



Staff Report

Department: Planning and Zoning

Staff contact: Eric Hardy

Agenda title: Public Hearing on Annexation Agreement between the towns of Woodfin and Weaverville

Requested action: Hold Public Hearing on the matter and approve agreement

Related documents: Annexation agreement and map of area referenced in agreement

SUMMARY

NCGS §160A-58.21 authorizes two (2) or more municipalities to enter into binding agreements regarding future annexations in or to enhance orderly planning by the municipalities. An agreement removes uncertainty about where future boundaries may lie between the two (2) jurisdictions.

Another reason that municipalities enter into annexation agreements is that a municipality may not consider an annexation petition for non-contiguous property if another municipality is closer to any portion of the property under consideration *UNLESS* an agreement is in place, and “the agreement states that the other city will not annex the area but does not say that the annexing city will not annex the area.” As a result, it is permissible for Woodfin to annex any property not denoted or claimed in the annexation agreement with Weaverville and vice-versa. See attached map for the areas referenced in the agreement.

The towns of Woodfin and Weaverville last entered into an annexation agreement in 2010, and that agreement has since lapsed. Tonight’s requested action is to conduct a public hearing on the matter and consider approval of an annexation agreement.

BUDGET IMPACT

No budget impact.

PROCESS AND TIMELINE

The Weaverville Town Council held a public hearing during their regular meeting on January 25, 2021. There have been no public comments received, and that Council is scheduled to consider approval of the agreement on February 22, 2021.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Following the public hearing, staff recommends the Board to approve the agreement following the minimum 24-hour waiting period for virtual meetings during the Covid-19 crisis.