

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING DAVID L. SPARKS FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE  
WITH THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM AND THE DIXIE CLASSIC FAIR**

**WHEREAS**, David L. Sparks began his career with the City of Winston-Salem in 1988 as the Assistant to the Fair Director for the annual Dixie Classic Fair; and

**WHEREAS**, after five years of serving in that position, David was promoted to Fair Director and served in that position for 25 years; and

**WHEREAS**, under David's leadership, the Dixie Classic Fair grew into the second largest agricultural fair in North Carolina, with average annual attendance exceeding 300,000; and

**WHEREAS**, non-fair facility bookings increased by 75% during David's tenure; and

**WHEREAS**, David oversaw the investment of more than \$10.2 million in capital improvements to the buildings and infrastructure, including the Neil Bolton Home and Garden Building, the Thomas Fredericks Clock Tower, new entranceways and restrooms, development of Yesterday Village, and improvements to the Kiddieland area and midway; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2003, David obtained Certified Fair Executive Status from the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, which enabled the Dixie Classic Fair to significantly grow facility bookings and attendance; and

**WHEREAS**, David has served in leadership positions both with the International Association of Fairs and Expositions and the North Carolina Association of Agricultural Fairs.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem that David L. Sparks is hereby recognized for his 30 years of service to the City

of Winston-Salem, including 31 fairs in which he provided entertainment, agricultural education, and good times for the families of Winston-Salem and throughout Northwest North Carolina and surrounding states.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Council wish David an enjoyable and fulfilling retirement.