

WHEREAS, upon occasion, the Memphis City Council approves the naming of specified public thoroughfares to honor citizens who have served this community; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2009, **AFSCME Local 1733** will hold their annual 'March' in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King and this year **Mr. Joe C. Warren**, first president of the **AFSCME Local 1733** is being honored for his selfless dedication and loyalty to the City of Memphis Sanitation Department and its workers; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, the City of Memphis Sanitation Department terminated 33 black employees for alleged employment violations; **Mr. Joe Warren** said "Enough is Enough" and opened his house at 968 Meagher to the unfairly dismissed sanitation workers to meet and discuss what action should be taken to address their grievances; and

WHEREAS, the result of these discussions is the historical event known as the Memphis Sanitation Strike and it was then that **Mr. Warren** suggested that a union be formed and named Local 1733 in honor of the 17 employees who were rehired and the 33 originally terminated; and

WHEREAS, before becoming a sanitation worker, **Mr. Joe Warren** served as staff sergeant in the United States Army and during a combat in Italy, nearly everyone in his battalion was killed with the exception of three comrades; this event had a profound effect on **Mr. Warren**, and it was then, that he said he was "A Man"; and

WHEREAS, after sharing this life changing experience with his fellow sanitation employees, he encouraged them to stand and be men and to tell then Memphis' mayor, Henry Loeb, "**I AM A MAN**" and the phrase became their motto; and

WHEREAS, it is indeed an honor to participate in this special day of reflection and thanksgiving for **Mr. Warren** who started the movement on behalf of hundreds of workers who wanted nothing more than to be treated as "men"; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that **Mr. Joe C. Warren** be honored for a lifetime of service and commitment to the City of Memphis Sanitation Department and his fellow workers and that he be remembered as a citizen who has shown great dedication to his calling as a leader.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMPHIS CITY COUNCIL that Meagher Street between Jackson and Mahoney Avenue be honorarily dedicated

"MR. JOE C. WARREN BOULEVARD"

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the City Engineer is requested to affix a suitable marker so designating such public road.

ADOPTED: March 17, 2009

JOE BROWN
Council Member