

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-559**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, are apprised that The William Hooper Councill Alumni Association, Inc. will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the closing of William Hooper Councill High School during the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Legacy Gala to be held at the Huntsville Marriott on Saturday, August 13, 2016; and,

**WHEREAS**, 2016 marks the 50th Anniversary of the closing of The Historic William Hooper Councill High School in Huntsville, Alabama; and,

**WHEREAS**, it has been called the City School, Councill High School, and William Hooper Councill High School; and,

**WHEREAS**, the school was named for the founder of Alabama A&M University, William Hooper Councill, who was born of slave parents in Fayette, North Carolina. Councill High School, the first public school for Black people of Huntsville, Alabama, opened in the basement of the Lakeside Methodist Episcopal Church, then relocated to North Jefferson Street. The permanent and present location was established on 620 St. Clair Avenue; and,

**WHEREAS**, H. G. Fields served as Principal from 1953 until 1969. Adam Kellam was the Football Coach at William Hooper Councill High School from 1946-1965. His last football team in 1965 had a 9-0 season record. Coach Kellam and the entire team were subsequently inducted into the Huntsville Athletic Booster Club Hall of Fame; and,

**WHEREAS**, Dorothy Langford Turner taught English with the highest standards at Councill High School for over two decades. She then went on to teach at Alabama A&M University; and,

**WHEREAS**, former students, Shirley Bush Parker, Katherine Madry Stewart and others, saw fit to preserve William Hooper Councill High School and went on to establish the William Hooper Councill Alumni Association in 1994; and,

**WHEREAS**, William Hooper Councill High School in Huntsville, Alabama was listed as a Historic Site in 1993. The alumni, their families and friends have reunited to pay tribute to raise funds for the long and distinguished legacy of Councill High School and the preservation of the Historic School site by "rising to honor Councill" on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the school's closing.

**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 the William Hooper Councill Alumni Association, Inc. on the celebration of the

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William Hooper Councill 50<sup>th</sup> Legacy Anniversary. May you have continues success in all future endeavors.

**ADOPTED** this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016.

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

**APPROVED** this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016.

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Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama