

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REALLOCATING \$1 MILLION OF PROPOSED FY 20-21 POLICE APPROPRIATIONS FOR AN ANTI-POVERTY INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem have heard from many in the community about the need for social justice; and

WHEREAS, the City of Winston-Salem is continually looking at programs that can reduce poverty and improve the condition of all residents; and

WHEREAS, an analysis of current vacancies in the Police Department indicates that with projected recruitment and training, the department will still have more than thirty vacancies in 2021; and

WHEREAS, a one-year freeze of fifteen vacant police officer positions will enable the investment in a \$1 million anti-poverty initiative; and

WHEREAS, this anti-poverty initiative would fund increases in the SOAR program (\$190,000), increases in the summer youth employment program (\$160,000), a raise to \$14 an hour minimum wage for City workers (\$330,000), and emergency rent/eviction assistance (\$320,000).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem, upon recommendation of the Public Safety Committee, approve the reallocation of \$1 million in proposed Police Department FY 20-21 appropriations for the funding of an anti-poverty initiative that includes increases in the SOAR program, increases in the summer youth employment program, a raise to \$14 an hour minimum wage for City workers, and emergency rent/eviction assistance.