Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Women of Woodside, Inc. (W.O.W.), the women's organization of Woodside was founded in 1988; and

WHEREAS, the Women of Woodside Charitable Foundation was established in 2021 and is dedicated to the well-being of the Aiken community and its fellow members and is recognized by the state of South Carolina as a not-for-profit organization as a 501(c)3; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the foundation is to "Pledge our resources to organizations that create life-changing opportunities for the residents of Aiken County, SC." Since its inception the Women of Woodside and the Foundation have contributed nearly $2 million dollars to the Aiken area and assists in supporting many charitable agencies and organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Inaugural Women of Woodside Spelling Bee is to be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Spelling Bee was established involving members of WOW to compete as spellers, to raise money for the charity of choice, and to have fun! Spellers were asked to raise a minimum of $1,500 to participate, and then they received a lifeline to assist in their spelling efforts; and
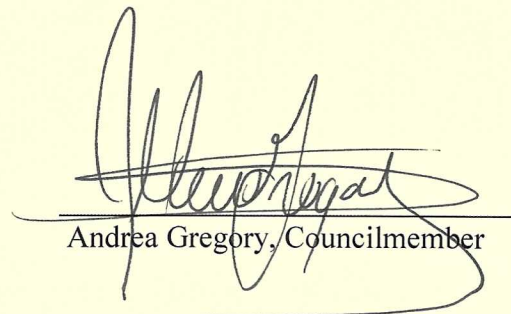
WHEREAS, the Women of Woodside's efforts have raised over $17,000 in support of CanHope, Child Advocacy Center-Aiken County, Equine Rescue, The Sky is the Limit Foundation, and the Women of Woodside Charitable Foundation, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, through camaraderie, fun activities, fellowship, creativity and neighborly actions WOW repeatedly comes together and significantly contributes to our most impactful charities and various other needs throughout the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF AIKEN does hereby recognize and honor the Women of Woodside for their service to the local community through fundraising and charitable giving to various organizations in the Aiken community.

DONE this 27th day of April, 2022.

Andrea Gregory, Councilmember