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WHEREAS, the City of Little Rock (“City”) Board of Directors enacted Ordinance No. 22,577 (October 2, 2024) to authorize the City Manager to enter into a sole-source agreement with the Central Arkansas Library System (“CALS”) for the Be Mighty program to reduce hunger in the Little Rock community, for one (1) year in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000); and,

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Be Mighty Meals Program was created and funded by a grant from the National League of Cities and carried out by the Central Arkansas Library System ("CALS") to reduce hunger in the Little Rock community; and,

WHEREAS, it was determined to continue this program in 2020 with funds provided by the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, and again to use CALS to facilitate the programming and coordination for the program; and,

WHEREAS, the program has continued to be successful and beneficial to the Little Rock community through several previous contract extensions in 2022, 2023, and 2024; and,

WHEREAS, Be Mighty connects children and teens under 18 with free meals at several local library branches and supports community food security with Little Free Pantries, cooking classes, and health and wellness classes; and,

WHEREAS, the experience that CALS has gained, data that CALS has gathered, the efforts it has taken, and the steps it has already implemented to extend this program further so that more locations and more people will participate in the program makes it impractical and unfeasible to subject this program to a competitive selection process; and,

WHEREAS, the current contract ends June 30, 2025, and the City desires to provide support for this

1 program through the remainder of 2025.

2 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY**
3 **OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:**

4 **Section 1.** The Board of Directors declares that it is impractical and unfeasible to subject the Be Mighty
5 Program to a competitive selection process since doing so could cause loss of data compilations and the
6 valued experience gained by the Central Arkansas Library System since 2019.

7 **Section 2.** The City Manager is authorized to enter into an agreement with Central Arkansas Library
8 System from July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, in an amount not to exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars
9 (\$50,000) to provide support for the Be Mighty Meals Program.

10 **Section 3.** Funds for this agreement are available in Account No. 108159. The Activity Code will be
11 assigned after completion of the contract process.

12 **Section 4. *Severability.*** In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or word
13 of this ordinance is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or adjudication
14 shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance which shall remain in full force and effect as if the
15 portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part of the ordinance.

16 **Section 5. *Repealer.*** All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with
17 the provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

18 **Section 6. *Emergency Clause.*** *The necessity to operate competent and effective feeding programs to*
19 *reduce hunger within the City is essential to the public health, safety, and welfare; an emergency; therefore,*
20 *is declared to exist and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage.*

21 **PASSED: July 1, 2025**

22 **ATTEST:**

APPROVED:

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Allison Segars, City Clerk

Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor

27 **APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:**

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Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney

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