1. Call to Order

2. Discussion of Possible Charter Amendments

3. Continued Discussion of Possible Annexation Agreement with Town of Woodfin (see materials attached)

4. Discussion of Participation in Tree City USA (see materials attached)

5. Adjournment
NOTICE OF WEAVERVILLE TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP REMOTE ELECTRONIC MEETING ON DECEMBER 8, 2020

The State of North Carolina, Buncombe County and the Town of Weaverville have all declared States of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 public health crisis. Because of the risks to the public that would arise from in-person meetings, the Town’s regular workshop on December 8, 2020, will be conducted via remote electronic format.

This NOTICE OF REMOTE ELECTRONIC MEETING is to inform the public that the Weaverville Town Council will hold its regularly scheduled workshop meeting on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. as an electronic video meeting via Zoom Meeting. A virtual waiting room will be enabled beginning at 5:45 p.m. and the meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. The instructions to access this public meeting are:

To join the meeting by computer, go to this link https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85948891960
You may be asked for permission to access your computer’s video and audio. If so, click “allow.” You will then be asked for the Meeting ID which is: 859 4889 1960. You will first enter a virtual waiting room. The host will admit you into the meeting close to 6:00 p.m.

To join the meeting by phone, call: (253) 215-8782 or (301)715 8592
You will then be asked for the Meeting ID which is: 859 4889 1960. There is no password for this meeting, so if asked for one just press the # button.

To listen to an audio recording of the meeting call Town Hall at (828)645-7116. An audio recording of the meeting will be available upon request beginning 24 hours after the meeting and until the minutes of the meeting have been approved by Town Council. To view related materials, please visit the Town’s website at https://www.weavervillenc.org.

At this workshop meeting the Mayor and Town Council will discuss potential charter amendments, the Tree City USA program, and a possible annexation agreement with the Town of Woodfin. Discussion during the meeting will be limited to those topics. Public comments will not be heard. Action by Town Council may be taken.

Allan P. Root, Mayor
12/1/2020
Potential Annexation Areas

- Dogwood, Hamburg Mountain, Terrace
- Gill Branch, Monticello (West)
- Clarks Chapel, Monticello (East), Ollie Weaver
- North Buncombe School

Town of Weaverville Limits
November, 2018
PROPOSED ANNEXATION AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF WOODFIN
SOME POINTS TO CONSIDER

- **Areas of interest to Weaverville** - Review of areas that are of interest for the Town of Weaverville is important in order to fully analyze the effect that a potential annexation agreement with Woodfin might have on the Town.
  
  - Consistent with the Strategic Plan adopted in 2018, staff prepared a map entitled “Potential Annexation Areas” (see attached) which identifies certain areas that might be desirable for Town annexation.
  
  - A decision was made by Town Council in November of 2018 to approach annexation on a case-by-case basis so there was no formal review or action taken concerning desirable annexation areas.
  
  - The areas previously identified by staff for potential annexation include the following:
    
    - **Clarks Chapel Road/Monticello Road (East)/Ollie Weaver Road**
      
      - Anticipated popular annexation area due to Weaverville water and current transportation infrastructure
      - Weaverville waterline nearing completion in this area
    
    - **Gill Branch Road/Monticello Road (West)**
      
      - MSD main trunk lines running along Reems Creek and Gill Branch and entire valley can obtain gravity fed public sewer
      - Property is ripe for development if waterlines are installed in this area;
      - Water could be provided by Weaverville or Woodfin in the discretion of property owner; but Weaverville is the only jurisdiction that can offer annexation which reduces water rates
    
    - **North Buncombe School Road**
      
      - Area is already largely developed
      - Weaverville water is currently in this area
    
    - **Dogwood Drive/Hamburg Mountain Road/Terrace Drive**
      
      - Area is already largely developed
      - Desirable to fill in the gap, but not likely to happen under voluntary annexation
  
  - There may be others areas that Town Council deems desirable for annexation.
  
  - The areas of interest noted above are within Weaverville’s “default” annexation area (closer to Weaverville’s primary limits than Woodfin’s). Therefore Weaverville doesn’t need an annexation agreement with Woodfin to accomplish these annexation “goals”.
  
  - Virtually all of the voluntary annexations that have come before Town Council since 2016 were motivated by securing Weaverville water.
PROPOSED ANNEXATION AGREEMENT WITH TOWN OF WOODFIN
SOME POINTS TO CONSIDER

• **Weaverville Water**
  - Waterlines are active in all areas or interest except for the area identified as Gill Branch Road/Monticello Road (West)
  - With the waterline extension project nearing completion water service will be as far North as Clarks Chapel Road

• **Woodfin Water District**
  - Woodfin’s water is provided by a separate water district which, like the Town’s water system, operates within and outside the established district boundaries. Water rates are higher outside the district than within.
  - The actual district lies well to the South of the areas referenced in the annexation agreement, but there are Woodfin waterlines as far north as the area of the Pinebrook Farms subdivision off of New Stock Road.

• **Woodfin’s Annexation Area (red area)**
  - None of the areas of interest for Weaverville are in the red area so we aren’t giving away anything that we have identified as of interest
  - There are no Weaverville waterlines in the red area, so no incentive for a property owner to request annexation into the Town of Weaverville
  - Woodfin and Asheville both have waterlines in the red area
  - The red areas are largely within Woodfin’s default annexation area (areas closer to Woodfin limits than Weaverville limits)
  - Town of Woodfin has less development regulation than Weaverville does (example – Woodfin does not have a steep slope ordinance)

• **Weaverville’s Annexation Area (blue area)**
  - The blue area does not include areas that are desirable for Weaverville
  - Follows a general boundary to the West of New Stock Road
  - The blue areas are largely within Weaverville’s default annexation area (areas closer to Weaverville limits than Woodfin limits)

• **Conclusions** – The following might be reasonably concluded:
  - The annexation agreement as proposed does not help the Town of Weaverville and its annexation goals, nor does it hurt.
  - With regional cooperation in mind, Weaverville may choose to adopt the agreement and engender some goodwill with our neighboring jurisdiction.
An Ordinance Establishing an Annexation Agreement Between the Town of Woodfin, North Carolina and the Town of Weaverville, North Carolina for the Mutual Boundary Lines Between These Two Municipalities

Whereas, North Carolina General Statutes (NCGS) Chapter 160A, Article 4A, Part 6 (NCGS 160A-58.21 et seq.) authorizes two (2) or more municipalities to enter into binding agreements regarding future annexations in or to enhance orderly planning by such cities; and

Whereas, the governing boards of the Town of Woodfin, North Carolina and the Town of Weaverville, North Carolina seek to carry out plans for future land uses, provision of important public facilities, and the protection of greenspace and the environment; and

Whereas, potential conflict and confusion may occur along the interface between two (2) jurisdictions when the future municipal boundaries between the two (2) are unclear; and

Whereas, the governing board and its staff of both municipalities desire to foster good intergovernmental relations; and

Whereas, the governing boards and staff of both municipalities have engaged in a process of discussion that has led to the determination of an ultimate municipal boundary between the two (2) communities; and

Whereas, this ordinance has been adopted following independent public hearings by the Town of Woodfin on ________________ and the Town of Weaverville on ________________, with notice provided in accordance with NCGS 160A-31(c);

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Woodfin, North Carolina and the Town Council of the Town of Weaverville, North Carolina:

Section 1: Establishment of Annexation Boundary Line. Both governing bodies agree to the annexation boundaries as shown on the attached map entitled
“Boundary Agreement,” the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2: Town of Weaverville Annexation Area. That the areas inside of the Blue lines and shown as Sections 1-A and 1-B on the attached map, are located within Buncombe County, North Carolina and will be subject to future annexation by the Town of Weaverville and no portion of said area is subject to annexation or extraterritorial jurisdiction by the Town of Woodfin during the term of this agreement.

Section 3: Town of Woodfin Annexation Area. That the area inside of the Red line and shown as Section 2 on the attached map, is located within Buncombe County, North Carolina and will be subject to future annexation by the Town of Woodfin and no portion of said area is subject to annexation or extraterritorial jurisdiction by the Town of Weaverville during the term of this agreement.

Section 4: Notice of Annexations. That each participating municipality which proposes any annexation within the annexation areas identified in this agreement must give written notice, in the form of a “Notice of Intent to Annex,” to the other municipality of such annexation at least (60) days before the adoption of such annexation ordinance. The notice shall be in compliance with NCGS 160A-58.24(a) and (b) and shall be sent by mail to the chief appointed official of the other municipality.

Section 5: Effective Date. That this agreement shall become effective immediately following its adoption by ordinance of the governing body of both the Town of Woodfin and the Town of Weaverville.

Section 6: Modification of Amendments. That this ordinance may be modified or amended with a subsequent agreement entered into by both participating Towns pursuant to NCGS 160A-58.24(d). All modifications and amendments to this agreement shall be approved by ordinance and adopted after public hearings by both municipalities.

Section 7: Term of this Agreement. The term of this agreement shall be for a period of five (5) years. In order to comply with this agreement, a “Notice of Intent to Annex” must be approved by the governing body before the end of the five (5) year term.
Section 8: Termination of Agreement. That this agreement may be terminated by the consent of both jurisdictions as evidenced by an amendment to the agreement. This agreement shall be effective until such termination occurs or five (5) years, whichever comes first.

Adopted by the Town of Woodfin this the___ day of__________ 2020.

_____________________________                    _____________________________
M. Jerry Vehaun, Mayor                                         Woodfin Town Clerk
Town of Woodfin

Adopted by the Town of Weaverville this___ day of January 2021.

_____________________________                    _____________________________
Allan P. Root, Mayor                                              James Eller, Weaverville Town Clerk
Town of Weaverville
Tree City USA Standards

To qualify as a Tree City USA community, you must meet four standards established by the Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters. These standards were established to ensure that every qualifying community would have a viable tree management program and that no community would be excluded because of size.

Four Standards for Tree City USA Recognition

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<th>Standard 1</th>
<th>Standard 2</th>
<th>Standard 3</th>
<th>Standard 4</th>
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**Standard 1**

**A Tree Board or Department**

Someone must be legally responsible for the care of all trees on city- or town-owned property. By delegating tree care decisions to a professional forester, arborist, city department, citizen-led tree board or some combination, city leaders determine who will perform necessary tree work. The public will also know who is accountable for decisions that impact community trees. Often, both professional staff and an advisory tree board are established, which is a good goal for most communities.

The formation of a tree board often stems from a group of citizens. In some cases a mayor or city officials have started the process. Either way, the benefits are immense. Involving residents and business owners creates wide awareness of what trees do for the community and provides broad support for better tree care.

**Standard 2**

**A Tree Care Ordinance**
A public tree care ordinance forms the foundation of a city's tree care program. It provides an opportunity to set good policy and back it with the force of law when necessary. A key section of a qualifying ordinance is one that establishes the tree board or forestry department—or both—and gives one of them the responsibility for public tree care (as reflected in Standard 1). It should also assign the task of crafting and implementing a plan of work or for documenting annual tree care activities.

Qualifying ordinances will also provide clear guidance for planting, maintaining and/or removing trees from streets, parks and other public spaces as well as activities that are required or prohibited. Beyond that, the ordinance should be flexible enough to fit the needs and circumstances of the particular community.

For tips and a checklist of important items to consider in writing or improving a tree ordinance, see Tree City USA Bulletin #9.

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**Standard 3**

**A Community Forestry Program With an Annual Budget of at Least $2 Per Capita**

City trees provide many benefits—clean air, clean water, shade and beauty to name a few—but they also require an investment to remain healthy and sustainable. By providing support at or above the $2 per capita minimum, a community demonstrates its commitment to grow and tend these valuable public assets. Budgets and expenditures require planning and accountability, which are fundamental to the long-term health of the tree canopy and the Tree City USA program.

To meet this standard each year, the community must document at least $2 per capita toward the planting, care and removal of city trees—and the planning efforts to make those things happen. At first this may seem like an impossible barrier to some communities. However, a little investigation usually reveals that more than this amount is already being spent on tree care. If not, this may signal serious neglect that will cost far more in the long run. In such a case, working toward Tree City USA recognition can be used to reexamine the community's budget priorities and redirect funds to properly care for its tree resources before it is too late.
Standard 4

An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation

An effective program for community trees would not be complete without an annual Arbor Day ceremony. Citizens join together to celebrate the benefits of community trees and the work accomplished to plant and maintain them. By passing and reciting an official Arbor Day proclamation, public officials demonstrate their support for the community tree program and complete the requirements for becoming a Tree City USA!

This is the least challenging—and probably most enjoyable—standard to meet. An Arbor Day celebration can be simple and brief or an all-day or all-week observation. It can include a tree planting event, tree care activities or an award ceremony that honors leading tree planters. For children, Arbor Day may be their only exposure to the green world or a springboard to discussions about the complex issue of environmental quality.

The benefits of Arbor Day go far beyond the shade and beauty of new trees for the next generation. Arbor Day is a golden opportunity for publicity and to educate homeowners about proper tree care. Utility companies can join in to promote planting small trees beneath power lines or being careful when digging. Fire prevention messaging can also be worked into the event, as can conservation education about soil erosion or the need to protect wildlife habitat.

Tree City USA is an Arbor Day Foundation program in cooperation with: