

**RESOLUTION APPROVING A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH T-BIRD ENTERPRISES,
LLC FOR THE TWIN CITY THUNDERBIRDS**

WHEREAS, on August 16, 2016, the City Council adopted a resolution approving the initial agreement with Port Huron Hockey LLC, dba Carolina Thunderbirds, to play their 2017-2018 season at the Winston-Salem Fairgrounds Annex. The initial contract was extended through the 2021-2022 season; and

WHEREAS, on May 16, 2022, City Council approved a new contract with Carolina Thunderbirds, LLC to play its home games with an initial term starting July 1, 2022 with a maximum of nine additional one-year extensions; and

WHEREAS, On August 15, 2025 the City reassigned the existing contract terms with Carolina Thunderbirds LLC to a short-term, one-year lease with the ownership of T-Bird Enterprises LLC; and

WHEREAS, City staff and the Twin City Thunderbirds have agreed in principle to terms similar to the prior contract period (highlighted terms are noted in Attachment A). The agreement term shall begin on September 1, 2026 and end on August 31, 2029. The lease may automatically renew for up to five additional terms of one year each based on lease conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Winston-Salem Public Assembly Facilities Commission, an agency of the City of Winston-Salem, has unanimously recommended the Mayor and City Council approval of the lease agreement set here to.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with T-Bird Enterprises, LLC for the Twin City Thunderbirds to play their home hockey games at the

Winston-Salem Fairgrounds Arena for a term of three years with up to five one-year extensions, for a total potential term of eight years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the City, with approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.