

CITY OF
PORTLAND

Whereas

Whereas, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia was born on May 8th 1955 as Legesse Zenawi in the town of Adwa; and

Whereas, a wise and selfless man early on, at age 19 he gave up his bright future of being a doctor & dropped out of medical school to join a rebel group in Tigray, to free his fellow Ethiopians from a military junta that hijacked the student revolution of 1974; and

Whereas, as a leader of his party he was elected to three terms as prime minister where he began his unfaltering quest for democracy, economic growth, regional peace & stability; and

Whereas, after being the leader of a rebel group, he became a statesman & a visionary, quickly becoming one of the strongest voices of Africa on the world stage; and

Whereas, he was so determined to lift Ethiopia out of poverty that the youth of Ethiopia are determined to carry the torch forward and lift their country out of economic hardship; and

Whereas, Ethiopians in Portland have honored his passing with a celebration of his life under the theme "it is not how long or well you lived that counts, it is how & what you contributed";

Now, therefore, I, Sam Adams, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "City of Roses," do hereby proclaim September 2, 2012 to be a day of remembrance for

Prime Minister Meles Zenawi

in Portland, and encourage all residents to observe this day.

