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News Release

For Immediate Release

Longtime City Clerk Donald H. Kelley Passes Away

The City of Springfield has learned that retired City Clerk Don Kelley passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2010.

Mr. Kelley began his career with the City of Springfield in 1946 as a secretary in the Inspection Department. In 1950, he was promoted to Coordinator of the Department of Inspections. In 1952, Kelley was named City Clerk, under the Commission form of government, by Mayor Harry Carr. The City of Springfield adopted a Charter form of government by a vote of the people in 1953. He served as City Clerk until his retirement in 1990.

During his tenure as City Clerk, Mr. Kelley served under 15 mayors and 68 council members under the Council/Manager form of government, and eight council members under the Commission form of government. Kelley initiated a completely new and computerized records management and indexing system that is still a vital part of the Clerk’s Office operations.

Current City Clerk Brenda Cirtin stated, “We are frequently asked to research projects or Council actions that took place during Mr. Kelley’s administration. Thanks to the systems he implemented, we are able to locate the records and provide the requested information in a timely manner. With the many changes in technology, we’ve been able to expand his system, but the foundation he laid has proven to be invaluable to us.”

Upon his retirement, the City Council named the Council Chambers the Donald H. Kelley Council Chambers in honor of his years of service.

For more information, contact: City Clerk Brenda M. Cirtin, (417) 864-1650.