

CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND  
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

*Agenda*

*August 8, 2024 – 5:30 pm*

*Join Zoom Meeting*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89638801207?pwd=ZDIHZ3BNekhYmFzVTRHdXFZWtNCdz09>

*Dial-in: 301-715-8592  
Meeting ID: 896 3880 1207  
Passcode: 680278*

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes - None
5. Review/Discussion:
  - a. Draft of Council Vacancies Legislation
6. New Business
7. Schedule for the Next Meeting
8. Adjournment

## GREENBELT CHARTER, SECTION 32

### Present Provisions and Proposed Amendments Regarding Council Vacancies

#### PRESENT CHARTER

##### SECTION 32. Vacancies on council.

If a seat in the council becomes vacant, the remaining members of council by a majority vote shall, as soon as possible, elect a person to fill the unexpired term. If three (3) or more council seats are vacant at the same time, the board of elections shall call at the earliest date a special election to fill said vacancies for the unexpired terms.

#### FIRST PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT

##### SECTION 32. Vacancies on [council] Council.

If a seat [in the council becomes vacant, the remaining members of council by a majority vote shall, as soon as possible, elect a person to fill the unexpired term. If three (3) or more council seats are vacant at the same time, the board of elections shall call at the earliest date a special election to fill said vacancies for the unexpired terms] on the Council becomes vacant for any reason, including without limitation death or resignation, physical or mental or legal incapacity, or willful failure to participate in Council proceedings, all as determined by majority vote of the Council, then the vacancy shall be filled as provided in the Election Code.

#### SECOND PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT

##### SECTION 32. Vacancies on [council] Council.

If a seat [in the council becomes vacant, the remaining members of council by a majority vote shall, as soon as possible, elect a person to fill the unexpired term. If three (3) or more council seats are vacant at the same time, the board of elections shall call at the earliest date a special

election to fill said vacancies for the unexpired terms] on the Council becomes vacant for any reason, including without limitation death or resignation, physical or mental or legal incapacity, or willful failure to participate in Council proceedings, all as determined by majority vote of the Council, then the vacancy shall be filled as provided in this section.

(a) If the vacancy occurs during the period after a regular election until 181 days before the next election, then it shall be filled by special election, by mail-in voting, as follows:

(1) After Council by resolution announces the vacancy, candidates must file nomination papers with the Clerk within 15 days. Nomination papers to be filed include a petition signed by the candidate and 25 registered voters and a financial report form signed by the candidate's appointed treasurer showing an open bank account for the candidate's campaign donations and expenditures.

(2) Within twenty days of the close of filing of candidates' nomination papers, the Clerk, using Prince George's County's list of registered voters and the City's supplemental list of voters, shall prepare for mailing a ballot setting out all eligible candidates. Names on the ballot shall appear in the order the candidates filed their nomination papers. The ballot shall then be submitted to Council for review.

(3) Once the ballot has been approved by Council, the Clerk shall mail it first-class to all registered voters, with instructions for completion and submittal. Voters must submit their ballots to the Clerk's office by mail, by drop box, or by personal delivery, within 30 days of the date of the Clerk's mailing.

(4) Within three days of the final day for voting, the Board of Elections shall receive all ballots from the Clerk, determine the vote total for each candidate, and certify the results to the Council.

(b) If the vacancy occurs more than 60 and up to 180 days before the next regular election, then Council members must fill it by majority vote, within 45 days. The Council must hold a public hearing and allow the nomination in writing, up to the date of the hearing, of any resident who is a qualified voter in the City.

(c) If the vacancy occurs 60 or fewer days before the next regular election, then the seat may remain vacant until after the election or the Council, in its discretion, may fill the seat for the remainder of the Council term.

(d) If at any time there occur three or more vacancies, then the seats must be filled by special election. Nominations, ballot preparation, voting, and certification shall follow the procedures stated above.

(e) After a vote to fill a vacancy has been certified by the Board of Elections or has otherwise been determined final by the Council, the selected candidate, within ten days, shall take the oath of office and be eligible to participate in all Council proceedings.