



## **RESOLUTION OF RESPECT HONORING MAYOR GERALD H. THOMPSON**

**August 14, 2018  
RESOLUTION 18-12**

WHEREAS, the City of Fitzgerald, Georgia and the nation has lost a valued member and leader on August 5, 2018, with the passing of Mayor Gerald H. Thompson;

WHEREAS, the City of Fitzgerald has lost one of the nation's highest tenured Mayors in that his service career was beyond four decades with forty-six years of elected service, forty-four of which he held the Chief Elected Official capacity as Mayor with continuous service;

WHEREAS, Mayor Thompson's career is highlighted with testaments of local accomplishments such as building a railroad underpass to give emergency vehicles access to all of Fitzgerald; working with a dead-locked Council to accept federal funding to build a new integrated high school; approving a plan to became a keystone to one of the most peaceful school integrations in the South; expanding Council to include its first African-American councilman; making Council a policy making body; and recruiting community support for economic development leveraging private dollars with local government funding recruiting more than 50 manufacturers and businesses;

WHEREAS, Mayor Thompson's "lending of self" resulted in him being tapped to serve on over 20 regional and statewide boards and commissions and served the administrations of 6 Georgia Governors; He served as President and longtime Executive Board Member of the Georgia Municipal Association, being inducted into their Hall of Fame and being given their Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012; He also served the boards of the State Crime Commission, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority and the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia;

WHEREAS, Mayor Thompson was awarded many honors both local and statewide; He was a former Elk and Shriner, a member of the Fitzgerald Rotary Club, and a 50-year member of Pine level Lodge #190 F.&A.M.; His longtime goal was a better way of life and economic opportunities for the citizens of Fitzgerald, Ben Hill County, and all of Georgia.

WHEREAS the community of public service has lost a strong, forward-thinking leader and generous and knowledgeable leader;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City of Hampton, its Mayor and City Council, its administration and staff, and its citizens recognizes the significant contributions of Mayor Gerald H. Thompson over the course of his distinguished career and pauses with the City of Fitzgerald and beyond to mourn his death and celebrate his legacy.

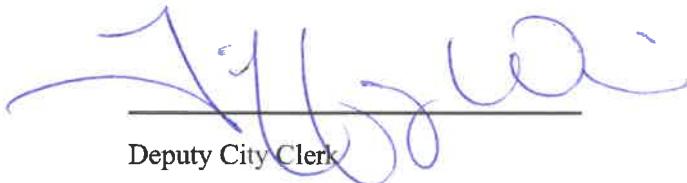
**SO RESOLVED** this 14 day of August, 2018.

CITY OF HAMPTON, GEORGIA:



STEVE HUTCHISON, Mayor

ATTEST:



Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



L'ERIN BARNES WIGGINS, City Attorney