

**TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT HOLLY  
BURLINGTON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-8**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK OF  
THE TOWNSHIP OF MOUNT HOLLY, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON AND STATE OF  
NEW JERSEY, TO PROVIDE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A QUESTION  
REGARDING AMENDMENT TO THE TOWNSHIP'S CHARTER TO INCLUDE  
ALTERNATIVE UNDER THE "COUNCIL-MANAGER PLAN OF GOVERNMENT"  
PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40:69A-25.1 AT THE 2023 GENERAL ELECTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Charter of the Township of Mount Holly operates under the "Council-Manager Plan of government" pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:69A-81, and the form of government provides for the election of five council members for four-year terms at regular municipal elections held in November (pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:45-7.1);

**WHEREAS**, the "Council-Manager Plan of Government" is an Optional Municipal Charter Law under the Falkner Act which provides for several alternatives regarding the make-up of Council and the election of Council;

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A.40:69A-25.1 allows for the amendment of a Government's Charter when alternatives exist under a particular Plan of Government which "may be submitted to the voters by Ordinance adopted by the Governing Body";

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council for the Township of Mount Holly desires that the citizens of Mount Holly have an opportunity to determine whether or not they desire to amend the Charter of the Township of Mount Holly to change elections for Township Council from their current partisan format of municipal elections to non-partisan municipal elections pursuant to "Uniform Nonpartisan Elections Law," as permitted under N.J.S.A. 69A-25.1 in which the candidates are not identified by party affiliation;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the Township of Mount Holly, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey as follows:

**Section I.** Upon passage of this Ordinance, the Municipal Clerk of the Township of Mount Holly is authorized and directed to provide for the submission of the following question at the November 7, 2023 general election to be held in the Township of Mount Holly:

"Shall the Charter of the Township of Mount Holly be amended, as permitted by the 'Council-Manager Plan of Government', as permitted under that plan to provide for the holding of General elections in November, identifying the candidates running for Township Council by no party affiliation?"

## INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT

The adoption of this Amendment changes elections for Township Council currently held in November presently with party affiliation to a system of holding Regular Municipal Elections pursuant to the Uniform Nonpartisan Elections Law in November.

Township Council elections are presently partisan in nature. The adoption of this amendment would convert the municipal elections to be non-partisan in nature.

**Section II.** The Municipal Clerk is authorized and directed to provide for the submission of the aforesaid question regarding the amendment to the Township's Charter at the 2023 General Election to be held in the Township of Mount Holly.

**Section III.** Each clause, section, or subsection of this Ordinance shall be deemed to a separate provision to the extent that if any clause, section, or subsection should be declared invalid, the remainder of the ordinance shall not be affected.

**Section IV.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed as to the extent of such inconsistency.

**Section V.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption and publication according to Law.

Introduced July 31, 2023

Councilmember	Motion	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Yea	Nay	Recuse	Abstain	Absent
T. Astor			X				
L. Brown		X		X			
K. Burkus			X				
J. Jones	X		X				
C. Banks						X	

Adopted August 11, 2023

Councilmember	Motion	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Yea	Nay	Recuse	Abstain	Absent
T. Astor		X	X				
L. Brown			X				
K. Burkus			X				
J. Jones	X		X				
C. Banks			X				

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Christopher Banks, Mayor

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Sherry Marnell, RMC

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Sherry Marnell, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Mount Holly, County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the forgoing to be a true and correct copy of an Ordinance which was introduced by the Council of the Township of Mount Holly at its meeting of July 31, 2023 with a second reading, public hearing, and final adoption held on August 11, 2023.

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**SHERRY L. MARNELL, RMC  
TOWNSHIP CLERK**