



# City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

## Office of the City Manager

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Eric D. Campbell  
City Manager

TO: Eric Campbell, City Manager  
FROM: Chris Brown, City Attorney  
DATE: February 26, 2019  
RE: Quitclaim Deed to Gene E. Knicely Trust

**Summary:** Request council authorization for the City Manager to execute a Deed of Quitclaim from the city to the Gene E. Knicely Trust in order to clear up an old title issue.

**Background:** By a deed recorded 1965, Rockingham County conveyed to Gene E. Knicely and Ann H. Knicely a parcel of land which then in the Greendale area of Rockingham County. The deed from Rockingham County apparently was supposed to include a portion of the old Greendale Road which was abandoned when that road was relocated. The property in question was annexed into the City in the 1980's. The Knicelys, who are now Trustees of the Gene E. Knicely Trust, are trying to clear title to the old abandoned road and have requested that the city quitclaim any interest it may have in the abandoned road. I don't believe the City has any interest in the abandoned road but, to the extent the City obtained any interest as a result of annexing the property, it is no longer in use and has been treated as the Knicelys' property for decades now. The Public Works Department has reviewed this and stated that the old abandoned road is no longer part of the road system and will not be used in the future. A Quitclaim Deed merely conveys any interest that the City may have in the abandoned road.

**Key Issues:** Quitclaim any interest the City may have in the abandoned road to the owners who have used it for many years.

**Environmental Impact:** none

**Fiscal Impact:** none

**Prior Actions:** none

**Alternatives:** (a) authorize City Manager to execute a Deed of Quitclaim  
(b); or  
(c) decline to authorize the City Manager to execute a Deed of Quitclaim

**Community Engagement:** none

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends that Council authorize the City Manager to sign the Quitclaim Deed.

**Attachments:** Proposed Quitclaim Deed; Plat

