

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

*Resolution expressing condolences to the family and friends of Wayne F. Whittow.*

**WHEREAS,**

## **WAYNE F. WHITTOW**

*passed from this life on December 21, 2025 at the age of 92; and*

**WHEREAS**, Wayne F. Whittow grew up with his brothers on the near north side of Milwaukee, was a 1951 graduate of Washington High School, and after high school he proudly served in the U.S. Army; and

**WHEREAS**, Wayne F. Whittow was just 26 when he began his 51-year career in politics, launching his first election campaign in 1960, and winning a Wisconsin State Assembly seat as a Democrat, and just six years later he moved up to the Wisconsin State Senate, winning election as the second-youngest person serving in that body (and was soon elected by his peers to Senate Majority Leader), and where he was involved in such major legislation as the creation of state shared revenue to local governments and the merger of the Wisconsin State University and University of Wisconsin systems; and

**WHEREAS**, Wayne was elected Milwaukee City Treasurer in 1976 (retiring in November 2011), and during his nearly 36 years in office, he dramatically increased the office's efficiency, ending the requirement for taxpayers to both pick up and pay their property tax bills in person (he had the office mail out bills and accept payments by mail or over the Internet), allowing taxpayers to pay with credit cards, checks, or automatic withdrawals from their bank accounts, and under his leadership, a three-phase delinquent property tax enforcement process was implemented, and by the end of the three-year process of collecting delinquent property taxes, the office achieved, and continues to achieve, a collection rate of near 99% of each tax levy; and

**WHEREAS**, Wayne was the beloved husband for 63 years of Paula (nee Van Valin), dear father of Michael, Steve (Michelle) and Jeff (Colleen), loving grandfather of Zachary, Alexander, Andrew, Jacob, Jessica and Katelyn, and the beloved great-grandfather to Nash; 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 Wayne F. Whittow and mourns the passing of this accomplished and honorable man; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Wayne F. Whittow.

*Introduced by Common Council members José G. Pérez, Milele A. Coggs, Andrea M. Pratt, Russell W. Stamper, II, Mark Chambers, Jr., Robert Bauman, Lamont Westmoreland, JoCasta Zamarripa, Sharlen P. Moore, Larresa Taylor and Scott Spiker and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on January 20, 2026.*