

COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY

CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION No.: 2025-01



A CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF RIDGELY TO PROVIDE THAT THE CLERK-TREASURER SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO APPOINTMENT ON AN ANNUAL BASIS BUT SHALL SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF RIDGELY; PROVIDING THAT THE TITLE OF THIS CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION SHALL BE DEEMED A FAIR SUMMARY AND GENERALLY RELATING TO ELECTIONS IN THE TOWN OF RIDGELY.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article XI-E, § 3 of the Constitution of Maryland, the Commissioners of Ridgely (the “Commissioners”), as the legislative body of the Town of Ridgely (the “Town”), are authorized and empowered to amend the Town’s Charter (the “Charter”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article XI-E, § 4 of the Constitution of Maryland, an amendment to the Charter shall be proposed either by a resolution of the Commissioners or by a petition containing the signatures of at least twenty (20) percent of the registered voters of the Town and filed with the Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Local Gov’t §§ 4-302(1) and 4-304, the Commissioners may initiate a proposed amendment or amendments to the Charter by a resolution which, except as otherwise specified in the subtitle, is ordained in the usual course of considering resolutions in the Town government, by a majority of the Commissioners, and the same shall be subject to the right of referendum; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners are desirous of amending the Charter for the purpose of providing that the Clerk-Treasurer shall not be subject to appointment on an annual basis but shall serve at the pleasure of the Commissioners of Ridgely; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners, to provide for the reasonable and appropriate representation of the citizens of the Town and to provide for the better management and governance of the Town and its affairs, deem it necessary and appropriate for the good government and citizens of the Town to amend certain provisions of the Charter as set forth herein.

SECTION ONE. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Ridgely that Section 11 of the Charter of the Town of Ridgely be and it is amended as follows:

Section 11 **Clerk; appointment, compensation.**

~~((At the first regular meeting of the Commissioners of Ridgely on the first Monday of May in each year, the))~~ **The** Commissioners of Ridgely shall appoint one person, who shall not be a member of the Commissioners of Ridgely, to act as Clerk to the Commissioners of Ridgely~~((;))~~ **and** Collector of Town Taxes and Treasurer, who shall ~~((be the same person, and whose term of office shall be for one year and until A successor is duly qualified))~~ **serve at the pleasure of the Commissioners of Ridgely.** The Clerk shall receive such salary and compensation as may be fixed by the Commissioners of Ridgely, ~~((and))~~ shall perform all the duties imposed on the Clerk by ~~((ordinance of the Commissioners of Ridgely and by))~~ law and shall be called "Clerk-Treasurer of Ridgely".

SECTION TWO. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Ridgely that, in this Resolution, unless a section of the Charter is expressly repealed in its entirety and reenacted, new or added language is in bold, underlined font and deleted text is enclosed in double parentheses.

SECTION THREE. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Ridgely that if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Resolution is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution, it being the intent of the Commissioners that this Resolution shall stand, notwithstanding the invalidity of any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion hereof.


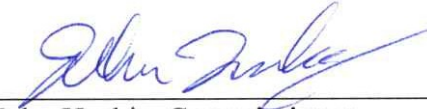

SECTION FOUR. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Ridgely that to the extent that any section of the Charter is in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution, such section or sections be and hereby are repealed to the extent of such conflict.


SECTION FIVE. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Ridgely that the date of adoption of this Resolution is December 1, 2025, and the Charter amendment enacted by this Resolution shall become effective upon the fiftieth (50th) day after adoption, or on January 20, 2026, unless a proper petition for a referendum hereon shall be filed on or before the forty-second (42nd) day after adoption, or on January 12, 2026, the fortieth (40th) day thereafter being a Saturday, as provided by law. A complete and exact copy of this Resolution shall be posted at the Town Office, 2 Central Avenue, Ridgely, Maryland 21660, or another main municipal building or public place, for a period of at least forty-two (42) days following its adoption, or until January 12, 2026, and the title to this Resolution, being a fair summary of the Charter amendment enacted hereby, shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City not less than four (4) times, at weekly intervals within a period of at least forty (40) days, starting immediately after the date of its adoption, or between December 2, 2025, and January 12, 2026.

SECTION SIX. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Ridgely that as soon as the Charter amendment enacted by this Resolution shall become effective, either as herein provided or following a referendum, the Clerk-Treasurer or her designee shall send by certified mail, return receipt requested, bearing a postmark from the United States Postal Service, to the Department of Legislative Services of the State of Maryland, the following documents or information concerning the Charter amendment: (1) the complete text of this Resolution; (2) the date of the referendum election, if any, held with respect thereto; (3) the number of votes cast for or against this Resolution by the Commissioners or in a referendum; and (4) the effective date of the Charter amendment.

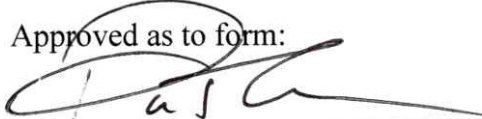
SECTION SEVEN. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Commissioners of Ridgely that the Clerk-Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to carry out the provisions of the foregoing Recitals; and as evidence of compliance herewith, the Clerk-Treasurer or her designee shall cause to be affixed to the minutes of the Commissioners for the meeting at which this Resolution is adopted: (1) a certificate to the effect that this Resolution was duly and properly posted as provided herein; (2) an appropriate certificate of publication in the newspaper in which the fair summary of this Charter Amendment Resolution shall have been published as provided herein; and (3) the return receipt of the mailing as provided herein.

This Charter Amendment Resolution was introduced at a public meeting of the Commissioners of Ridgely, held on the 3rd day of November 2025, and having been reviewed and considered for final action, was duly adopted on the 1st day of December 2025.

VOTE	 _____ Clarence B. (Brad) Sears, President
YEAS <u>3</u>	 _____ John Hurley, Commissioner
NAYS _____	
ABSTAINING _____	 _____ Chad Leister, Commissioner

Attest:


Stephanie Berkey, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Approved as to form:


Patrick W. Thomas, Town Attorney