



Huntsville, Alabama

305 Fountain Circle
Huntsville, AL 35801

Cover Memo

Meeting Type: City Council Regular Meeting **Meeting Date:** 1/22/2026

File ID: TMP-6482

Department: City Council

Subject:

Type of Action: Approval/Action

Resolution recognizing Bud McLaughlin for his impressive career in journalism, marked by his service across multiple news outlets in the City of Huntsville.

Resolution No.

Finance Information:

Account Number: N/A

City Cost Amount: N/A

Total Cost: N/A

Special Circumstances:

Grant Funded: N/A

Grant Title - CFDA or granting Agency: N/A

Resolution #: N/A

Location: (list below)

Address: N/A

District: District 1 District 2 District 3 District 4 District 5

Additional Comments: N/A

RESOLUTION 26-

WHEREAS, the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, wish to recognize and honor Bud McLaughlin for his extensive and impactful career in journalism, marked by his service across multiple news outlets in the City of Huntsville and his enduring commitment to providing timely information to the community; and

WHEREAS, Bud is originally from the state of New Jersey, and later came to Alabama to attend Auburn University, where he earned a degree in journalism in 1978, laying the foundation for a lifetime of professional excellence in the field; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation, Bud returned to New Jersey and began his professional career as a sportswriter at his hometown newspaper from 1978 to 1979, before relocating to Huntsville, Alabama, where he accepted a position as Sports Editor with *Huntsville News*, serving in that role from 1979 to 1996; and

WHEREAS, from 1996 to 2012, Bud continued his journalistic service to the Huntsville community with *The Huntsville Times*, where he held key leadership roles including Night City Editor and Business Editor; and

WHEREAS, following those sixteen years with *The Huntsville Times*, Bud further contributed to the region by serving as Sports Information Director at Alabama A&M University from 2014 to 2017, where he helped elevate the university's athletic communications and strengthened connections between the institution and the broader community; and

WHEREAS, Bud then went on to serve as Editor of the *Huntsville Business Journal* from 2018 to 2021, an outlet dedicated to reporting on business and economic news across North Alabama, where he played a critical role in overseeing content and ensuring the publication consistently met the highest professional standards; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, Bud spent some time as a staff writer with the *Redstone Rocket*, a weekly newspaper, published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal that covers local events, community service initiatives, and military-related news; and

WHEREAS, from 2022 to 2025, Bud McLaughlin concluded his remarkable career as Editor of *256 Today* before retiring after more than four decades of dedicated service to Huntsville-area media, leaving behind a legacy of upstanding leadership and community-focused journalism; and

WHEREAS, beyond his impressive professional accomplishments, Bud is devoted to his family and is married to Marianne Higgins, is the proud father of three sons, Lance, Shane, and Bo, and is a joyful grandfather to six grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Bud also has a lifelong love of sports, having played hockey at the University of Alabama in Huntsville and being a member of the 1982 national champion club

team. His current pastimes include playing baseball in the local Roy Hobbs 60-over league and going to concerts and sporting events; and

WHEREAS, as he enters retirement, Bud looks forward to spending more time doing the things he loves without deadlines while remaining a valued and respected member of the Huntsville community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville hereby recognize and commend Bud McLaughlin for his many years of outstanding service to our city through his esteemed and impactful career in journalism, and extend their sincere appreciation and best wishes for a long, happy, and well-deserved retirement.

ADOPTED this the day of , 2026.

President of the City Council of
the City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED this the day of , 2026.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville,
Alabama