

Resolution Number 252
Charlie Brennan

WHEREAS, on March 14th, 2015 the annual St. Louis Metropolitan St. Patrick's Day parade will make its way down Market Street, delighting some 250,000 attendees; and

WHEREAS, more than 120 unique parade entries will march alongside marching bands, floats, oversized balloons and Irish dignitaries, making the event one of downtown St. Louis' largest and most beloved; and

WHEREAS, we have been apprised that Charlie Brennan has been granted the distinction of Honorary Marshal of the parade; and

WHEREAS, Charlie Brennan, in his 27th year at KMOX, is host of the Charlie Brennan Show weekdays from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Brennan discusses national and local issues, interviews newsmakers and takes listener calls. Best known for his passion for St. Louis, Brennan was named "One of the Most Influential St. Louisans" five years in a row by The St. Louis Business Journal; and

WHEREAS, Brennan is also host of KETC-TV's Donnybrook, the highest rated locally-produced talk show on PBS; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, Brennan wrote Amazing St. Louis: 250 Years of Great Tales and Curiosities. It is his third book. In 2012, Charlie helped lead a successful campaign to restore medical benefits to the blind in Missouri. Also in 2012, Brennan organized a group of volunteers to plant daffodils on area highways; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, Brennan and his listeners raised \$105,000 to erect a statue honoring Chuck Berry, the Father of Rock and Roll. Brennan presided over the statue's dedication in a ceremony including the Isley Brothers, Little Richard, Boz Scaggs, Michael McDonald, Elvis Costello and others. Also in 2011, Brennan asked listeners to call and urge Missouri Governor Jay Nixon to stay the execution of death row inmate Richard Clay, an action later taken by Nixon to the surprise of his critics and supporters. Clay later appeared on KMOX to thank Brennan and his listeners; and

WHEREAS, Brennan has organized five campaigns sending care packages to troops serving overseas. On KMOX, he exposed litter and trash problems on downtown streets which led to the establishment of St. Louis' Problem Properties Court. Brennan also worked to promote ordinances allowing street musicians and food vendors in downtown St. Louis. Along with the American Institute of Architects, he led a successful effort to clean up downtown storefronts. Charlie and his listeners raised hundreds of thousands of dollars on his radio show to plant flowers in downtown St. Louis. Charlie raised the money to install 27 historic plaques in the downtown St. Louis area; and

WHEREAS, The St. Louis Business Journal named Brennan "A Most Valuable Volunteer in St. Louis" and St. Louis Magazine called him one of St. Louis' 50 Most Powerful People. Brennan is a former recipient of the Press Club of St. Louis' Media Person of the Year Award, the Downtown St. Louis Partnership's Civic Betterment Award, the Jewish Community Relations Council's Norman Stack Award, and The American Society of Landscape Architects' Civic Stewardship Award; and

WHEREAS, he lives in St. Louis with his wife and children.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Charlie Brennan for the honor of being named the Honorary Marshal of the 2015 St. Patrick's Day Parade. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 14th day of March, 2014 by:

Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis City Board of Aldermen

Honorable Stephen J. Conway, Alderman 8th Ward

Honorable Donna Baringer, Alderwoman 16th Ward

Adopted this the 14th day of March, 2014 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen