



CITY OF MONROE

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PROCLAMATION CREATING HOMELESS AND ADDICTION COMMITTEE P-2024-03

WHEREAS, poverty and homelessness continue to be a source of concern in the City of Monroe which needs to be addressed in a humane and caring way; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous programs, both public and private, in Union County and in the City of Monroe providing outstanding services to our growing homeless population; and

WHEREAS, even with the assistance available, the City of Monroe's residents are concerned about vagrants, panhandling, and solicitation especially in the Downtown area in and among local businesses and patrons; and

WHEREAS, chronic drug addiction is contributing to the perceived rise in vagrancy and begging within the City; and

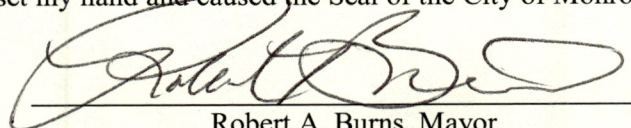
WHEREAS, even with the assistance offered, there are believed to be a number of homeless camps in the City, and the population appears to be growing, and

WHEREAS, as Mayor of the City of Monroe, it is my desire to form a multidisciplinary committee involving governmental agencies, nonprofit agencies involved in providing services to the homeless and addicted, local ministries, and the business community to investigate and make recommendations to the Monroe City Council on how to address homelessness and poverty in the City of Monroe.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert A. Burns, by the virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor and pursuant to §32.300 of the Monroe Code of Ordinances do hereby create and establish the Homeless and Addiction Committee as a Mayoral Committee of the City of Monroe. The purpose of the Committee is to investigate the status and impact of homelessness on the residents of the City and make recommendations to the Monroe City Council regarding services needed, coordination of public and private assistance to the homeless, the role of drug and alcohol addiction in homelessness, the City of Monroe's role in providing assistance, how to address the perceived increase in vagrancy and panhandling in the downtown area, how to address homeless camps in the City, and any other matters the Committee deems relevant. The Committee shall have up to twelve (12) months in which to conduct its business and make a final report with recommendations to City Council.

The Homeless and Addiction Committee shall be composed of one (1) sitting City Council member who shall also serve as Chair and voting member of the Committee. In addition, there shall be up to four (4) non-Council members representing various governmental agencies, non-profit agencies providing services, faith ministries, and the business community, each of which to be appointed as required by Ordinance. The Committee shall be considered a public body and subject to all rules and regulations contained in the North Carolina Open Meetings Law (G.S. 143318.10 et seq.).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Monroe to be affixed this the 31st day of January, 2024.



Robert A. Burns, Mayor

