

LEGISLATIVE BILL 74

Approved by the Governor March 07, 2017

Introduced by Crawford, 45.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to cities and villages; to amend sections 16-130 and 17-407, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 17-1002 and 18-3001, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016; to change county population thresholds relating to annexation, suburban development, and planned unit development by a city or village; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 16-130, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

16-130 (1) The provisions of this section shall govern annexation by a city of the first class located in whole or in part within the boundaries of a county having a population in excess of one hundred thousand inhabitants but less than two hundred fifty thousand inhabitants as determined by the most recent federal decennial census or the most recent revised certified count by the United States Bureau of the Census.

(2) Except as provided in sections 13-1111 to 13-1120 and subject to this section, the mayor and city council of a city of the first class described in subsection (1) of this section may by ordinance at any time include within the corporate limits of such city any contiguous or adjacent lands, lots, tracts, streets, or highways as are urban or suburban in character and in such direction as may be deemed proper. Such grant of power shall not be construed as conferring power upon the mayor and city council to extend the limits of such a city over any agricultural lands which are rural in character.

(3) The invalidity of the annexation of any tract of land in one ordinance shall not affect the validity of the remaining tracts of land which are annexed by the ordinance and which otherwise conform to state law.

(4) Any owner of property contiguous or adjacent to such a city may by petition request that such property be included within the corporate limits of such city.

(5) Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, the mayor and city council are not required to approve any petition requesting annexation or any resolution or ordinance proposing to annex land pursuant to this section.

(6) Not later than fourteen days prior to the public hearing before the planning commission on a proposed annexation by the city, the city clerk shall send notice of the proposed annexation by certified mail, return receipt requested, to any of the following entities serving customers in such city or in the area proposed for annexation: Any natural gas public utility as defined in section 66-1802; any natural gas utility owned or operated by the city; any metropolitan utilities district; any public power district; any public power and irrigation district; any municipality; any electric cooperative; and any other governmental entity providing electric service. Such notice shall include a copy of the proposed annexation ordinance, the date, time, and place of the public hearing before the planning commission on the proposed annexation ordinance, and a map showing the boundaries of the area proposed for annexation.

(7) Prior to the final adoption of the annexation ordinance, the minutes of the city council meeting at which such final adoption was considered shall reflect formal compliance with the provisions of subsection (6) of this section.

(8) No additional or further notice beyond that required by subsection (6) of this section shall be necessary in the event (a) that the scheduled city council public hearing on the proposed annexation is adjourned, continued, or postponed until a later date or (b) that subsequent to providing such notice the ordinance regarding such proposed annexation was amended, changed, or rejected by action of the city council prior to formal passage of the annexation ordinance.

(9) Except for a willful or deliberate failure to cause notice to be given, no annexation decision made by a city either to accept or reject a proposed annexation, either in whole or in part, shall be void, invalidated, or affected in any way because of any irregularity, defect, error, or failure on the part of the city or its employees to cause notice to be given as required by this section if a reasonable attempt to comply with this section was made.

(10) Except for a willful or deliberate failure to cause notice to be given, the city and its employees shall not be liable for any damage to any person resulting from any failure to cause notice to be given as required by this section when a reasonable attempt was made to provide such notice. No action for damages resulting from the failure to cause notice to be provided as required by this section shall be filed more than one year following the date of the formal acceptance or rejection of the proposed annexation, either in whole or in part, by the city council.

(11) No action to challenge the validity of the acceptance or rejection of a proposed annexation on the basis of this section shall be filed more than one

year following the date of the formal acceptance or rejection of the annexation by the city council.

Sec. 2. Section 17-407, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

17-407 (1) The provisions of this section shall govern annexation by a city of the second class or village located in whole or in part within the boundaries of a county having a population in excess of one hundred thousand inhabitants but less than two hundred fifty thousand inhabitants as determined by the most recent federal decennial census or the most recent revised certified count by the United States Bureau of the Census.

(2) The mayor and council of any city of the second class or the chairperson and members of the board of trustees of any village described in subsection (1) of this section may by ordinance, except as provided in sections 13-1111 to 13-1118, at any time include within the corporate limits of such city or village any contiguous or adjacent lands, lots, tracts, streets, or highways as are urban or suburban in character and in such direction as may be deemed proper. Such grant of power shall not be construed as conferring power to extend the limits of any such municipality over any agricultural lands which are rural in character.

(3) Not later than fourteen days prior to the public hearing before the planning commission on a proposed annexation by the city or village, the city or village clerk shall send notice of the proposed annexation by certified mail, return receipt requested, to any of the following entities serving customers in such city or village or in the area proposed for annexation: Any natural gas public utility as defined in section 66-1802; any natural gas utility owned or operated by the city or village; any metropolitan utilities district; any public power district; any public power and irrigation district; any municipality; any electric cooperative; and any other governmental entity providing electric service. Such notice shall include a copy of the proposed annexation ordinance, the date, time, and place of the public hearing before the planning commission on the proposed annexation ordinance, and a map showing the boundaries of the area proposed for annexation.

(4) Prior to the final adoption of the annexation ordinance, the minutes of the city council or village board meeting at which such final adoption was considered shall reflect formal compliance with the provisions of subsection (3) of this section.

(5) No additional or further notice beyond that required by subsection (3) of this section shall be necessary in the event (a) that the scheduled city council or village board public hearing on the proposed annexation is adjourned, continued, or postponed until a later date or (b) that subsequent to providing such notice the ordinance regarding such proposed annexation was amended, changed, or rejected by action of the city council or village board prior to formal passage of the annexation ordinance.

(6) Except for a willful or deliberate failure to cause notice to be given, no annexation decision made by a city of the second class or village either to accept or reject a proposed annexation, either in whole or in part, shall be void, invalidated, or affected in any way because of any irregularity, defect, error, or failure on the part of the city or village or its employees to cause notice to be given as required by this section if a reasonable attempt to comply with this section was made.

(7) Except for a willful or deliberate failure to cause notice to be given, the city or village and its employees shall not be liable for any damage to any person resulting from any failure to cause notice to be given as required by this section when a reasonable attempt was made to provide such notice. No action for damages resulting from the failure to cause notice to be provided as required by this section shall be filed more than one year following the date of the formal acceptance or rejection of the proposed annexation, either in whole or in part, by the city council or village board.

(8) No action to challenge the validity of the acceptance or rejection of a proposed annexation on the basis of this section shall be filed more than one year following the date of the formal acceptance or rejection of the annexation by the city council or village board.

Sec. 3. Section 17-1002, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

17-1002 (1) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, any city of the second class or village may designate by ordinance the portion of the territory located within one mile of the corporate limits of such city or village and outside of any other organized city or village within which the designating city or village will exercise the powers and duties granted by this section and section 17-1003 or section 19-2402.

(2) No owner of any real property located within the area designated by a city or village pursuant to subsection (1) or (5) of this section may subdivide, plat, or lay out such real property in building lots, streets, or other portions of the same intended to be dedicated for public use or for the use of the purchasers or owners of lots fronting thereon or adjacent thereto without first having obtained the approval of the city council or board of trustees of such municipality or its agent designated pursuant to section 19-916 and, when applicable, having complied with sections 39-1311 to 39-1311.05. The fact that such real property is located in a different county or counties than some or all portions of the municipality shall not be construed as affecting the necessity of obtaining the approval of the city council or board of trustees of such municipality or its designated agent.

(3) No plat of such real property shall be recorded or have any force or

effect unless approved by the city council or board of trustees of such municipality or its designated agent.

(4) Except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, in counties that have adopted a comprehensive development plan which meets the requirements of section 23-114.02 and are enforcing subdivision regulations, the county planning commission shall be provided with all available materials on any proposed subdivision plat, contemplating public streets or improvements, which is filed with a municipality in that county, when such proposed plat lies partially or totally within the extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction being exercised by that municipality in such county. The commission shall be given four weeks to officially comment on the appropriateness of the design and improvements proposed in the plat. The review period for the commission shall run concurrently with subdivision review activities of the municipality after the commission receives all available material for a proposed subdivision plat.

(5) If a city of the second class or village receives approval for the cession and transfer of additional extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction under section 13-327, such city or village may designate by ordinance the portion of the territory located within one mile of the corporate limits of such city or village and outside of any other organized city or village within which the designating city or village will exercise the powers and duties granted by this section and section 17-1003 or section 19-2402 and shall include territory ceded under section 13-327 within such designation.

(6) In counties having a population in excess of one hundred thousand inhabitants but less than two hundred fifty thousand inhabitants as determined by the most recent federal decennial census or the most recent revised certified count by the United States Bureau of the Census that have adopted a comprehensive development plan which meets the requirements of section 23-114.02 and are enforcing subdivision regulations, the county planning department and public works department shall be provided with all available materials on any proposed subdivision plat, contemplating public streets or improvements, which is filed with a city of the second class or village municipality in that county, when such proposed plat lies partially or totally within the extraterritorial subdivision jurisdiction being exercised by that city of the second class or village municipality in such county. The county may officially comment on the appropriateness of the design and improvements proposed in the plat.

Sec. 4. Section 18-3001, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, is amended to read:

18-3001 (1) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section and notwithstanding any provisions of Chapter 14, article 4, Chapter 15, article 9, Chapter 19, article 9, or of any home rule charter to the contrary, every city or village may include within its zoning ordinance provisions authorizing and regulating planned unit developments within such city or village or within the zoning jurisdiction of such city or village, except such cities or villages shall not have authority to impose such power over other organized cities or villages within the zoning jurisdiction of such cities or villages. As used in this section, planned unit development includes any development of a parcel of land or an aggregation of contiguous parcels of land to be developed as a single project which proposes density transfers, density increases, and mixing of land uses, or any combination thereof, based upon the application of site planning criteria. The purpose of such ordinance shall be to permit flexibility in the regulation of land development, to encourage innovation in land use and variety in design, layout, and type of structures constructed, to achieve economy and efficiency in the use of land, natural resources, and energy and the provision of public services and utilities, to encourage the preservation and provision of useful open space, and to provide improved housing, employment, or shopping opportunities particularly suited to the needs of an area.

(2) An ordinance authorizing and regulating planned unit developments shall establish criteria relating to the review of proposed planned unit developments to ensure that the land use or activity proposed through a planned unit development shall be compatible with adjacent uses of land and the capacities of public services and utilities affected by such planned unit development and to ensure that the approval of such planned unit development is consistent with the public health, safety, and general welfare of the city or village and is in accordance with the comprehensive plan.

(3) Within a planned unit development, regulations relating to the use of land, including permitted uses, lot sizes, setbacks, height limits, required facilities, buffers, open spaces, roadway and parking design, and land-use density shall be determined in accordance with the planned unit development regulations specified in the zoning ordinance. The planned unit development regulations need not be uniform with regard to each type of land use.

(4) The approval of planned unit developments, as authorized under a planned unit development ordinance, shall be generally similar to the procedures established for the approval of zone changes. In approving any planned unit development, a city or village may, either as a condition of the ordinance approving a planned unit development, by covenant, by separate agreement, or otherwise, impose reasonable conditions as deemed necessary to ensure that a planned unit development shall be compatible with adjacent uses of land, will not overburden public services and facilities, and will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare. Such conditions or agreements may provide for dedications of land for public purposes.

(5) Except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, a city of the

second class or village located in a county that has adopted a comprehensive development plan which meets the requirements of section 23-114.02 and is enforcing subdivision regulations shall not finally approve a planned unit development upon property located outside of the corporate boundaries of the city or village until the plans for the planned unit development have been submitted to, reviewed, and approved by the county's planning commission pursuant to subsection (4) of section 17-1002.

(6) A city of the second class or village located in whole or in part within the boundaries of a county having a population in excess of one hundred thousand inhabitants but less than two hundred fifty thousand inhabitants as determined by the most recent federal decennial census or the most recent revised certified count by the United States Bureau of the Census that has adopted a comprehensive development plan which meets the requirements of section 23-114.02 and is enforcing subdivision regulations shall not finally approve a planned unit development upon property located outside of the corporate boundaries of the city or village until the plans for the planned unit development have been submitted to the county's planning department and public works department for review.

Sec. 5. Original sections 16-130 and 17-407, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 17-1002 and 18-3001, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2016, are repealed.