

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-33**

**A RESOLUTION OF RESPECT AND APPRECIATION FOR  
COUNTY COMMISSIONER MIKE HAWKINS**

**WHEREAS**, Mike Hawkins has served Transylvania County and its citizens for 12 years as a County Commissioner, including eight years as chair; and

**WHEREAS**, as a Commissioner, Mike represented the Board of Commissioners by serving on various boards and committees, including the Brevard/Transylvania Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Land-of-Sky Regional Council Board member and chair, Land-of-Sky Rural Planning Organization, French Broad Water Resources Study Committee, Gorges State Park Advisory Committee, and Transylvania County Tourism Development Authority; and at the State level he served on the Executive Boards of the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina and the North Carolina Travel and Tourism Board, co-chaired the North Carolina Small Business Task Force, and served on the North Carolina Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice; and

**WHEREAS**, Mike promoted economic development efforts in the community by seeking designation as a Certified Entrepreneurial Community to make it possible for new and existing businesses to grow and survive; an economic development visioning process that led to the creation of the Transylvania Economic Alliance; signed onto the ACT Work Ready Communities initiative that connects employers and job seekers, and that markets Transylvania County as a good fit for potential employers; made investments to improve infrastructure, business incentives for job growth and capital investment, as well as embarked upon a significant partnership with various agencies to construct the Sylvan Valley Industrial Center to attract future employers and to retain an existing manufacturer, thereby allowing the County to reinvest in itself and future projects; and

**WHEREAS**, Mike embraced considerable investments in parks and recreation amenities - Conestee Falls Park, Rosman Community Park, Champion Park and Pool, Silvermont Mansion and Park, the Transylvania County Activity Center, the purchase of property on Gallimore Road formerly owned by Brevard College for a potential community park, accessible playground at Silvermont, Rosman youth summer camps, Jameson's Joy fitness park and pickleball courts; and adopted the Parks and Recreation Master Plan to guide future plans; and

**WHEREAS**, Mike endorsed efforts to protect our natural resources by approving annual allocations to remove log jams in the French Broad River to prevent streambank erosion and protect the public recreating and traveling on our waterways; strengthening the Farmland Protection Ordinance; creation of the Hemlock Restoration Program; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, Mike was honored as the recipient of the Duke Energy Citizenship Award which recognizes the efforts of a person who demonstrates outstanding volunteerism and community service; in 2018 he received the Shephard Award for WNC's Most Outstanding Elected Official; and in 2019, the NC Rural Advocate of the Year Award; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Brevard, North Carolina, express to you, Mike Hawkins, on behalf of our citizens and officials, our respect, appreciation and gratitude for your unselfish, devoted and invaluable service and contributions rendered to the citizens of Transylvania County and the City of Brevard.

Adopted and approved this the 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2020.

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Jimmy Harris, Mayor

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Mac Morrow, Mayor Pro Tem

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Maureen Copelof, Council Member

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Maurice Jones, Council Member

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Gary Daniel, Council Member

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Geraldine Dinkins, Council Member

ATTEST:

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James R. Fatland, City Manager

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Jill Murray, City Clerk

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Michael K. Pratt, City Attorney

