**Minutes of Special Meeting of Galway City Council**

**held on Friday 21st October, 2016,**

**at 2.00 p.m. in City Hall, College Road, Galway.**

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**Presiding: Cllr. N. Larkin, Mayor of the City of Galway**

**Present: Councillors: C. Ó Conchúir, P. Connelly, C. Connolly, O. Crowe, M.J Crowe, M. Cubbard, F. Fahy, P. Flannery, D. Lyons, D. McDonnell, N. McNelis**

**In Attendance: Mr. J. O’Neill, Deputy Chief Executive**

**Mr. T. Connell, Director of Services**

**Ms. E. Ruane, A/Director of Services**

**Mr. D. Mahon, Meetings Administrator**

**Apologies: Cllrs. B. Cameron, M. Farrell, J. Walsh, T. O'Flaherty, C. Connolly and P. Keane**

**Mr. B. McGrath, Chief Executive**

**Ms. E. McCormack Head of Finance / Director of Services**

1. **Convey Sympathy on the Passing of Mr. Pat McNamara (RIP)**

Mayor Larkin welcomed the Members to the Special Meeting and thanked them for their attendance, at short notice, to enable the City Council convey sympathy and condolences on the passing of Mr. Pat McNamara, Former Mayor of the City of Galway.

Mayor Larkin offered sympathies on behalf of the City to the family of Mr. McNamara, in particular his wife Marian and four children. Mayor Larkin stated that Mr. McNamara was Mayor of Galway from June 1982 – June 1983 and had worked tirelessly for the City over a long and distinguished political and business career dating back to his election to Galway Corporation in 1973. Mr. McNamara served 17 years on the Council for the South Ward as a member of Fine Gael and latterly as an Independent candidate. Mayor Larkin noted that Mr. McNamara had conferred the Freedom of Galway upon [Paulo Evaristo Arns](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paulo_Evaristo_Arns), Archbishop of São Paulo during his term as Mayor of Galway.

Mayor Larkin invited Members in attendance to convey sympathies.

Contributions were received from Cllr. P. Conneely (On behalf of Fine Gael party), Cllr. D. McDonnell (on behalf of Independent representatives including Cllr. T. O’Flaherty), Cllr. D. Lyons, Cllr. M.J. Crowe (on behalf of the Fianna Fáil party), Cllr. C. Ó Conchúir (on behalf of the Sinn Féin party) and Cllr, N. McNelis (on behalf of the Labour party).

All Councillors who spoke offered sympathies to the family of the late Mr. McNamara and noted his time as Mayor and elected member for Galway Corporation. Members referred to his business interests, sporting connections and loyalty to the Claddagh area and city of Galway. It was noted that Mr. McNamara was a former member of the Leisureland Board and a member of the Galway Harbour Board. His family involvement in local soccer and in particular Galway Rovers was noted and acknowledged. It was also stated that Mr. McNamara led a delegation to St. Louis in 1982 as Mayor of the City with the Galway & District Soccer league. His involvement in the quincentennial plans for the city was also acknowledged.

Councillors offered personal memories of time spent with Mr. McNamara during his distinguished career and noted that Mr. McNamara was hugely dedicated to Galway City and served the people of his constituency with distinction and was always dedicated to the promotion and growth of the City. A number of members stated that it was important that the City remember and acknowledge former Mayors and that this tradition should continue into the future.

Mr. J. O’Neill Deputy Chief Executive noted apologies on behalf of Chief Executive Mr. McGrath and offered sympathies to the family of Mr. McNamara on behalf of the Chief Executive and staff of Galway City Council and joined with the Mayor in thanking the Members for their attendance at the Meeting.

Mayor Larkin advised members that the arrangements for the funeral of Mr. McNamara would be notified to members once obtained and noted the requirement of Members to attend the funeral as a body robed (in consultation with the family).

Mayor Larkin advised Members that a Book of Condolences would be opened and Members were invited to sign the Book.

The Meeting ended at 2.25 pm