

Introduced: Ms. Mach
1st Reading: February 10, 2014
Passed: February 24, 2014
Posted: February 25, 2014
Effective: April 15, 2014

CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION NUMBER 2014-1

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2015

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GREENBELT ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF ARTICLE XI-E OF THE CONSTITUTION OF MARYLAND AND SECTION 13 OF ARTICLE 23A OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, (1957 EDITION AS AMENDED), TITLE, "CORPORATION-MUNICIPAL," SUBTITLE "HOME RULE" TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF GREENBELT FOUND, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, IN THE COMPILATION OF MUNICIPAL CHARTERS OF MARYLAND (1983 EDITION AS AMENDED), AS PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 77 OF THE ACTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND OF 1983, BY AMENDING SECTION 8, TITLED "SAME—QUORUM, PROCEDURE" (CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION NO. 2014-1)

SECTION I WHEREAS, there are certain instances where Council members may be entitled to abstain from voting.

SECTION II BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt that the Charter of the City, found, in whole or in part, in the compilation of Municipal Charters of Maryland (1983 edition as amended), as prepared by the Department of Legislative Services pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1983, shall be amended to read as follows:

* * * * *

Sec. 8. Same--Quorum, procedure.

(a) Quorum: A majority of the members elected to the council shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a less number may adjourn from time to time and compel the attendance of absent members in such a manner and under such penalties as may be prescribed by ordinance.

(b) Voting: The affirmative vote of a majority of the members elected to the council shall be necessary to adopt any ordinance, resolution, order or vote; except, that a vote to adjourn, or regarding the attendance of absent members, may be adopted by a majority of the members present; and except that any votes to delete properties from the Greenbelt Forest Preserve shall require at least six (6) votes. ~~No member shall be excused from voting except on matters involving the consideration of his own official conduct or when his financial interests are involved.~~ Any member shall be entitled to abstain so long as such member gives a reason for abstaining and such reason falls within one of the following:

1. When to vote would or could be considered improper pursuant to the City and State Ethics Laws.

2. When to vote could or may show bias for or against a person, organization or business that the member has a close personal relationship with thus reflecting poorly on the member and the office such member holds.
3. When for any other reason a member is not comfortable voting and has given the Chair a reason for requesting to abstain so long as excused by the Chair or Council by vote.

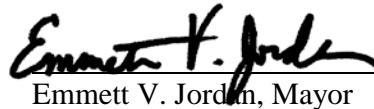
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SECTION III BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the date of the adoption of this resolution is February 24, 2014, and that the amendment to the Charter of the City, as herein adopted, shall be and become effective on April 15, 2014, unless on or before April 5, 2014, a proper petition for referendum on this resolution shall be filed as permitted by law.

SECTION IV BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a complete and exact copy of this resolution shall be posted at the Greenbelt City Office, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland, until April 5, 2014 and a fair summary of the proposed Charter amendment contained in this resolution shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Greenbelt not fewer than four (4) times at weekly intervals before April 5, 2014.

SECTION V BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as soon as the Charter amendment hereby enacted shall become effective, either as herein provided or following a referendum, the City Manager shall send or cause to be sent to the Department of Legislative Reference the following information concerning this Charter resolution: (1) the complete text of this resolution; (2) the date of enactment of the Charter amendment; (3) the date of the referendum election, if any; (4) the number of votes cast for or against this resolution whether by the City Council or in a referendum; and (5) the effective date of the Charter amendment contained herein.

SECTION VI AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager of the City of Greenbelt be and hereby is specifically enjoined and instructed to carry out or cause to be carried out the provisions of Sections IV and V.


Emmett V. Jordan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cindy Murray, City Clerk

Key:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.

~~Overstriking~~ indicates language deleted from existing law.

Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.