

RESOLUTION No. 15-364

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama are apprised that Mr. Gary T. Whitley, Jr. will receive the Alumnus of the Year Award, presented by the Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter of the Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc., on this Saturday, June 6, 2015, held at the Ernest L. Knight Reception Center on the campus of Alabama A&M University; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Gary T. Whitley, Jr. is a native of Detroit, Michigan. He attended Alabama A&M University on a music scholarship. During his matriculation at Alabama A&M University, he was actively involved in several extra-curricular activities. Some of them included: University Choir, Pi Sigma Alpha-The National Political Science Honor Society, University's Honor Center, and the Pre-Law Association. He graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and English. Also, he pursued further study at Alabama A&M University and earned a Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree; and,

WHEREAS, following graduation from Alabama A&M University, he has held the following positions: intern and special assistant to the president and CEO, Leadership Huntsville-Madison County, Inc.; special assistant to the athletics director, Alabama A&M University; special assistant to the 1890 administrator and associate director, Alabama A&M University; executive assistant and career development program specialist, U.S. Army TMDE Activity; and the executive assistant to the command sergeant major and the office of the commanding general; U.S. Army Materiel Command. Currently, he is the Public and Government Affairs Liaison at Huntsville Utilities where he is responsible for monitoring and disseminating information regarding local and community issues and affairs and their impact on the Utilities' policy, development, legal, and regulatory, compliance. Also, he serves as an adjunct instructor for college orientation and English tutor at J.F. Drake State Community and Technical College, and editorial assistant and writer for the Valley Weekly Newspaper; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Whitley is an active volunteer in the community. He donates his time to Manna House of Huntsville which is an organization that provides basic life needs kits to individuals in the Huntsville community. Mr. Whitley works with this program under the auspices of his fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha. Having a strong passion for music, he finds time to go to the Veteran's Home of Huntsville each month to sing songs to war veterans alongside his music fraternity brothers of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America, Inc. Some of his other professional, civic, and community involvement include: Leadership Alabama, Alabama Leadership Initiative, Class of 2013; Leadership Huntsville-Madison County, Inc., Connect Class 8, 2008; board of director, The Arts Council; Commissioner, City of Huntsville Planning Commission; member, Madison County Alabama, Juvenile Justice Conference Committee; member, Hampton Cove Panel; board of director, Rosetta James Foundation, Inc.; member, Office of the Mayor, City of Huntsville, Young Professional Advisory Council; member, Delta Theta Lambda Chapter, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; Vice President/President Elect, Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter, Inc. and member, Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc.; and,

WHEREAS, as a young professional, he has received several awards and honors. In 2006, he was recognized by the Alabama A&M University Board of Trustees for his outstanding

commitment to higher education; he met with both Alabama U.S. Senators and former Alabama U.S. Congressman Bud Cramer in Washington, DC to discuss the increased need for continued funding for Alabama A&M University and other Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, gratefully acknowledge, congratulate, and extend best wishes to Mr. Gary T. Whitley, Jr. on receiving the Alumnus of the year Award. May you have continued success in all future endeavors.

ADOPTED this the 28th day of May, 2015.

**President of the City Council
of the City of Huntsville, Alabama**

APPROVED this the 28th day of May, 2015.

**Mayor of the City of
Huntsville, Alabama**