

RESOLUTION NO. 07-14-2020

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, TEXAS
DETERMINING THE STATUS OF THE CONFEDERATE
MONUMENT IN LEONARD PARK**

WHEREAS, a Confederate monument was placed in Leonard Park in 1908 by the Lou Dougherty Chapter No. 366 Daughters of the Confederacy; and

WHEREAS, in the past two months people have requested that the monument be removed because of its racists connotations; and

WHEREAS, in the past two months people have requested that the monument remain because it is part of the history and culture of the city; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville, Cooke County, and Gainesville ISD have established a committee to look at race relations in the area; and

WHEREAS, the committee's first topic of discussion was the Confederate monuments in the area; and

WHEREAS, this committee did agree that the monument does have historical value, but the symbolism of having the monument at a government facility reflects that the government supports the ideas and political views of the Confederacy; and

WHEREAS, the committee recommended that the statue in Leonard Park should be returned to the United Daughters of the Confederacy, so the group may maintain the monument and the history it represents; and

WHEREAS, the committee recommended that the monument be turned into a Civil War monument that provides the area's unique history during that time if the United Daughters of the Confederacy cannot take possession of the monument; and

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville City Council finds it necessary to make a decision on the status of the Confederate Monument in Leonard Park at this time.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF GAINESVILLE, TEXAS, MEETING IN SPECIAL SESSION ON JULY 14, 2020:**

1. The City Manager is authorized to enter an agreement to return the Confederate Monument that is located at Leonard Park to the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The City Manager is allowed to use funds from the Assigned Fund to pay for removal of the monument from the park and for delivery of the monument to a location that is within a reasonable distance from Gainesville.
2. If an agreement cannot be reached with the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the City Manager shall bring plans to modify the monument to a Civil War Monument or plans to remove the monument, to the City Council within one month of the passage of this resolution for final approval.

3. The City Manager shall make regular reports of the progress on this matter to the City Council.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 14TH DAY OF JULY 2020 BY THE
FOLLOWING VOTES:**

AYES, NAYS, ABSENT, ABSTENTION

JIM GOLDSWORTHY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DIANA ALCALA, CITY SECRETARY