

Resolution #22-0355  
2022 Resolution Book, Page 149

**RESOLUTION APPROVING A NEW LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CAROLINA THUNDERBIRDS LLC TO PLAY THEIR HOME GAMES AT THE WINSTON-SALEM FAIRGROUNDS ANNEX BEGINNING IN 2022**

**WHEREAS**, the Carolina Thunderbirds began play at the Winston-Salem Fairgrounds Annex in October 2017, completing their first full season as the hometown professional ice hockey team in Winston-Salem; and

**WHEREAS**, since then, the Thunderbirds have successfully completed a total of four full hockey seasons, averaging 31 home games per year and entertaining more than 285,000 guests over that time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Thunderbirds are members of the Federal Prospects Hockey League and in 2019, won the Commissioner's Cup; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's lease agreement with the Thunderbirds is set to expire on June 30, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, City staff and the Thunderbirds have agreed in principle to terms for a new lease agreement that are similar to the initial contract period, as set forth in Exhibit B; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 16, 2022, the Public Assembly Facilities Commission adopted a resolution recommending City Council approval of an agreement with Carolina Thunderbirds LLC to play their home games at the Winston-Salem Fairgrounds Annex beginning in 2022.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem hereby authorize, as set forth in Exhibit B, execution of a new one-year lease, with the option to renew for nine additional one-year terms, with Carolina Thunderbirds LLC, upon approval as to form and legality by the City Attorney.

**Winston-Salem City Council  
Approved  
June 21, 2022**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager and City Clerk are hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary to implement this resolution.