

## Proclamation

## On a motion from **Councilor Joe Dill**

Members of Greenville County Council wish to recognize North Greenville University Head Baseball Coach

## Landon Powell

2022 NCAA Division-II Coach of the Year

WHEREAS, a native of Apex, North Carolina, Landon Powell attended Apex High School where he was considered a five-tool player in leading the Cougars to the 2000 4A State Championship; and

WHEREAS, Landon attended the University of South Carolina, where as starting catcher, he led the Gamecocks to the 2002, 2003 and 2004 College World Series, and finished his career with a batting average of .306 *with 44 home runs, 61 doubles and 193 RBIs*, and earning All-American honors in 2002 and 2004 as well as All-SEC 2004; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2004, Landon was a first-round draft pick (24<sup>th</sup> overall) of the Oakland Athletics, and made his major league debut on April 11, 2009 appearing in 46 games that first season; and

**WHEREAS**, Landon was hired to be North Greenville's head coach in 2015, which is no surprise because Landon's love of baseball stretched beyond that of playing, as he stated, "Even when I was in high school, I thought whenever I'm done playing one day, I want to be a coach"; and

**WHEREAS**, Landon inherited a program that went 8-35 the previous year, but under his skilled guidance, NGU went four consecutive seasons ranking #1 nationally in Division II, won five Conference Carolinas Championships, four regular season conference championships, had five Southeast Regional appearances, and two Southeast Super Regional appearances; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, Landon lead the team to a school best-ever 54-10 record, finished the season with a pitching staff ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the nation in earned-run average, and a lineup that finished 16<sup>th</sup> in the nation in batting average, and won the school's first ever National Championship.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, Greenville County Council honors the tremendous effort and dedication of Landon Powell in leading the North Greenville University Crusaders Baseball Team to a National Championship and being named NCAA 2022 Division II Coach of the Year.

Signed on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022

Willis Meadows, Chairman Greenville County Council

