

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF IRVINGTON, NJ

MC16-0322-18

No. _____

Date of Adoption MARCH 22, 2016

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY ON THE BASIS OF FACTS SET FORTH BY

FREDERIC

INMAN

PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER

SECONDED BY

RESOLUTION OF COMMEMORATION
REVEREND HOMER WILLIAM RUTHERFORD, JR.
PASTOR OF GREATER NEW POINT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

WHEREAS, the Irvington Municipal Council wishes to acknowledge and commend Reverend Homer William Rutherford, Jr. who has served the Irvington community for decades; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Homer William Rutherford, Jr., originally from Americus, Georgia, until he had to flee for his life, has been a resident of New Jersey for the past 49 years; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Rutherford attended Fort Valley State University before joining the United States Navy. He received his Bachelor degree in Business Administration from Marywood University in Scranton, PA and pursued graduate studies in Divinity at Drew Theological Seminary in Madison, NJ; and

WHEREAS, he was ordained to the Gospel Ministry on November 14, 1974 and has served as Pastor of Greater New Point Missionary Baptist Church in Irvington for the past 35 years. He is the past Moderator of Christian Fellowship Missionary Baptist Association of NJ and is currently Moderator Emeritus and serves as Chairman of the Permanent Council. He is Acting Chairman of the Board of Trustees and an adjunct professor at the Northern Baptist School of Religion in Newark, NJ; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Rutherford is one of the pioneer members and served as President of the Irvington Unit of the NAACP for more than 18 years and in that capacity, challenged Irvington Township on its affirmative action policies and was successful in championing the first Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain and Chief of Police for the Irvington Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Rutherford, a staunch civil rights advocate, challenged both the Irvington and Hillside Police Departments on police brutality. He was instrumental in getting the first African-American Superintendent of Schools for the Irvington School District and administered the first tutorial program at Irvington School, which included SAT test-taking skills; and

WHEREAS, he took a stand against Apartheid in South Africa and the imprisonment of Nelson Mandela when he joined others in protest by holding a sit-in at the Federal Building in Newark; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Rutherford served as Past-President of the New Jersey State Conference of NAACP Units and has rallied across the state fighting for civil rights and against injustice. He has served on numerous Boards throughout the State of New Jersey including the Governor's Disparity Commission on Discrimination in Employment and Contracting, NJEA, CAPE and Interfaith Credit Union; and

WHEREAS, he has received many awards and accolades including being listed in the United States Congressional Record for his volunteerism in civil rights and he has been a shining beacon to the African-American community; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Rutherford has been married to his wife, Marylyn, for 46 years and together they have 3 children, Rev. Homer William, III, Donna and Kimberly; 7 grandchildren, Sonica, Tabitha, McKeal, Andrew Rodgers, Imani, Malia and Amalie Ray Rutherford; and 1 great-grandchild, Taylor Jackson; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF IRVINGTON that the Irvington Municipal Council wishes to commend and congratulate Reverend Homer William Rutherford Jr. and wishes him God's continued blessings and applauds his contributions to the Township and to mankind.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this governing body in lasting tribute to Reverend Homer William Rutherford Jr.

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE

X = Indicates Vote N.V. = No Vote A.B. = Absent

COUNCIL MEMBER	YES	NO	N.V.	A.B.	COUNCIL MEMBER	YES	NO	N.V.	A.B.
BURGESS, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT	X				JONES, 2ND VICEPRESIDENT	X			
COX	X				LYONS				X
HUDLEY	X				FREDERIC, PRESIDENT	X			
INMAN	X								

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL CLERK

DATE MARCH 22, 2016

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution duly adopted by the Municipal Council. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the Corporate Seal of the Township of Irvington.

MUNICIPAL CLERK

DATE MAR 22 2016

ADMINISTRATOR ☐ ASSESSOR ☐ BLDG ☐ CFO ☐ COLLECTOR ☐ COURT ☐ ENGINEER ☐ FIRE ☐ HEALTH ☐ HOUSING ☐ INIC ☐ JUDGE ☐
LEGAL ☐ LIBR ☐ LICEN ☐ MAYOR ☐ OCPD ☐ PARKS ☐ PAYROLL ☐ PUBLIC SAFETY ☐ DIR ☐ PUBLIC WORKS ☐ PURCHASING ☐ SEC ☐ PB/ZBA ☐
TRAFFIC ☐ ZONING ☐ OFF ☐ DLGS ☐ GNCD ☐ OTHER(S): _____