

My Two Cent's Worth

By: Joseph Andalina

Want to be a mayor?

By the end of the year there will be close to 1,000 candidates for Mayor in Chicago. Among the notables are that Taxwinkle lady, the Irish guy whose brother and papa were once The Boss, maybe Chuy, the Irish cop, the current comptroller, ex-school official, some alderman types, some nobodies, and of course that nice African American man handing out hundreds and thousands of dollars to poor people. I'd vote for him. At least we know he probably won't be on the take, a thief, or crooked.

But maybe I'll just vote for Pedro.

You would think that with all the strife, the murders, the pension issues, the murders, the corruption, the murders, the violence-plagued hoods, the murders, the pissed off cops, the murders, CPS, the murders, and of course the murders, who the heck would want this job?

Apparently a lot of power-hungry egotistical folks who forever feed off the public trough, that's who.

Many of us do not have a good opinion of most mayors. There are a few reasons, like threatening behavior to employees, especially during contract bargaining. Union busting tactics are common. So is throwing cops under the bus when there is political strife. Some have their hands out for freebies, some like to imbibe, bringing elements of disgrace to their office. They build up massive campaign funds, putting the squeeze on sycophants and businesses.

One exception, however, was the late mayor of Naperville, who as a cheerleader of his city worked for less, did not amass a huge campaign fund, and was a kind, religious man as his tributes alluded to.

Another mayor south of Naperville has a much different style of governing.

Most fall somewhere in between these descriptions, but I have yet to see the loyalty to their employees, especially police officers.

But what do I know? Maybe there are more than a few who are not *bugiardi*" as we say in Italian (liars). Maybe there are some that are not *vigliacco* (yellow bellied) or even *ubriaco* (drunk).

But one thing for sure, they do think they are beyond reproach and they run the world. Need proof? Our favorite (kidding) mayor, Rahm, is going to write a book. It will be called *Why Mayors Run the World*. I am not making this up.

Of course he will write how great they are, probably ignoring all kinds of dysfunctions and praising their ability to change a city dramatically. (And not always for the better.) Like having a gross amount of murders and attempted murders.

Yes, they are the best because Rahm is going to say so. Do your own research and see. But is there something noble to have such a variety of characters vying for one job to rule the city?

I think quite possibly it's for *per un pugno di dollari*, except for the guy who actually hands out **his** money. He doesn't need it.

Vita é bella.