



**RESOLUTION #21-05**

**A RESOLUTION TO DIRECT THE CITY MANAGER TO CREATE A CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, the Williamsburg City Council desires to understand the impact of racism and racial injustice both historically and presently on residents of the City including the continued impacts of systemic racism, economic and educational disparities, and racial disparities in the criminal justice system on City residents; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council recognizes that such understanding can only begin with dialogue, specifically by hearing the stories of systemic racism, racial inequity, racial injustice, and racial trauma experienced by its citizens of color, and by the City engaging openly, honestly, and publicly with its citizens and bearing witness to their lived experience; and

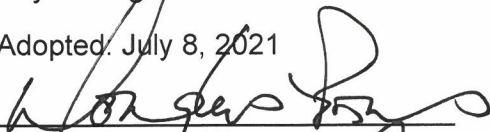
**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to initiate a community dialogue to make said recognition, bear such witness, and gain such understanding, and to further the community's understanding and awareness of systemic racism, racial inequity, and racial injustice, and by doing so, Council desires to address the collective trauma by bringing change and promoting healing within the City of Williamsburg and to further its mission of being a community where all are welcomed and valued; and

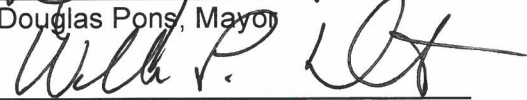
**WHEREAS**, the City Council further desires to understand how the City organization and the historical narratives therein has contributed to systemic racism in its decisions, policies, and practices, recognizing that this understanding is essential to enable the City to correct such policies or procedures to the extent that they fail to promote equity among the City's citizens or contribute to systemic racism, racial inequity or racial injustice within the City; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council recognizes that it is not an appropriate facilitator of such a community dialogue and, to that end, desires to create a Truth and Reconciliation Committee to facilitate this vital work and present their findings to City Council for further action.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Williamsburg City Council hereby directs the City Manager to establish a Truth and Reconciliation Committee to facilitate these ends.

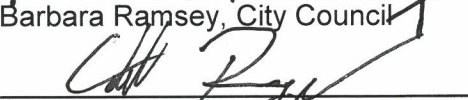
Adopted: July 8, 2021

  
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Douglas Pons, Mayor

  
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Pat Dent, Vice Mayor

  
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Ted Maslin, City Council

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Ramsey, City Council

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Caleb Rogers, City Council

  
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Sandi L. Filicko, Clerk of Council