

(Sections 30 and 32 only)

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-02
INTRODUCED _____
ADOPTED _____
EFFECTIVE _____

RESOLUTION
TO AMEND SECTIONS 30 AND 32 OF THE TOWN CHARTER
REGARDING NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

WHEREAS extending the nominations deadline serves a public purpose by providing additional time for consideration by those who wish to submit a nomination and those who agree to be nominated; and

WHEREAS adding an explicit provision for write-in votes on the ballots serves a public purpose to reinforce tradition and clarify the intent to authorize such voting in Washington Grove.

Therefore, be it RESOLVED by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Washington Grove, Maryland, pursuant to the provisions of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended, that Section 30 (Nominations) and Section 32 (Conduct of Elections) of the Charter of the Town of Washington Grove, Montgomery County, Maryland, enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, Session of 1937, as amended, are hereby amended so as to read: (Note: underline indicates language to be added, [[double brackets]] indicates language to be eliminated.)

30. Nominations

Persons may be nominated for elective office in the Town by filing a certificate of nomination with the Board of Supervisors of Elections on or before the second Monday in [[March]] April next preceding the Town election. The certificate of nomination must be in writing and must be signed by at least two qualified voters of the Town. A certificate of nomination for Councilor must indicate whether the person is being nominated for a regular three-year Council term or for the balance of the term of a vacated Council position, if any vacancies exist. No person may file for nomination to more than one elective Town public office or hold more than one elective Town public office at any one time. A person accepting nomination for the office of Mayor who is at the time a member of the Council must resign office as a member of the Council upon accepting the nomination for the office of Mayor, the resignation to be effective on the date on which the newly elected Mayor assumes office. A vacancy in the Council must be considered a separate elective office.

32. Conduct of Elections

It is the duty of the Board of Supervisors of Elections to provide for each special and general election a suitable place or places for voting and suitable ballot boxes and/or voting machines. The ballots and/or voting machines must show the name of each candidate nominated to elective office in accordance with the provisions of this Charter, arranged in alphabetical order by office with no party designations of any kind. Space shall also be provided on the ballots and/or voting machines for write-in votes to be recorded. The Board must keep the polls open from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on election

day or for longer hours if the Council requires it. The Board must supply an absentee ballot to any qualified voter of the Town requesting one who certifies in writing that he or she will not be able to be present to vote during the time designated for the polls to be open. Such absentee ballots, if delivered to the Board prior to the end of the time designated for the polls to be closed, must be counted as though cast at the polls. Within two hours of the closing of the polls, the Board of Supervisors of Elections must determine the vote cast for each candidate or question and must certify the results of the election to the Clerk-Treasurer of the Town, and thereafter must announce the results at the Town Meeting. The Clerk-Treasurer must record the results in the minutes of the Town Meeting. The candidate for Mayor with the highest number of votes must be declared elected as Mayor. The candidates for Councilor with the highest number of votes for each Council position must be declared elected as Councilors.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Charter Amendment shall be effective on March 16, 2010, unless a valid petition for referendum is presented to the Town Council in accordance with the provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Approved by the Mayor and Town Council

Mayor Date

ATTEST:

Town Clerk Date