## **City Council – Action Request Form**

**Date:** August 10, 2021

To:

Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Damon Dequenne, Assistant City Manager Courtney Driver, Utilities Director

## **Council Action Requested**:

Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding Supporting a Regional Management Group for Water Supply Planning in the Yadkin-Pee Dee River Basin

## Strategic Focus Area: Healthy Environment

**Strategic Objective:** Long term planning and sustainability of the City of Winston-Salem's primary water source through a collaborative process **Strategic Plan Action Item:** No **Key Work Item:** No



## Summary of Information:

On September 19, 2016, City Council approved a resolution authorizing a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with 18 other municipalities and reservoir operators as the Yadkin-Pee Dee Water Management Group (YPDWMG). The goal of the group is to collaboratively define the basin's role in providing long-term sustainable and secure regional water supply for the Yadkin-Pee Dee region of North Carolina, and to operate under the principles of regional collaboration, sustainable water supply, environmental stewardship, mutual and collective benefit, shared responsibility, equal representation, and financial stability.

The existing MOU expired on June 30, 2021 and the YPDWMG members have collectively agreed to extend the existing MOU for an additional five years while the group pursues a tax exempt status as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Since the group's formation, the YPDWMG has worked with member organizations, various consulting firms and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Water Resources Division in completing several projects in line with the group's strategic plan to develop a basin wide Master Plan for the Yadkin-Pee Dee River basin, most notably the development of a hydrological model.

Committee Action:			
Committee	Public Works 8/10/2021	Action	Approval
For	Unanimous	– Against	
<b>Remarks:</b>		_	

Terms of the agreement include:

- Membership is limited to governmental entities, public water utility companies or reservoir operators providing service within or using the water resources of the Yadkin River basin
- Members list of agencies include:
  - City of Albermarle
  - Charlotte Water
  - Davidson County
  - Davie County
  - City of Kannapolis
  - City of Monroe
  - Salisbury-Rowan Utilities

Cube Yadkin Generation

- City of Concord
- Davidson Water, Inc.
- Duke Energy Montgomery County
- Rowan County
- City of Statesville
- Union County Town of Wilkesboro
- Winston-Salem Forsyth County Utilities
- Water & Sewer Authority of Cabarrus County
- Establishes dues of \$10,000 per year to allow the group to conduct business
- Authorizes Winston-Salem to remain as the administrative agency which will act as the fiscal and contracting agency for the group while it pursues 501(c)(3) status
- Allows the group to sponsor additional projects for mutually beneficial planning and capital projects which may include:
  - o Hydrologic and/or hydraulic modeling of the Yadkin River
  - Regional Water Supply Master Plan
  - Study of Additional Water Supply Resource Opportunities within the Yadkin River
  - Coordinated Drought Response Plan
- Sets a termination date for the agreement of 2026 in order to give the group time to incorporate as a 501(c)(3).

Staff recommends approval of an amendment to the MOU to continue participation in the YPDWMG and ensure the preservation and sustainability of this valuable resource. Staff also recommends approval authorizing the City of Winston-Salem as the administrative agency for the group.