

CHARTER RESOLUTION 20-CR-01

CHARTER RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF UNIVERSITY PARK, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF ARTICLE XI-E OF THE CONSTITUTION OF MARYLAND AND §4-301 ET SEQ. OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, AS AMENDED, TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK, BY REPEALING AND RE-ENACTING ARTICLE V, "REGISTRATION, NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS", SECTION 503, "REGISTRATION", AND SECTION 506, "CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE" TO CLARIFY THAT QUALIFIED PERSONS REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE TOWN THROUGH THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS, DELETE THE PROVISION FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL VOTER REGISTRATION LIST, INCLUDE THE REQUIREMENT FOR CANDIDATES TO FILE A FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORM AT THE SAME TIME AS THE CANDIDATE PETITION, REQUIRE THAT THE CANDIDATE PETITION AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BE FILED AT LEAST 29 DAYS PRIOR TO THE ELECTION, CLARIFY THE PETITION REQUIREMENTS FOR WRITE-IN CANDIDATES, DELETE OUTDATED REFERENCES, AND MAKE CONFORMING AND CLERICAL CHANGES.

Section 1: Be it resolved and ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of University Park that Article V, "Registration, Nominations and Elections", Section 503, "Registration", of the Charter of the Town of University Park be repealed, re-enacted and amended to read as follows:

Section 503 Registration

(a) The Supervisors shall give at least two weeks' notice of every election date by notices published in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the Town and posted in at least one prominent place in each Ward of the Town. Notices of election shall contain a summary of questions that may be on the ballot and the names of nominees for each Town office as those

EXPLANATION:

CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law

Asterisks indicate provisions of existing law which have been omitted from resolution and remain

1 names will appear on the ballot. The Supervisors may also cause notices required by this
2 subsection to be published in the Town newsletter.

3 ~~(b) [Registration of voters shall be available at any time during Town office hours. Voter~~
4 ~~registration may be accomplished in person or by mail. Further, r] Registration with the Princee~~
5 ~~George's County Board of Elections, by a voter who resides in University Park, shall be deemed~~
6 ~~registration for elections in University Park. No registration date for municipal elections shall be~~
7 ~~established, whether by the County or the Town, within the thirty (30) day period immediately~~
8 ~~preceding an election. The Mayor and Common Council shall take those actions necessary to~~
9 ~~timely schedule and plan for implementing universal registration of voters in conjunction with~~
10 ~~Princee George's County. Registration shall be permanent if the individual votes at least once in~~

11 ~~every five years, and no person shall be entitled to vote in Town elections unless he/she is~~
12 ~~registered.] ANY PERSON RESIDING WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE TOWN~~
13 ~~OF UNIVERSITY PARK WHO IS REGISTERED TO VOTE WITH THE PRINCE GEORGE'S~~
14 ~~COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND WILL BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE ON~~
15 ~~ELECTION DAY SHALL AUTOMATICALLY BECOME A REGISTERED VOTER OF THE~~
16 ~~TOWN AND BE ENTITLED TO VOTE AT GENERAL OR SPECIAL ELECTIONS OF THE~~
17 ~~TOWN.~~

18 ~~(c) [The Supervisors shall maintain, establish and amend registration lists in appropriate form~~
19 ~~containing the name, age, place of residence in the Town, ward, date of registration, and signature~~
20 ~~of each person registered to vote. Prior to each election, the Supervisors shall prepare a list~~
21 ~~containing the names and addresses of the registered voters of the Town and the ward in which~~
22 ~~each voter resides. Copies of the list shall be available to the public. The Common Council may~~
23 ~~establish and charge reasonable fees to the public for copies of such lists. The Supervisors shall~~

1 use the preliminary and certified lists of Town registered voters provided by Prince George's
2 County, together with a supplemental list prepared by the Supervisors, of persons not registered to
3 vote in the County but qualified to vote in the Town, in preparing any list required herein.] VOTER
4 REGISTRATION FOR TOWN ELECTIONS SHALL CLOSE THIRTY (30) DAYS PRIOR TO
5 THE ELECTION.

6 (d) It shall be the duty of the Supervisors to keep the registration lists current by striking from the
7 list persons who are no longer qualified to vote and/or have not voted at least once within the
8 preceding five years.] THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS WILL
9 MAINTAIN THE TOWN'S OFFICIAL VOTER LIST. [Within twenty (20) days after receiving
10 any preliminary list of registered voters, t] The Supervisors shall notify the County BOARD OF
11 ELECTIONS of any potential errors [in the list of registered voters], including errors in residency
12 of registered voters, WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS AFTER RECEIVING ANY LIST OF
13 REGISTERED VOTERS FROM THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS. [Whenever the registration of
14 any voter is removed for any reason from the supplemental voter registration list maintained by
15 the Town, the Supervisors shall send a notice of this action and the reason for the action to the last
16 known address of the voter. The voter shall be given at least fifteen (15) days to respond to indicate
17 whether the voter wishes to remain on the Town's voter registration list. If the voter wishes to
18 remain on the Town's list and continues to be qualified under the town's voter registration
19 requirements, the voter's name shall be reinstated to the Town's supplemental voter registration list
20 upon written request of the voter.]

21 (e) Persons aggrieved by acts of the Supervisors may appeal to the Mayor and Common Council.
22 Decisions of the Common Council on such appeals may be appealed to the Circuit Court of
23 Prince George's County within the time allowed for such appeal.

1 Section 2: Be it further resolved and ordained by the Mayor and Common

2 Council of University Park that Article V, "Registration, Nominations and Elections", Section
3 506, "Candidates for Office" of the Charter of the Town of University Park be repealed, re-
4 enacted and amended to read as follows:

5 Section 506 Candidates for Office

6 (a) The elective offices of the Town shall be those of Mayor and seven Common Council
7 members. The Mayor shall be elected at large by the qualified voters of the Town, and the
8 Council members shall be elected by the qualified voters in the ward in which the candidate
9 resides.

10 (b) The Mayor and Council members from the first, third and seventh wards shall be elected at
11 the general election for Town offices held during even-numbered years. Council members from
12 the second, fourth, fifth and sixth ward shall be elected at the general election for Town office
13 held during odd-numbered years.

14 (c) Any person desiring to run for Mayor [~~of said Town~~] shall file with the [~~Board of Election~~]
15 Supervisors OF ELECTIONS [~~of said Town~~] a petition containing the names of at least twenty
16 (20) persons, who are qualified voters IN THE TOWN; and any person desiring to run for
17 Council member shall file a petition with said [~~Board of Election~~] Supervisors OF ELECTIONS
18 containing the names of at least ten (10) qualified voters RESIDING in the ward at least [~~thirty~~
19 ~~(30)~~]TWENTY-NINE (29) CALENDAR days, including SATURDAYS, SundayS and legal
20 holidays, prior to election. ANY PERSON DESIRING TO BE A CANDIDATE MUST ALSO
21 FILE THE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY § 12-105 OF THE
22 TOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES. After the petitions have been filed and the time for filing has
23 expired, the [~~Board of Election~~] Supervisors OF ELECTIONS shall cause to be published in

1 some manner as shall give general publicity the names of the candidates filing petitions under
2 this paragraph (c) and the positions to which they aspire.

3 (d) Any person desiring to run for Mayor or Common Council of the Town who does not file a
4 petition as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, may qualify to run for such office as a write-
5 in candidate by filing with the ~~[Board of Elections]~~ Supervisors of ~~[the Town]~~ELECTIONS, at
6 least five (5) calendar days before the date of the election, a petition to run as a write-in
7 candidate FOR MAYOR containing the names of at least TWENTY PERSONS WHO ARE
8 QUALIFIED VOTERS IN THE TOWN OR AS A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE FOR COUNCIL
9 MEMBER CONTAINING THE NAMES OF AT LEAST ten (10) persons RESIDING IN THE
10 WARD who are qualified voters, and a financial disclosure statement as required by § 12-10~~[4]~~ 5
11 of ~~[this]~~ THE TOWN'S code of ordinances.

12 (e) Any person desiring to run for Mayor or Common Council of the Town must qualify as a
13 candidate under paragraph (c) or paragraph (d) of this section. All votes cast in an election for
14 persons who are not qualified as candidates shall be void AND NOT COUNTED.

15 (f) Before entering upon the duties of their office, each elected officer shall take an oath of office
16 as provided for in section ~~[707]~~ 708.

17 Section 3: Be it further resolved that this resolution shall become effective fifty days
18 after enactment by the Mayor and Common Council of University Park, unless petitioned to
19 referendum in a manner prescribed by law. If any section, subsection, provision, sentence,
20 clause, phrase or word of this Charter Resolution is for any reason held to be illegal or
21 otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall be severable,
22 and shall not affect or impair any remaining section, subsection, provision, sentence, clause,
23 phrase or word included within this Charter Resolution, it being the intent of the City that

1 the remainder of the Charter Resolution shall be and shall remain in full force and effect,
2 valid and enforceable.

3 Section 4: Be it further resolved that a complete and exact copy of this proposed Charter
4 amendment shall be posted on the entrance door of the Town Hall of University Park, 6724
5 Baltimore Avenue, University Park, Maryland, for a period of not less than forty (40) days, and a
6 fair summary of this Charter amendment shall be published at least four times on four successive
7 weeks within that forty day period in a newspaper having general circulation in the community.

8 APPROVED this 24th day of February, 2020.

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10 ATTEST:

MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL
TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK

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14 

15 Andrea Marcavitch, Clerk

16 By: 

17 Lenford C. Carey, Mayor

18
19 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL
20 SUFFICIENCY

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25 Suellen M. Ferguson, Town Attorney
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