



## Rep. Tom Emmer on Majority Whip Tom Emmer gives floor remarks honoring Mayor Marvin Johnson

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### **\*\*REP. TOM EMMER:**

\*\* Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of the longest-serving mayors in the nation. Marvin Johnson is the mayor as he retires after 45 years of leading the City of Independence in Minnesota. Marvin was actually my inspiration to run for office. When my wife Jackie and I were starting out, our city public works department marked four 100-year-old trees on our property, two oaks and two maples, and they were to come out the next day for a new road. I called Marvin. He showed up at my house at 10 o'clock at night. He looked at the trees, he looked at the road, and he took the brick phone that some of us remember from 30 years ago, and he called the public works director and he said, Danny, move the road 50 feet. We're not going to take these trees. Since that time, I've never seen a government official as effective as Marvin. His council meetings were models of efficiency and respect, even as I rocked my newborn children in their car seats under the table during late-night evening sessions. He's a true public servant and has been an outstanding mentor and friend over the years. Marvin, as your career in public service comes to an end and you look ahead to your 90th birthday this spring, we wish you all the best in whatever comes next. Thank you for your support over the years and your leadership on behalf of the city of Independence.

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