



# City of Columbus

Office of City Clerk  
90 West Broad Street  
Columbus OH 43215-9015  
columbuscitycouncil.org

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 0025X-2020, **Version:** 1

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To honor, recognize and celebrate the life of Mark Dempsey, 1964-2020.

**WHEREAS**, Mark Dempsey was born on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 1964; and

**WHEREAS**, A man for all seasons, Mark was a lifelong Columbus resident and proud “south-ender”; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark was devoted to preserving the spirit and life of his Irish ancestors. Mark served as past president and current member of the Shamrock Club of Columbus, organizer of the Saint Patrick’s Day Parade, member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark lived to serve others, and never wanted for the public eye. Mark served in key roles for the City of Columbus, as City Council Budget Chief; in roles for the State of Ohio, and for Franklin County governments; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark was owner and founder of Dempsey’s Food & Spirits downtown, and reviver of the historical Jury Room. A fervently active citizen, Mark decorated the walls of his restaurant with photos of elected officials of every gender, nationality, creed, orientation, and party; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark was devoted to making Columbus a welcoming city, and he believed that nothing created community like a good meal. Mark was a passionate citizen of Columbus, and a true Irishman who greeted everyone he met as family ; and

**WHEREAS**, A Columbus original, and descendant of Rev. Francis X. Specht, founding pastor of Saint Mary’s Catholic Church in German Village, Mark was a larger than life figure, someone whose charity and humor knew no limits, a remarkable storyteller who was loved by all who met him; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark is survived by the love of his life, Megan Stapleton Dempsey, and his five children; Allison (Brady), Celia (Geff), Michaela, Conor, and Mary Kate; seven grandchildren: Ava, Norah, Rowan, Haddie, Logan, Marek, a namesake on the way; his uncles James and Jerry Dempsey; Aunt Mary Dempsey; cousins; and many friends; now therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:** That this Council does hereby honor, recognize, and celebrate the life of Mark Dempsey.