



AGENDA ACTION FORM

Consideration of a Resolution to Join Axia Cooperative

To: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

From: Chris McCartt, City Manager *CM*

Action Form No.: AF-298-2026

Work Session: October 5, 2026

First Reading: N/A

Final Adoption: October 6, 2026

Staff Work By: Stephanie Griffin

Presentation By: Michael T. Borders

Strategic Focus Area: 3. Exceptional Cultural & Recreational Opportunities

Recommendation:

Approve the Resolution

Executive Summary:

If approved, the City will join Axia Cooperative to support the upcoming transition to a new Integrated Library System (ILS) as part of the Organization of Watauga Libraries (OWL) consortium.

OWL member libraries, 10 unique systems, currently utilize The Library Corporation (TLC) as their ILS provider. Over time, TLC has not met the operational and service needs of the Library or the broader consortium. Following a consortium-wide evaluation and selection process, OWL member libraries selected Polaris, an ILS owned by Innovative Interfaces, Inc., as the consortium's new system.

Innovative Interfaces was recently awarded a competitively solicited contract by the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia, which will be available through Axia Cooperative. Axia is a national cooperative purchasing organization, similar to Sourcwell and OMNIA Partners, that allows eligible public agencies to utilize competitively awarded contracts established by other governmental entities. Cooperative purchasing agreements are authorized by TCA § 12-3-1205.

The OWL consortium intends to execute contracts with Innovative Interfaces by the end of October to allow sufficient time for implementation of Polaris before TLC ends support in late March 2027. TLC is not amenable to a contract term of less than one year, making an extension of the current agreement impractical.

Joining Axia will allow the Library to contract for Polaris under the same cooperative purchasing framework as the other OWL member libraries and maintain alignment with the consortium's shared ILS environment.

There is no cost to the City to join Axia Cooperative.

Attachments:

1. Resolution
2. Agreement

	Y	N	O
Baker	—	—	—
Byers	—	—	—
Clifton	—	—	—
Duncan	—	—	—
Isaacs	—	—	—
Phillips	—	—	—
Montgomery	—	—	—