

CLAYTON COUNCIL MEETING – 101

Clayton citizens are welcomed and encouraged to attend town council meetings. Attending a council meeting allows you to be informed about the issues before the Clayton Town Council.

This issue of “Clayton Council Meeting – 101” will provide an overview of the methods of annexation.

There are four methods of annexation: annexation by legislative action, town initiated for areas meeting statutory standards, citizen initiated by petition for areas contiguous to the town, and citizen initiated by petition for areas not contiguous to the town.

- Legislative – The General Assembly for the State of North Carolina may always add territory to a municipality by a local act.
- Town Initiated for Areas Meeting Statutory Standards – There are two legal frameworks for town initiated annexation. One is for towns under 5000 population (G.S. 160A-33 through –42), and the other is for cities of 5000 or more (G.S. 160A-45 through –54). The areas to be annexed must be contiguous to the town and must be “developed for urban purposes”, as defined in the state statutes. Areas annexed subject to statutory standards must receive all Town services, including utilities, public safety, solid waste disposal, and others on a par with levels enjoyed by other areas of Town within a prescribed period of time.
- Citizen Initiated - There are two procedures for citizen initiated annexation, also known as annexation by petition. Both procedures require a petition from the owners of 100 percent of the land being annexed:
 - Contiguous annexation is when the property adjoins the Town (G.S. 160A-31).
 - Non-contiguous or satellite annexation is when the property does not adjoin the Town (G.S. 160A-58 through -58.6).

Of the aforementioned types of annexation, which of these methods of annexation have been used in the Town of Clayton?

Also, which one of these annexation methods is the most used in the Town of Clayton?

The records for the Town’s annexation history begins in 1973. To assist with the above questions, the annexations have been broken down by method.

- **Legislative:**
 - Corporate limits were squared up, 5/16/1973
 - Glen Laurel Subdivision, 7/20/1993
 - Riverwood Athletic Club, 3/29/1999
 - Riverwalk Subdivision on Pritchard Road, 6/30/2006

- **Town Initiated (or Involuntary):**
 - Peele Subdivision 85.51 ACRES (5/18/1992) [sewer improvement project]
 - N. O'Neil Street - PORTION - 2.59 ACRES (5/18/1992) [sewer improvement project]
 - Brian Center - 7.52 ACRES (5/18/1992) [sewer improvement project]
 - Remainder of lots on Lake Drive - 5.87 ACRES (5/18/1992) [sewer improvement project]

- **Citizen Initiated (or Voluntary):**
 - From 1982 through June 3, 2010, the Clayton Town Council has adopted 130 citizen initiated annexation ordinances.
 - Of the 131 citizen initiated annexation ordinances, 104 are contiguous and 27 are non-contiguous.
 - A non-contiguous annexation becomes contiguous when it touches the primary corporate limits.

The Town of Clayton has experienced all the methods of annexation, and the annexation method most used is the citizen initiated annexation method. One or some of the reasons citizens request annexation include:

- Water and sewer
- Police and fire protection
- Solid waste collection
- Street maintenance

The “History of Annexations: 1973 - Present” is available for review in the Town Clerk’s office as is the map of Clayton Town Limits.

The Council agenda may be viewed online at www.townofclaytonnc.org the Friday before a scheduled meeting. If you do not have access to the Internet, please call 919.553.5002 and request a copy of the agenda.

If you have questions or suggestions for the next “Clayton Council Meeting – 101” article, please contact the Town Clerk.

We look forward to seeing you at Town Council meetings.