#### **EXHIBIT C**

### ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

## BY-LAWS OF SIMMONS RIDGE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

#### ARTICLE I MEMBERS

Section 1. Identity.

- (a) These are the Bylaws of SIMMONS RIDGE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC. (the "Association"), a not for profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of the Tennessee Nonprofit Corporation Act.
- (b) The Association has been organized for the purpose of serving as the property owners' association for the residential development known as SIMMONS RIDGE, in accordance with the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions for Simmons Ridge dated June 29, 2016, and filed of record in the Register's Office for Williamson County, Tennessee (as the same may be modified, amended or restated, the "Declaration"). All capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in the Declaration.
- Section 2. Members. Every Owner shall be deemed to have a membership in the Association. "Owner" shall mean and refer to the Person or entity, including Declarant, who holds the record title to any Unit which is part of the Property, but excluding in all cases any party holding an interest merely as security for the performance of an obligation. If a Unit is sold under a recorded contract of sale and the contract specifically so provides, then the purchaser (rather than the fee owner) will be the Owner. For purposes of these Bylaws, "Member" shall mean the individual Owner or, if there are multiple persons or entities who are Owners of a Unit, the representative of such Owners.
- Section 3. <u>Succession</u>. The membership of each Member shall terminate when such Member ceases to be an Owner, and upon the sale, transfer or other disposition of such Member's ownership interest in a Unit, membership in the Association shall automatically be transferred to the new Owner succeeding to such ownership interest.
- Section 4. <u>Regular Meetings</u>. The first regular annual meeting of Members (the "First Meeting"), subject to the terms hereof, shall be held on a date to be established by Declarant in the calendar year following the year in which the first Unit has been sold. Subsequent to the First Meeting, there shall be a regular annual meeting of Members within fifteen (15) days before or after each anniversary of the First Meeting. All such meetings of Members shall be held at a

location in Williamson County, Tennessee, and at such time as specified in the written notice of such meeting which shall be sent to all Members at least ten (10) days prior to the date of such meeting.

Section 5. Special Meetings. Special meetings of all Members may be called by the President or by a majority of the Members of the Board, or by Members having at least fifteen percent (15%) of the votes entitled to be cast at such meeting. Said special meetings shall be called by sending written notice to all Members not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of said meeting, stating the date, time and place of said special meeting and the matters to be considered.

Voting. No Owner, whether one (1) or more Persons, shall have more than Section 6. one (1) membership vote per Unit owned, except that the Declarant shall have ten (10) votes for each Lot owned by Declarant, whether such Lot has been platted or is set forth on a Concept or Development Plan, as the same may be amended from time to time, of the Development. In the event the Owner of a Unit is more than one (1) Person, votes and rights of use and enjoyment shall be as provided herein. A Member or the Member's spouse, subject to the provisions of the Declaration and the Bylaws, may exercise the rights and privileges of membership. The membership rights of a Unit owned by a corporation or partnership shall be exercised by the individual designated by the Owner in a written instrument provided to the Secretary, subject to the provisions of the Declaration and the Bylaws. In any situation in which more than one (1) Person holds the interest in a Unit required for membership, the vote for such Unit shall be exercised as those Persons determine among themselves and advise the Secretary of the Association in writing prior to any meeting. In the absence of such advice, the Unit's vote shall be suspended if more than one (1) Person seeks to exercise it. Voting by proxy is allowed on any matter.

Section 7. Quorum. Except as otherwise expressly provided in the Declaration or these Bylaws, a quorum of Members for any meeting shall be constituted by Members represented in person or by proxy and holding at least ten percent (10%) of the votes entitled to be cast at such meeting.

Notice, Voting and Attendance by Electronic Means. Any notice to the Section 8. Members required to be sent or given by the Bylaws shall be deemed to have been sent if such notice is in writing and is delivered to each Member by hand delivery, overnight courier or other form of wire or wireless communication, or if sent by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid or by e-mail, to the address provided in writing from time to time by such Member to the Association. If no address is provided, notice to the address of the Unit owned by such Member shall suffice. Unless limited by applicable law, and notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Directors may establish rules and procedures from time to time that permit notices of meetings and other matters, the delivery of proxies, and voting by electronic means; provided, however, that such rules and procedures shall in each case (a) provide reasonable safeguards to authenticate electronic means of communication; (b) permit a Member to opt out of electronic procedures by an affirmative choice, in which case the foregoing rules for delivery of notices, proxies and voting shall control with regard to such Member; (c) provide that matters on which electronic votes have been cast may not be amended, unless such amendment is also submitted for vote by electronic and other means; and (d) provide that in the event a Member is physically present at a meeting called for the

purpose of voting on an item, the Member may override or withdraw any electronic vote previously cast for the item.

## ARTICLE II BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Section 1. Number, Election and Term of Office. The Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors (the "Board") composed of no less than three (3) and no more than five (5) individuals (the "Directors" and each a "Director") appointed or elected as provided in these Bylaws, except that the Interim Board (as defined below) shall be composed of three (3) individuals. Prior to the First Meeting, the Board shall be an interim board composed of those individuals named in the Charter of this Association (the "Interim Board"). The Interim Board shall have and shall exercise all powers and obligations given to the Board by these Bylaws. At the First Meeting and at each annual meeting thereafter, Directors shall be appointed or elected as follows:
  - (a) Until the earlier of (i) one hundred twenty (120) days after conveyance of one hundred percent (100%) of the Units that may be created in the Development to Unit Owners other than Declarant; or (ii) the date that the Declarant voluntarily relinquishes control of the Association (the "Declarant Control Period"), the Declarant may appoint and remove the officers and members of the Board.
  - (b) Declarant may voluntarily surrender the right to appoint and remove officers and members of the Board before termination of the Declarant Control Period, but in that event the Declarant may require, for the duration of the Declarant Control Period, that specified actions of the Association or Board, as described in a recorded instrument executed by the Declarant, be approved by the Declarant before they become effective.
  - (c) Not later than one hundred twenty (120) days after conveyance of twenty-five percent (25%) of the Units that may be created in the Development to Unit Owners other than Declarant, at least one (1) member of the Board must be elected by Unit Owners other than Declarant.
  - (d) Upon the termination of the Declarant Control Period, the Unit Owners shall elect a Board of Directors of at least three (3) members, at least a majority of whom must be Unit Owners. The Board shall elect the officers. The Board and officers shall take office upon election. At the initial election of Directors by Unit Owners, the terms of such Directors shall be set so that the terms of all Directors do not end on the same year.
  - (e) Notwithstanding any provision of the Declaration or Bylaws to the contrary, the Unit Owners, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all persons present and entitled to vote at any meeting of the Unit Owners at which a quorum is present, may remove any of the Directors with or without cause, other than a member appointed by the Declarant.
- Section 2. <u>Term.</u> Other than a Director appointed by the Declarant, each Director shall be elected by majority vote by the Membership to serve a one year term, except at the initial

election two-year terms may be used in order to have staggered terms of Directors. Voting by proxy is allowed. Any Director so appointed or elected may be appointed or elected to subsequent terms as a Director; provided, however, and other than a Director appointed by the Declarant, that no Director may serve more than four (4) consecutive terms.

- Section 3. <u>Qualification</u>. Except for a Director appointed by the Declarant, if a Director who is a Member shall cease to be a Member during that Director's term, he or she shall thereupon cease to be a Director and the position on the Board shall be deemed vacant.
- Section 4. <u>Vacancies.</u> A vacancy occurring in the Board shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining Directors; except that the Members shall elect a Director whose position has been vacated as the result of a removal by the Members of a sitting Director and any vacancy of a Director appointed by the Declarant shall be filled by another Director appointed by Declarant. Any Director so elected or appointed to fill a vacancy shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- Section 5. Meetings. A regular annual meeting of the Board shall be held not less than ten (10) days following the regular annual meeting of Members. Other meetings of the Board shall be held upon a call by the President or by a majority of the Board, or by request of not less than ten percent (10%) of the Members, on not less than forty-eight (48) hours' notice in writing to each Director, delivered by hand delivery, overnight courier, mail, e-mail, telegram or facsimile transmission or another form of wire or wireless communication. Any Director may waive notice of a meeting, or consent to the holding of a meeting without notice, or consent to any action proposed to be taken by the Board without a meeting. A Director's attendance at a meeting shall constitute his or her waiver of notice of said meeting.
- Section 6. <u>Compensation</u>. Directors shall receive no compensation for their services as Directors, unless expressly provided for in resolutions duly adopted separately by the Members.
  - Section 7. Quorum. Three (3) Directors shall constitute a quorum.
  - Section 8. <u>Powers and Duties</u>. The Board shall have the following powers and duties:
    - (a) to elect and remove the Officers of the Association as hereinafter provided;
  - (b) to administer the affairs of the Association and the Common area, including the purchasing of casualty and liability insurance authorized by the Declaration;
  - (c) to formulate policies for the administration, management and operation of the Common area;
  - (d) to adopt rules and regulations, with written notice thereof to all Owners, governing the administration, management, operation and use of the Common area;

- (e) to provide for the maintenance, repair, and replacement of the Common Area, and other expenses authorized by the Declaration and payments therefor, to approve payment vouchers or to delegate such approval to the Officers;
- (f) to provide for the designation, hiring and removal of employees and other personnel, including accountants and attorneys, and to engage or contract for the services of others, and to make purchases for the maintenance, repair, replacement, administration, management and operation of the Common area and other expenses authorized by the Declaration;
- (g) to appoint committees of the Board and to delegate to such committees the Board's authority to carry out certain duties of the Board;
  - (h) to make architectural and other decisions as provided in the Declaration;
- (i) to determine the fiscal year of the Association and to change said fiscal year from time to time as the Board deems advisable;
- (j) to estimate the amount of the annual budget, operating budget and capital budget and to provide the manner of assessing and collecting from the Members their respective shares of such estimated expenses, as hereinafter provided;
- (k) to exercise any other powers and duties ascribed to the Board or the Association in the Declaration;
- (l) to borrow money on behalf of the Association, to enter into agreements related to such borrowing, and to pledge funds, property or Common Area as security for such indebtedness; and
- (m) unless otherwise provided herein or in the Declaration, to comply with the instructions of a majority of the Members, as expressed in a resolution duly adopted at any annual or special meeting of the Members.

# Section 9. <u>Delegation</u>.

- (a) Nothing in this Article or elsewhere in these Bylaws shall be considered to grant to the Board, the Association or to the Officers of the Association any powers or duties which, by law, have been delegated to the Members.
- (b) The powers of the Board may be delegated to any person or entity or to a managing agent of the Association by written delegation or authority.
- Section 10. <u>Nature of Board Meetings</u>. Members do not have a right to speak or to present matters at any Board meeting; provided, however, that the Board may establish an agenda item consisting of a period for Members to present matters for the Board (an "Open Period"). Matters submitted to the Board during the Open Period shall not be discussed or acted upon by the

Board at that meeting unless the Board by majority vote adds the item to the agenda for the meeting. Members shall have a right to attend Board meetings, subject to capacity and occupancy levels of the meeting venue; provided, however, that the Board shall have the right to close the meeting to the Members if the Board desires to discuss matters involving specific Members, including without limitation enforcement actions; matters potentially involving litigation; or other matters on approval of a majority of the Directors present.

## ARTICLE III OFFICERS

- Section 1. <u>Designation</u>. At each regular annual meeting, the Directors present at said meeting shall elect the following Officers of the Association by a majority vote:
  - (a) a President, who shall be a Director and who shall preside over the meetings of the Board and of the Members, and who shall be the chief executive officer of the Association;
  - (b) a Secretary, who shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board and of the Members, and who shall, in general, perform all the duties incident to the office of Secretary;
  - (c) a Treasurer, who shall be responsible for financial records and books of account and the manner in which such records and books are kept and reported; and
    - (d) such additional Officers as the Board shall see fit to elect.
- Section 2. <u>Powers</u>. The respective Officers shall have the general powers usually vested in such Officers; provided that the Board may delegate any specific powers to any other Officer or impose such limitations or restrictions upon the powers of any Officer as the Board may see fit.
- Section 3. <u>Term of Office</u>. Each Officer shall hold office for the term of one (1) year and until the successor shall have been appointed or elected and qualified.
- Section 4. <u>Vacancies</u>. Vacancies in any office shall be filled by the Board by a majority vote of Board at a regular or special meeting of said Board. Any officer so elected to fill a vacancy shall hold office for the remaining unexpired term. Any Officer may be removed for cause at any time by vote of three-fifths (3/5) of the total Directors at a special meeting thereof. Any officer may resign at any time given written notice to the Board, the President, or the Secretary. Such resignation shall take effect on the date of the receipt of such notice or at any later time specified therein, and unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.
- Section 5. <u>Compensation.</u> The Officers shall receive no compensation for their services as Officers.

### ARTICLE IV ASSESSMENTS

Annual Budget. The Board shall cause to be prepared, at least sixty (60) Section 1. days before the beginning of the fiscal year and thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which the budget shall be presented to the Members, a budget covering the estimated costs of operating the Association during the coming fiscal year (the "Operating Budget"), together with a budget that shall take into account the number and nature of replaceable assets of the Association, the expected life of each asset, and the expected repair or replacement cost of each asset for the coming fiscal year (the "Capital Budget"), said fiscal year to be determined by the Board. The Operating Budget and the Capital Budget shall be collectively referenced as the "Budget." The Operating Budget shall include a capital contribution establishing a reserve fund in accordance with the Capital Budget. The Board shall set the required capital contribution, if any, in an amount sufficient to permit meeting the projected capital needs of the Association as shown on the Capital Budget, with respect both to the amount and timing of Assessments over the period of the Budget. To the extent that the assessments and other cash income collected from the Members during the preceding year shall be more or less than the expenditures for such preceding year, the surplus or deficit, as the case may be, shall also be taken into account in preparing the new Budget.

Section 2. The Board shall cause a copy of the Budget, and the amount of each General Assessment and Special Assessment to be levied against each Unit for the following year, to be delivered to each Member at least ten (10) days prior to each annual meeting. The Board shall set Assessments based on the Operating Budget and the Capital Budget. The Budget shall become effective unless disapproved at the meeting by a majority vote of the total Association membership. In the event the Members disapprove the proposed Budget or the Board fails for any reason to determine the Budget for the succeeding year, then and until such time as a Budget shall have been determined as provided herein, the Budget in effect for the then current year shall continue for the succeeding year(s). Each Owner shall pay the assessment relating to such Owner's Units on or before the first day of each applicable period as established by the Board from time to time. Payments shall be made to the Association or as may be otherwise directed by the Board.

Section 3. Assessments. The Board may impose and collect Assessments as set forth in the Declaration

Section 4. <u>Partial Year or Month</u>. For the first fiscal year and thereafter until the First Board is elected, the annual budget shall be approved by the Interim Board. If such first fiscal year, or any succeeding fiscal year, shall be less than a full year, then the monthly or quarterly or annual assessments for each Member shall be proportionate to the number of months and days in such period covered by such budget.

- Section 5. <u>Annual Report</u>. Within ninety (90) days after the end of each fiscal year covered by an annual budget, or as soon thereafter as shall be practicable, the Board shall cause to be furnished to each Member a statement for such year so ended, showing the receipts and expenditures and such other information as the Board may deem desirable.
- Section 6. <u>Supplemental Budget</u>. In the event that during the course of any year, it shall appear to the Board that the Assessments, determined in accordance with the Budget for such year, are insufficient or inadequate to cover the estimated expenses for the remainder of such year, then the Board shall prepare and approve a supplemental budget covering the estimated deficiency for the remainder of such year, copies of which supplemental budget shall be furnished to each Member, and thereupon a supplemental assessment shall be made to each Member for his/her proportionate share of such supplemental budget.
- Section 7. Records and Statement of Account. The Board shall cause to be kept detailed and accurate records in chronological order of the receipts and expenditures of the Association, specifying and itemizing the Common Expenses incurred. Payment vouchers may be approved in such manner as the Board may determine.

### ARTICLE V AMENDMENTS

During the Declarant Control Period, these Bylaws may be unilaterally amended by the Declarant without the vote or approval of any Member, and thereafter by an affirmative vote of at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the Members, subject to the limitations on amendments without the consent of the Mortgagees or Declarant under the Declaration. Any amendment shall not become effective until recorded in the Register's Office of Williamson County, Tennessee.

## ARTICLE VI DEFINITIONS AND CONFLICTS

Words and phrases not specifically defined in these Bylaws shall have the meaning ascribed to such words and phrases in and by the Declaration. Additionally, in the event there shall exist any conflict between the words, phrases, terms, conditions and provisions set forth in these Bylaws, or should a contradiction or ambiguity exist or arise between the words, phrases, terms, conditions and provisions set forth in these Bylaws, and those set forth in the Declaration, the words, phrases, terms, conditions and provisions set forth in the Declaration shall control and govern.