

## CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-001

**A Charter Amendment Resolution of the Town of Chesapeake City, Maryland for the purposes of amending the Charter of the Town of Chesapeake City for the purpose of removing the requirement that the Town publish a fair summary of an adopted ordinance in a newspaper of general circulation, unless specifically required by State Law, and adding other methods of publication.**

**WHEREAS**, the Charter of the Town of Chesapeake City, Maryland (“the Town”) provides in Section 26-12 that a fair summary of any ordinance adopted by the Town Council must be published at least once in a newspaper or newspapers having general circulation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council believes that the requirement of newspaper publication is obsolete and unduly expensive and that other forms of communication are better suited to providing actual notice of Council actions to members of the general public, while also being less expensive; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council wishes to amend the Town Charter to remove the requirement of publication of fair summaries of adopted ordinances in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town, unless otherwise required by law, and replace it with alternative methods of publication.

**Section 1. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CHESAPEAKE CITY, MARYLAND** on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, that pursuant to the authority of Article XI-E, § 4 of the Constitution of the State of Maryland and Md. Code Ann., Local Gov’t Article, §§ 4-301 through 4-314, Section 19-311, “Ordinances”, of the Charter of the Town of Chesapeake City, Maryland shall be and is hereby amended to read as follows:

### Section 26–12 Ordinances—Passage; publication; effective date

(a) No ordinance shall be passed at the meeting at which it is introduced. At any regular or special meeting of the council held not less than 14 nor more than sixty days after the meeting at which an ordinance was introduced, it shall be passed, or passed as amended, or rejected, or its consideration deferred to some specified future date. The above requirement may be suspended by the affirmative votes of four members of the council. (b) Every ordinance, unless it be passed as an emergency ordinance, shall become effective at the expiration of twenty calendar days following approval by the mayor or passage by the council over his veto. An emergency ordinance shall become effective on the date specified in the ordinance, but no ordinance shall become effective until approved by the mayor or passed over his veto by the council. (c) ~~A summary of each ordinance shall be published at least once in a newspaper or newspapers having general circulation in the municipality.~~ WHERE REQUIRED BY STATE LAW, A FAIR SUMMARY OF EACH ORDINANCE ADOPTED BY COUNCIL SHALL BE PUBLISHED IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN A MANNER COMPLYING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUCH LAW. A FAIR SUMMARY OF EACH ORDINANCE ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL SHALL BE POSTED IN THE TOWN HALL, ON SOCIAL MEDIA, AND ON THE TOWN’S WEBPAGE STATING THAT AN ORDINANCE IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW ON THE TOWN’S WEBPAGE AND IN TOWN HALL. (Reso. No. 1, 3–9–64, 2021-001)

**Section 7. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that when the Charter Amendment hereby initiated becomes effective, as provided herein, or following a referendum election, the Town Clerk shall send separately, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Department of Legislative Services, the following information concerning the Charter Amendment: (i) the complete text of this Charter Amendment Resolution; (ii) the date of the referendum election, if any held with respect thereto; (iii) the number of votes cast for and against this Charter Amendment Resolution by the Council of the Town of Chesapeake City, Maryland or a referendum election; and (iv) the effective date of the Charter Amendment.

**Section 8. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk of the Town of Chesapeake City is instructed to carry out the provisions of Sections 6 and 7 hereof, and as evidence of compliance herewith, the Town Clerk shall cause to be affixed to this Charter Amendment Resolution and to the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting at which it is adopted (i) an appropriate certificate of publication of the newspaper in which the summary of the Charter Amendment Resolution shall have been published and (ii) return receipts of the mailing referred to in Section 7, and shall further complete and execute the Certificate of Effect required by State law.

**INTRODUCED** by the Council of the Town of Chesapeake City, Maryland at a regular meeting on the 8th day of March, 2021.

**PASSED** by the Council of the Town of Chesapeake City, Maryland at a regular meeting on the 12th day of April, 2021.

Effective: May 22, 2021

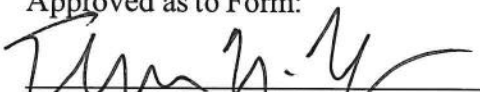
BY AUTHORITY OF THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF  
CHESAPEAKE CITY, MARYLAND

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Valerie Walls, Town Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard L. Taylor, III, Mayor

Approved as to Form:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas N. Yeager, Town Attorney

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Capitals and underlining ABC

: Indicates matter to be repealed  
: Indicates matter to be added