New Business

Department: PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT / LEGAL

Presenter(s): Nathan Pennington, Director of Planning
Amy Broughton, Staff Attorney

Contact(s): Amy Broughton, Staff Attorney

Subject: Ordinance Extending the Temporary Moratorium on Cryptocurrency Mining

Brief Summary: On May 2, 2023, the Board adopted an ordinance (23-05-05) that imposed a one-year moratorium on the development and operation of cryptocurrency mining facilities in Buncombe County. The Board further directed County Staff to study and prepare a text amendment to the zoning ordinance regarding cryptocurrency prior to the expiration of the moratorium. The moratorium is scheduled to expire on May 1, 2024. County Staff requires additional time to study the issue and draft the text amendment.

Under N.C.G.S. § 106D-107(e), the Board may extend a moratorium, through a new ordinance, if “local government has taken all reasonable and feasible steps proposed to be taken in its ordinance establishing the moratorium to address the problems or conditions leading to imposition of the moratorium and unless new facts and conditions warrant an extension.”

Recommended Motion & Requested Action: Pass an ordinance extending the moratorium for one year and directing staff to produce a draft text amendment before the expiration of the extension.