

ORDINANCE NO. 03-2019
(As Amended)

Directing the Deposit of Certain Receipts into the Convention and Visitors' Bureau Fund and Amending Ordinance No. 52-2018 (As Amended) to Adjust the Annual Budget by Providing for Appropriations from the Convention and Visitors' Bureau Fund Unappropriated Balances.

WHEREAS, Section 1728.02 of the Codified Ordinances imposes a hotel and transient accommodation tax to provide "revenue with which to meet the needs of the City for the use of the General Fund of the City, and for the purpose of providing revenue to enhance the City's appeal to visitors and tourists and for the purpose of providing revenue to promote and publicize the City"; and,

WHEREAS, since 2002, and most recently in the passage of Ordinance No. 42-2017, City Council has allocated sixty-six percent of the hotel and transient accommodation tax revenues collected pursuant to Section 1728.02 to The Convention and Visitor Bureau of Worthington, Inc. (the "CVB") to provide convention and visitors' bureau services; and,

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2019 the voting members of the CVB passed a resolution to voluntarily dissolve the corporation based on a determination that the Old Worthington Partnership is better suited to provide convention and visitors' bureau services; and,

WHEREAS, the CVB plans to discontinue business on or before March 30, 2019 and distribute all remaining funds to the City of Worthington after payment of final expenses, which is estimated will be approximately \$150,000; and,

WHEREAS, the Finance Director, consistent with Section 5739.09 of the Ohio Revised Code, has established a separate fund to be spent solely to make contributions to convention and visitors' bureaus operating within Franklin County as directed by City Council (the "Special Fund"); and,

WHEREAS, the Charter of the City of Worthington, Ohio, provides that City Council may at any time amend or revise the Budget by Ordinance, providing that such amendment does not authorize the expenditure of more revenue than will be available; and,

WHEREAS, the Old Worthington Partnership is requesting \$55,830 to cover its anticipated expenses for convention and visitors' bureau services from April 1st through December 31st;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Municipality of Worthington, County of Franklin, State of Ohio:

