



VILLAGE OF GLENCOE



PROCLAMATION HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FORMER GLENCOE VILLAGE MANAGER ROBERT B. MORRIS

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS served as the Village of Glencoe from 1949 to 1982, first as Administrative Assistant to the Village Manager, and then as Glencoe's third Village Manager (and the first in the State of Illinois not trained as an engineer but rather with a degree in Public Administration) beginning in 1951 until his retirement; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS served diligently in the interests of the Village under the leadership of five Village Presidents and nearly 40 Trustees; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS was a proactive and visionary leader, developing wide ranging Village programs, policies and structures as Village Manager, many of which have stood the test of time and remain in place, including the innovative consolidated Public Safety Department which was created in 1954; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS served as Village Manager during some of Glencoe's most significant times of growth and was responsible for the effective development of critical infrastructure including roadway paving, sidewalk development, underground utilities, a significant expansion of the Water Treatment Plant and related facilities and the construction of the current Village Hall and Public Works Garage; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS held immense professional and personal commitment to public administration and mentored young professionals including 21 administrative assistants and 52 others here in Glencoe who became city or county managers, serving in over 133 villages, cities and counties of all sizes across the United States; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS taught as an adjunct professor at Roosevelt and Northern Illinois University from 1965-1994; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS was a leader in local government having served as president of the Metropolitan Chicago and Illinois City/County Management Associations and received the International City/County Management Association's first Career Development Award for training young people for urban management careers, the Distinguished Service Award for his "outstanding contribution to the professional management of local government" and the first Lifetime Achievement Award from the Illinois City/County Management Association, an award now named the Robert. B. Morris Lifetime Achievement Award and given annually to a deserving retired Village/City Manager in Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS was a dedicated resident of the Village of Glencoe for 54 years along with his wife Louise and raised four children in the community; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS was a dedicated Rotarian, receiving a certificate of achievement from Rotary International in 2020 on his 70th anniversary as a member of the Rotary Club of Glencoe; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS was a 70-year member of Glencoe Union Church, teaching Sunday School and serving on church boards; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS served three years during World War II as an Army Air Force navigation instructor; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS died on November 3, 2023 at the age of 101 after a brief illness, having lived an immensely service-focused life; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS holds a life legacy of commitment to the highest ideals of professional public service through ethical practices, education and mentoring in support of democracy in local government; and

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS is described by peers as an excellent communicator, writer, innovator, team-builder, teacher, visionary, and friend; and,

WHEREAS, ROBERT B. MORRIS will be remembered always with great respect and fondness, having truly lived a most remarkable life of service.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Village President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Glencoe, Illinois, honor the life and legacy of **ROBERT B. MORRIS**.

Howard J. Roin, Village President

Philip A. Kiraly, Village Clerk