RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM TO LEASE PARK LAND TO SUPPORT A NEW DOWNTOWN AMPHITHEATER

WHEREAS, an ownership group has approached City management about the potential lease of City-owned park land in the downtown area to support a proposed amphitheater within the vacant lot bound by Fifth, Sixth, Marshall, and Spruce Streets between the Benton Convention Center and First Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, the park land starts on Sixth Street and runs north on Marshall Street, as noted on the attached maps; and

WHEREAS, the requested area, which encompasses approximately one acre, is needed for staging back-of-the-house functions to include dressing rooms, restrooms, and other production requirements. The parcels being requested include: 6835-18-0014, 6835-18-0054, 6835-18-0120, 6835-18-0106, 6835-18-9264, 6835-18-0214, and a portion of 6835-08-9447 (Numbers 10 and 11); and

WHEREAS, the proposed 5,000-seat amphitheater would be located between Fifth and Sixth Streets to the south and north and Marshall and Spruce Streets to the east and west; and

WHEREAS, the ownership group and the president/general manager for this project have been working with City Transportation, Police, and Fire officials on a draft plan to close certain downtown streets during events; and

WHEREAS, the ownership group has proposed a five-year lease, with the opportunity for a two-year extension, at an annual rate of \$12; and

WHEREAS, as part of a lease agreement, the ownership group would be responsible for the following, including the cost: temporary structures for the back-of-house staging area, landscaping, fencing of the combined parcels, and maintenance of the combined parcels.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem hereby authorize the negotiation of a five-year lease agreement, with the opportunity for a two-year extension, with the amphitheater ownership group for the park land parcels identified in this resolution and on the attached map at an annual rate of \$12.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager and City Clerk are authorized to execute the lease agreement, with the City Attorney approving as to form and legality.