconsin Ave., a landmark building listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and*

**WHEREAS,** *The deal to purchase of the building stipulated that it would be preserved as a treasured part of Milwaukee’s history, and the Irish Center board spent \$850,000 for a history-sensitive restoration, retaining almost all the original features from the 1880s; and*

**WHEREAS,** *More than 200 entertainment acts have performed at the center since 1997, thanks mostly to Dick, who contacted and booked the performers, but it was a true labor of love as he enjoyed bringing Celtic music to the center, and restoring and developing the center into a place where Irish heritage and culture could thrive through lectures, art exhibits, concerts, dances, Irish music classes and genealogical research; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Dick was a member of the Shamrock Club for 30 years, and was named the club’s Irishman of the Year in 1997; he also received a heritage proclamation from the mayor of Limerick, Ireland, was a member of St. Andrews Society, the Shamrock Color Guard and Irish Fest, and on St. Patrick’s Day he marched in parades both nationally and internationally, including in Dublin; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Dick Tierney was the beloved husband of Patricia Grimes Tierney and the late Mary Tierney, was the loving father of Kitty, Mark, Kim, Terri Ann, Marie, Ted and Sara, the proud grandfather of Christopher, Kerri, Ashley, Maya, Pierce, Alexander and Mathew, and will be fondly remembered by a host of other loving relatives and friends; now, therefore, be it*

**RESOLVED,** *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith expresses its condolences to the family and friends of Richard “Dick” Tierney and mourns with deep sorrow the passing of this fine man; and, be it*

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Richard “Dick” Tierney.*

**Introduced by Common Council members Michael J. Murphy, Robert G. Donovan, Nik Kovac, Milele A. Coggins and José G. Pérez and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on September 23, 2014.**

