

**RESOLUTION 20-205**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROVE LEGISLATION TO ALLOW STATE ACQUISITION OF MARTIN METHODIST COLLEGE, ESTABLISHING A FOURTH UNDERGRADUATE CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SYSTEM**

**WHEREAS**, Maury County is located in Southern Middle Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no public university between Memphis to the west, Chattanooga to the east, and Murfreesboro to the north; and

**WHEREAS**, four Alabama public universities reside across the southern border in closer proximity to most citizens of southern Middle Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, it is reported that 4,500 Tennessee students are attending Alabama Universities; and

**WHEREAS**, when students leave southern Middle Tennessee to attend a college or university, they are not likely to return to their communities where their professional skills are desperately needed; and

**WHEREAS**, Martin Methodist College has been filling the gap for more than 150 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the College is in a relative position of strength while limited in its capacity to serve the citizens of southern Middle Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, Martin Methodist College is a private college with a public mission; and

**WHEREAS**, the capacity of the University of Tennessee System and the State of Tennessee would be transformative for the College and the citizens of southern Middle Tennessee; and

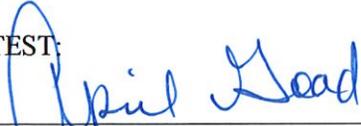
**WHEREAS**, its citizens are tax paying and deserve the same access to affordable public higher education enjoyed by the remainder of the State; and

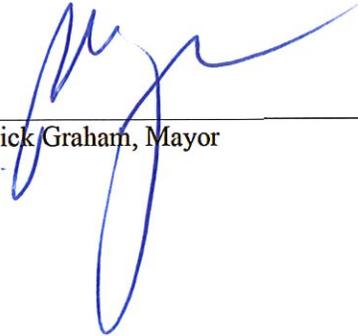
**WHEREAS**, accessible and affordable higher education is critical to the development of our economy and particularly in the rural areas of our State; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Spring Hill Board of Mayor and Aldermen request that the General Assembly approve legislation to allow for the acquisition of Martin Methodist College by the UT System and establish an appropriate allocation in support.

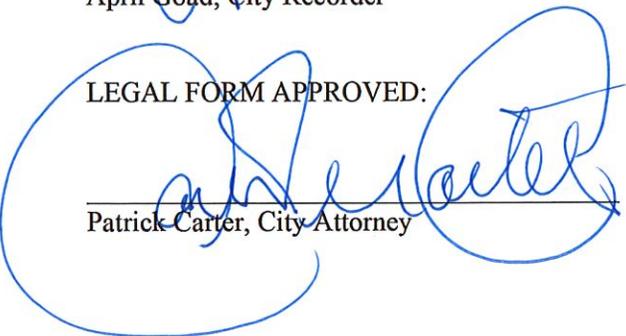
**Passed and adopted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2020.**

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
April Goad, City Recorder

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Graham, Mayor

LEGAL FORM APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick Carter, City Attorney

## April Goad

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**From:** Rick Graham  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 9, 2020 2:47 PM  
**To:** BOMA Group; Victor Lay; April Goad; Patrick Carter; Lori Lozinski  
**Subject:** Martin Methodist Acquisition  
**Attachments:** scan0008.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good day,

Other Maury Mayors and I met with Administrators of Martin Methodist College and University of Tennessee President Randy Boyd today. You might have read in the media that MMC is being possibly acquired by the University of Tennessee system. Both parties are very favorable to this move, and this afternoon both boards are meeting separately to approve it. Then, it will proceed to several other approval steps.

When all approved as anticipated in early 2021, the UT system assumes the campus (26M assets) in July 2021, and start enrolling students in August 2021. The name of the school is yet to be determined but I hear unofficially it will probably be something like UT Southern. They have asked for Maury County municipalities to support their action with a resolution, which I believe Columbia will do this evening, and Mt. Pleasant next week.

Ms. April please put the attached language into a resolution for us for our regular meeting on the 21st. Aldermen, if you have any questions after your research, please contact me. I will share that the campus will receive 4.7M annual funding which will drop the student tuition by 60%!! That will encourage many Tennessee high school student graduates to stay in Tennessee for their education. We have a lot of southern county graduates go to college in north Alabama at in-state tuition rates. Plus, the campus is rumored to provide nursing and teaching educations that will hugely benefit our region! When a lot of students go out of State for their educations, they sometimes do not return to their home to work/live.

I see this as a win in multiple levels.

Make a great day,

### ***Rick Graham***

Mayor, City of Spring Hill, Tennessee  
Cell: 615.479.1942 Email: rgraham@springhilltn.org Website: Springhilltn.org  
***Want to know more about our road projects? Watch the 2019 State of the City***  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TYoNruG\\_a4q&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TYoNruG_a4q&feature=youtu.be)

***"It'll Be Worth It***