

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION TO NAME THE BOARDROOM OF CITY HALL  
THE MONTGOMERY – WATTERSON BOARDROOM

WHEREAS, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen conducts its business in the boardroom located on the third floor of City Hall; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and appropriate that such a public space dedicated to the transaction of the affairs of the City be named in honor of individuals who served with distinction and endeavored to improve the City and thereby the peace, comfort, and joy of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Ruth C. Montgomery and Vice-Mayor Richard H. Watterson are two such individuals; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Ruth C. Montgomery served as Mayor of the City of Kingsport taking office on July 5, 1995 and serving until the end of her second term in July, 1999; prior to which, Montgomery served in both houses of the General Assembly as well as on the County Court; and

WHEREAS, prior to holding elected office, Mayor Montgomery served the City as a teacher for Kingsport City Schools where she taught business subjects at Dobyons-Bennett High School; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure as Mayor, Montgomery worked diligently to increase the city's fund balance and was successful in doing so as well as achieving other accomplishments for the benefit of the City; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to her community, Montgomery was past president of Kingsport Tomorrow, active in the Rotary Club of Kingsport and the Kingsport Garden Club; and

WHEREAS, throughout her life, Mayor Montgomery strove to provide a better quality of life for the citizens of both Kingsport and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Vice-Mayor Richard Watterson took office on September 4th, 1973 and served until 1997, being the first African-American elected to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen; and

WHEREAS, Watterson's 24 year tenure makes him the longest serving alderman in the City's history, during which he served as vice-mayor from 1981 to 1995; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Douglas High School, Watterson not only served his City but his country as well serving in the United States Navy from 1943 to 1950; and

WHEREAS, A tireless champion for his city and fellow citizens Watterson served on the Board of Directors of the Kingsport Boy's Club, first chairman of the Riverview Branch Boy's Club, president of the Esquire Club, and was a member of the Kiwanis Club and Optimist Club; and

WHEREAS, the City experienced doubtless advancements and improvements as a result of Vice-Mayor Watterson's talents and unwavering dedication.

Now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. That the board hereby names the boardroom located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of City Hall as the Montgomery – Watterson Boardroom.

SECTION II. That the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to acquire and install signage which is worthy and appropriate to exhibit the name of the Montgomery – Watterson Boardroom.

SECTION II That the board finds that the actions authorized by this resolution are for a public purpose and will promote the health, comfort, and prosperity of the citizens of the city.

SECTION III. That this resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the public welfare requiring it.

ADOPTED this the 18th day of April, 2023.

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PATRICK W. SHULL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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ANGELA MARSHALL, DEPUTY CITY RECORDER

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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RODNEY B. ROWLETT, III, CITY ATTORNEY