RESOLUTION NO. __________

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN EXTENSION AGREEMENT WITH THE LITTLE ROCK CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU TO MANAGE AND OPERATE THE LITTLE ROCK RIVER MARKET AND RIVERFEST AMPHITHEATER FOR A TWELVE (12)-MONTH TERM BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2019; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City owns the Little Rock River Market and the Riverfest Amphitheater, which is operated as a public venue and tourist attraction; and,

WHEREAS, the City and the Little Rock Convention and Visitors Bureau (“LRCVB”) have partnered together to manage public facilities in the past and LRCVB manages similar public venues and tourist attractions and can bring a significant support structure to these City-owned facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the City has discussed such a partnership for the past several years as a component of the annual budget discussions; and,

WHEREAS, due to ongoing discussions between the City, LRCVB and area stakeholders regarding a process to develop and identify a qualified Consultant or an Urban Planner to assist the City in determining the best utilization, operation and management of the Ottenheimer Market Hall in the River Market, a twelve (12)-month extension of the River Market Memorandum of Understanding Management Agreement between the City and the Little Rock Advertising and Promotion Commission d/b/a Little Rock Convention and Visitors Bureau is requested; and,

WHEREAS, the City believes that a successful operating agreement can be reached that further enhances the public value of the Little Rock River Market and Riverfest Amphitheater.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

Section 1. The City Manager is authorized to execute twelve (12)-month Extension Agreement with LRCVB for the management and operation of the Little Rock River Market and the Riverfest Amphitheater.

Section 2. Any such agreement shall include the following terms and conditions:
(a) The City and LRCVB will initiate the agreement effective no later than January 1, 2019; the agreement shall be for the management and operation of the Little Rock River Market, the Farmers’ Market Pavilions and the Riverfest Amphitheater;
(b) The City will match LRCVB’s contribution of Three Hundred Seventeen Thousand, Four Hundred Eight Dollars ($317,408.00) for the operation and maintenance of this facility in Fiscal Year 2019;
(c) The City shall reimburse LRCVB a monthly amount of Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00) for indirect costs of administration, accounting, human resource services and general property marketing and management expenses associated with the operation of the River Market;
(d) The City and LRCVB will work together with a qualified Consultant or Urban Planner over the next twelve (12) months to further expand the agreement to transfer all financial responsibility of the facilities to the Little Rock Convention and Visitors Bureau;
(e) The Farmers’ Market shall have exclusive use of the Pavilions on Tuesday and Saturdays from 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM from April through October and shall not be relocated or displaced for another scheduled event unless LRCVB and the City Manager have agreed to the arrangements in writing;
(f) The agreement shall not have any negative impact on established events at the Market or amphitheater, including, but not limited to, Riverfest, Easter Sunrise Service, Movies in the Park and Pops on the River.

Section 3. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this resolution is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the resolution which shall remain in full force.

Section 4. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency

ADOPTED: February 5, 2019

ATTEST: 

Susan Langley, City Clerk

APPROVED: 

Frank Scott Jr., Mayor

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney