

55-R-99

**A Resolution**

**Endorsing the Evanston Library Board's  
Decision to Sell the Painting "At the Fountain"  
By William Bouguereau and Declining the Library Board's  
Offer to Purchase Said Painting**

WHEREAS, in 1925 the Evanston Public Library received the painting, "At The Fountain", by William Adolph Bouguereau as a bequest from the Estate of Charles F. Grey; and

WHEREAS, the Library has displayed this painting almost continuously since that time; and

WHEREAS, the monetary value of this painting has increased substantially in recent years; and

WHEREAS, the Library Board has determined that it cannot provide a painting of this value with the protection and care that it requires; and

WHEREAS, the Library Board has determined that the mission of the Library will be better served by selling the painting and placing the funds realized in the Library's endowment; and

WHEREAS, the Library Board has made the decision to consign the painting to an auction house for a fall sale; and

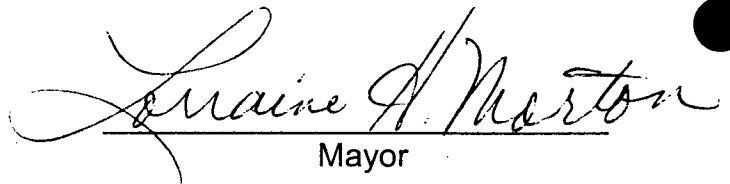
WHEREAS, the applicable Illinois State Statute requires the Library Board to give the Evanston City Council "the first right to purchase such property for public or corporate purposes by meeting bids acceptable to the Board";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

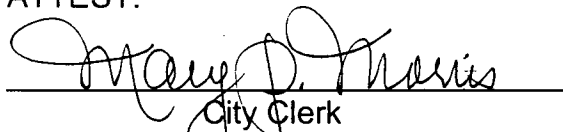
**SECTION 1:** That the City Council does endorse the Library Board's decision to consign the painting to an auction house for a fall sale.

**SECTION 2:** That the City Council does decline the offer to purchase the painting for the City at a price of \$800,000.

**SECTION 3:** That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner required by law.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Adopted: July 26, 1999