

RESOLUTION NO. 120416

Honoring and recognizing Walt Bodine upon his retirement from broadcasting after more than 72 distinguished years in the industry and his immeasurable service to the City of Kansas City.

WHEREAS, Walton Marshall Bodine was born in Kansas City, Missouri, on August 27, 1920, and grew up on Kansas City's east side, attending Longfellow Elementary and Westport High School and spending most of his spare time at his father's drugstore at Linwood and Troost, where he often sat under the counter and read newspaper articles into a microphone for the benefit of those waiting for a bus; and

WHEREAS, as a grade schooler, Walt created a single-edition, hand-printed, weekly newspaper that he would charge a penny to read. When one "subscriber" was finished, Walt would snatch it back and move on to the next; and

WHEREAS, Walt captured the stories of Kansas City in three books and countless newspaper columns and broadcast commentaries; and

WHEREAS, Walt worked as a journalist in TV and radio covering the brightest and darkest moments in Kansas City history across the last seven decades; and

WHEREAS, Walt has been the #1 friend and fan of Kansas City restaurants past and present (even those that do not have a chocolate malt on their menu); and

WHEREAS, Walt helped pioneer the Talk Radio call-in show format in the 1960s and kept improving it through 2012, thus enabling tens of thousands of Kansas Citians to be heard on the air discussing every subject imaginable; and

WHEREAS, Walt Bodine, on the day of his last broadcast, April 27, 2012, again turned to a TV camera and spoke his signature phrase, "What do you say to that?"; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

That the Mayor and Council hereby extend their most sincere appreciation to Walt Bodine for his more than 72 years of distinguished service to Kansas City, together with heartiest best wishes for the future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the Council in testimony thereof, and that a copy hereof be presented to Walt Bodine with the appreciation of the Mayor and Council for his long career and his wonderful contributions to the City of Kansas City, Missouri.

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