

# **CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT, MARYLAND**

**Originally Adopted July 8, 1957**

**Re-adopted thru Codification - March 5, 2005**

**With subsequent amendments thereafter**

**Thru July 31, 2024**

**OFFICIALS  
OF THE  
TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT**

**Town Hall  
P. O. Box 307  
Williamsport, Maryland 21795  
Telephone: 301-223-7711**

**2005**

**John W. Slayman, Mayor**

**Walter Tracey, Jr., Assistant Mayor**

**Council**

**Roxann Long, Councilperson  
Gloria Bitner, Councilperson  
James McCleaf, Councilperson  
Earle R. Pereschuk, Sr., Councilperson  
Monty R. Jones, Councilperson**

**Bonnie Errico, Town Clerk**

**Robert E. Kuczynski, Esquire  
Edward L. Kuczynski, Esquire**

**Town Attorneys**

**Date of Publication: March 1, 2005**

# **CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT, MARYLAND**

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## **§ 1. Corporate name**

This charter is a municipal corporation charter of the Town of Williamsport, the corporate name of which is The Town of Williamsport.

## **§ 2. Definitions.**

(a) The terms "town," "city," "municipality," or "municipal corporation" in this charter shall be construed as synonymous.

(b) Whenever the male gender is used, the provisions of that section shall apply equally to the female gender.

## **GENERAL CORPORATE POWERS**

### **§ 3. General powers.**

The municipal corporation here established (or continued), under its corporate name, has all the privileges of a body corporate, by that name to sue and be sued, to plead and be impleaded in any court of law or equity, to have and use a common seal and may pass and adopt all ordinances, resolutions, or by-laws necessary or proper to exercise the powers granted herein or under the laws of the State of Maryland and Constitution thereof.

## **CORPORATE LIMITS**

### **§ 4. Description of corporate boundaries.**

A description of the corporate boundaries of the town at all times shall be on file with the town clerk or other comparable official and with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Washington County, Maryland and the Department of Legislative Reference, and is incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference (appendix).

## **THE COUNCIL**

### **§ 5. Number of council members; selection; term.**

All legislative powers of the town are vested in a council consisting of the Mayor, Assistant Mayor and five council members who shall be elected as hereinafter provided and who shall hold office for a term of four years or until the succeeding council takes office. The regular term of council members shall expire on the second Monday following the election of their successors or until the termination of their term shall terminate by operation of law. Council members holding office at the time this charter becomes effective shall continue to hold office for the term for which

they were elected and until the succeeding council takes office under the provisions of this charter, or until termination by operation of law.

**§ 6. Qualifications of council members.**

Council members shall have resided in the town for at least one year immediately preceding their election and shall be qualified voters of the town.

**§ 7. Salary of council members.**

Each council member shall receive an annual salary which shall be equal for all council members and shall be as specified from time to time by an ordinance passed by the council in the regular course of its business; provided, however, that the salary specified at the time any council takes office shall not be changed during the period for which that council was elected. The ordinance making any change in the salary paid to the several council members, either by way of increase or decrease, shall be finally ordained prior to the municipal election for the members of the next succeeding council and shall take effect only as to the members of the next succeeding council.

**§ 8. Meetings of council.**

The newly elected council shall meet at 8:00 p.m. on the second Monday following its election for the purpose of organization, after which the council shall meet regularly at such times as may be prescribed by its rules, but not less frequently than once each month. Special meetings shall be called by the clerk-treasurer upon the request of the mayor or a majority of the members of the council. All meetings of the council shall be open to the public, and the rules of the council shall provide that residents of the town shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard at any meeting in regard to any municipal question. The mayor and council shall have the right to close its meetings to the public for the purposes set forth in the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, § 10-501, et. seq. as it now exists and as may be amended from time to time. Applicable state laws shall control and regulate any closed meeting which may be held by the mayor and council.

**§ 9. Council to be judge of qualifications of its members.**

The council shall be the judge of the election and qualification of its members.

**§ 10. President and vice-president of council.**

The mayor shall serve as president of the council. The mayor may take part in all discussions, and he shall have the right to vote. In the absence of the Mayor, the Assistant Mayor shall act as the president at all meetings of the council.

**§ 11. Quorum.**

A majority of the members of the council including the Mayor and Assistant Mayor shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but no ordinance shall be approved nor any other action taken without the favorable votes of a majority of the whole number of members elected to the council.

**§ 12. Rules and order of business; journal.**

The council shall determine its own rules and order of business. It shall keep a journal of its proceedings and enter therein the yeas and nays upon final action on any question, resolution, or ordinance, or at any other time if required by any one member. The journal shall be open to public inspection.

**§ 13. Vacancies in council.**

Vacancies in the council shall be filled as provided in § 42 of this charter.

**§ 14. Passage of ordinances; publication; effective date.**

No ordinance shall be passed at the meeting at which it is introduced. At any regular or special meeting of the council held not less than six nor more than sixty days after the meeting at which an ordinance was introduced, it shall be passed, or passed as amended, or rejected, or its consideration deferred to some specified future date. In cases of emergency the provision that an ordinance may not be passed at the meeting at which it is introduced may be suspended by the affirmative votes of four members of the council. Every ordinance, unless it be passed as an emergency ordinance, shall become effective at the expiration of twenty calendar days following the date of passage by the council. Each ordinance shall be published by title at least twice in a newspaper or newspapers having general circulation in the municipality. An emergency ordinance shall become effective on the date specified in the ordinance.

### **§ 15. Referendum.**

If, before the expiration of twenty calendar days following the approval of any ordinance, a petition is filed with the clerk-treasurer containing the signatures of not less than twenty per cent (30%) of the qualified voters of the town and requesting that the ordinance, or any part thereof, be submitted to a vote of the qualified voters of the town for their approval or disapproval, the council shall have the ordinance, or the part thereof requested for the referendum, submitted to a vote of the qualified voters of the town at the next regular town election or, in the discretion of the council, at a special election occurring before the next regular election. No ordinance, or the part thereof requested for referendum, shall become effective following the receipt of such petition until and unless approved at the election by a majority of the qualified voters voting on the question. An emergency ordinance, or the part thereof requested for referendum, shall continue in effect for sixty days following receipt of such petition. If the question of approval or disapproval of any emergency ordinance, or any part thereof, has not been submitted to the qualified voters within sixty days following receipt of the petition, then operation of the ordinance, or the part thereof requested for referendum, shall be suspended until approved by a majority of the qualified voters voting on the question at any election. Any ordinance, or part thereof, disapproved by the voters, shall stand repealed. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any ordinance, or part thereof, passed under the authority of § 63, levying property taxes for the payment of indebtedness, but the provisions of this section shall apply to any ordinance, or any part thereof, levying special assessment charges under the provisions of §§ 85 and 86. The provisions of this section shall be self-executing, but the council may adopt ordinances in furtherance of these provisions and not in conflict with them.

### **§ 16. File of ordinances.**

Ordinances shall be permanently filed by the clerk-treasurer and shall be kept available for public inspection in accordance with the Annotated Code of Maryland.

## **THE MAYOR**

### **§ 17. Selection and term.**

The mayor shall be elected as hereinafter provided and shall hold office for a term of four years or until the mayor's successor is elected and qualified. The newly elected mayor shall take office on the second Monday following the mayor's election. The mayor holding office at the time this charter becomes effective shall continue to hold office for the term for which elected and until said successor takes office under the provisions of this charter.



## **§ 18. Qualifications.**

The mayor must have resided in the town for at least one year immediately preceding the date of the election for a mayor and must be a qualified voter of the town.

## **§ 19. Salary of Mayor.**

The mayor shall receive an annual salary as set from time to time by an ordinance passed by the council in the regular course of business. No change shall be made in the salary for any mayor during the term for which the mayor was elected. The ordinance making any change in the salary paid to the mayor, either by way of increase or decrease, shall be finally ordained prior to the municipal election to elect the next succeeding mayor, and shall take effect only as to the next succeeding mayor.

## **§ 20. Powers and duties.**

(a) Generally. -- The mayor shall see that the ordinances of the town are faithfully executed and shall be the chief executive officer and the head of the administrative branch of the town government.

(b) Appointments and removal of employees and heads of offices, departments and agencies. -- The mayor, with the approval of the council, shall appoint the heads of all offices, departments, and agencies of the town government as established by this charter or by ordinance. All office, department, and agency heads shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor, except as may be otherwise provided by the provisions of this Charter or Ordinance. All subordinate officers and employees of the offices, departments, and agencies of the town government shall be appointed and removed by the mayor, in accordance with rules and regulations in any merit system which may be adopted by the council.

(c) Reports and recommendations to council. -- The mayor each year shall report to the council the condition of municipal affairs and make such recommendations as the mayor deems proper for the public good and the welfare of the town.

(d) Supervision of financial administration of government. -- The mayor shall have complete supervision of the financial administration of the town government. The mayor shall prepare or have prepared annually a budget and submit it to the council. The mayor shall supervise the administration of the budget as adopted by the council. The mayor shall supervise the distribution of all moneys and have control over all expenditures to assure that budget appropriations are not exceeded.

(e) Other powers and duties. -- The mayor shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this charter or as may be required of the mayor by the council, not inconsistent with this Charter.

## **THE ASSISTANT MAYOR**

### **§ 21. Selection and term of Assistant Mayor**

The assistant mayor shall be elected as hereinafter provided and shall hold office for a term of four years or until his successor is elected and qualified. The newly elected assistant mayor shall take office on the second Monday following his election. The assistant mayor holding office at the time this Charter becomes effective shall continue to hold office for the term for which he was elected and until his successor takes office under the provisions of this Charter.

### **§ 22. Qualification of Assistant Mayor**

The assistant mayor must have resided in the town for at least one year immediately preceding his election and must be a qualified voter of the town.

### **§ 23. Salary of Assistant Mayor**

The assistant mayor shall receive an annual salary as set from time to time by an ordinance passed by the council in the regular course of business. Provided, however, that no change shall be made in the salary for an assistant mayor during the term for which he was elected. The ordinance making any change in the salary paid to the assistant mayor, either by way of increase or decrease, shall be finally ordained prior to the municipal election to elect the next succeeding assistant mayor, and shall take effect only as to the next succeeding assistant mayor.

### **§ 24. Powers and duties of Assistant Mayor**

- (a) The assistant mayor shall have the right to vote.
- (b) The assistant mayor shall act as president of the council in the absence of the mayor as provided for in § 10.
- (c) The assistant mayor shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this Charter or as may be required of him by the council, not inconsistent with this Charter.

## **GENERAL POWERS**

### **§ 25. Powers of council enumerated.**

(1) General powers. – The council shall have the power to all enact such ordinances authorized by and not contrary to the Constitution and laws of the State of Maryland or this Charter as it may deem necessary for the good government of the town; for the protection and preservation of the town's property, rights, and privileges; for the preservation of peace and good order; for securing persons and property from violence, danger, or destruction; and for the protection and promotion of the health, safety, comfort, convenience, welfare, and happiness of the residents of and visitors in the town.

The council shall have all of the powers, privileges, immunities, duties and obligations as set forth in Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the Constitution of the State of Maryland, and all other applicable laws or regulations of the State of Maryland as are now in force or may be amended from time to time.

(2) Specific powers. – The council shall have, in addition, but not limited thereto, the power to pass ordinances not contrary to the laws and Constitution of the State of Maryland for all those specific purposes set forth in Article 23A, Section 2 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and any other provisions of the public general laws of the State of Maryland that may be applicable, and subject to any provisions to the contrary set forth in this Charter.

(3) Saving clause. -- The enumeration of any powers in this section is not to be construed as limiting the powers of the town to the several subjects mentioned. The Mayor and council shall exercise all those powers in addition to those enumerated and granted by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Maryland or its Charter.

### **§ 26. Exercise of powers.**

For the purpose of carrying out the powers granted in this charter, the council may pass all necessary ordinances and/or resolutions. All the powers of the town shall be exercised in the manner prescribed by this charter, or, if the manner be not prescribed, then in such manner as may be prescribed by ordinance or the laws of the State of Maryland.

### **§ 27. Enforcement of ordinances and resolutions.**

To insure the observance of the ordinances and resolutions of the town, the council as the legislative body shall have the power to provide that violations of ordinances and resolutions shall be punishable as misdemeanors or constitute a municipal infraction as provided in Article 23A of the

Annotated Code of Maryland, and/or any other applicable statutory provisions, as now prescribed by such statutory provisions or as may be amended from time to time.

## **REGISTRATION, NOMINATION, AND ELECTION**

### **§ 28. Qualifications of voters.**

Every person who (a) is a citizen of the United States, (b) is at least eighteen (18) years of age, (c) has been a resident of the State of Maryland for at least thirty (30) days next preceding any town election, (d) is a bona fide resident within the corporate limits of the town of Williamsport for thirty (30) days as of the time for closing registration, next preceding any town election, and (e) is registered in accordance with the provisions of this Charter or any ordinance applicable thereto, or in accordance with the provisions of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, entitled Election Code, as it now exists or may be subsequently amended, shall be a qualified voter of the town. Every qualified voter of the town shall be entitled to vote at any or all town elections.

### **§ 29. Board of supervisors of elections.**

There shall be a board of supervisors of elections, consisting of three members who shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the council on or before the first Monday in March in every second odd-numbered year. The terms of members of the board of supervisors of elections begin on the first Monday in March in the year in which they are appointed and run for four years. Members of the board of supervisors of elections shall be qualified voters of the town and shall not hold or be candidates for any elective office during their term of office. The board shall appoint one of its members as chairperson. Vacancies on the board shall be filled by the Mayor with the approval of the council for the remainder of the unexpired term. The compensation of the members of the board, if any, shall be determined by the council.

### **§ 30. Same -- Removal of members.**

Any member of the board of supervisors of elections may be removed for good cause by the council, if in the judgment of the council the member is not properly performing or will not properly perform the duties of the position. Before removal, the member of the board of supervisors of elections to be removed shall be given a written copy of the charges against said member and shall have a public hearing on them before the council if said member so requests within ten days after receiving the written copy of the charges.

**§ 31. Same -- Duties.**

The board of supervisors of elections shall be in charge of the registration of voters, nominations, and all town elections. The board may appoint election clerks or other employees to assist it in any of its duties. Any compensation of such persons, if any, shall be subject to the determination and approval of the council.

**§ 32. Notice of registration days and elections.**

The board of supervisors of elections shall give at least two weeks' notice of every registration day and every election by an advertisement published in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the town and by posting a notice thereof in some public place or places in the town.

**§ 33. Registration.**

There shall be a registration two weeks preceding the date of every election of qualified persons not registered to vote. If necessary for the performance of registration, or the convenience of the citizens of the town, the Mayor may designate additional days as registration days. Registration shall be permanent, and no person is entitled to vote in town elections unless the person is registered.

The board of supervisors of elections shall keep the registration lists up to date by striking from the lists persons known to have died or to have moved out of the town. The council, by ordinance, shall adopt and enforce any provisions necessary to establish and maintain a system of permanent registration and provide for a re-registration when necessary.

In the event that any person is registered in accordance with the provisions of Article 33 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, entitled, Election Code, as it now exists, or may be subsequently amended, said person shall be considered as registered for purposes of this provision and shall be considered permanent registration.

**§ 34. Appeal from action of board of supervisors of elections.**

If any person is aggrieved by the action of the board of supervisors of elections in refusing to register or in striking off the name of any person, or by any other action said person may appeal to the council. Any decision or action of the council upon such appeals may be appealed to the circuit court for the county within the time allowed for such appeals.

**§ 35. Filing certificate of Nomination/Candidacy.**

**Amended – Resolution 2024-1 (See insert next page.)**

**§ 35. Filing certificate of Nomination/Candidacy.**

Persons may be nominated for elective office in the town by filing a certificate of nomination/candidacy at the office of the board of supervisors no later than the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Monday of February of the year of the election. No person shall file for nomination to more than one elective town public office or hold more than one elective town public office at any one time. In addition thereto, no elected officer of the town, except elected officers running for re-election, shall be a candidate or nominee for election to any town public office until he or she shall have first resigned from his/her office. If he/she fails to resign upon registering for candidacy and/or upon nomination, he/she shall be deemed to have forfeited his/her town public office immediately upon registration and/or nomination. Any such officer of the town who shall become a candidate for election by the people to a public office, other than a **town** public office, shall automatically forfeit such town position when and if he/she is elected for said public office.

**§36 Deleted.**

**Effective Date: July 30, 2024; Charter Amendment Resolution 2024-1**

preceding election. No person shall file for nomination to more than one elective town public office or hold more than one elective town public office at any one time. In addition thereto, no elected officer of the town, except elected officers running for re-election, shall be a candidate or nominee for election to any town public office unless he or she shall have first resigned from his/her then office. If he/she fails to resign upon registering for candidacy and/or upon nomination he/she shall be deemed to have forfeited his/her town public office immediately upon registration and/or nomination. Any such officer of the town who shall become a candidate for election by the people to a public office, other than a town public office, shall automatically forfeit such town position when and if he/she is elected for said public office.

**§ 36. Primary election; municipal meeting or convention.**

**Deleteded – Resolution 2024-1 (See insert prior page.)**

**§ 37. Election of mayor and council members.**

On the first Monday in March, 1959, and on the first Monday in March every two years thereafter an election shall be held for the purpose of electing officers of the said corporation. At the election to be held on the first Monday in March, 1959, and every four years thereafter, there shall be elected three councilmen whose term of office shall be for four years or until their successors are duly qualified, and at the election to be held on the first Monday in March, 1961, and every four years thereafter, there shall be elected a mayor, assistant mayor and two councilmen, whose term of office shall be for four years or until their successors are duly qualified.

**§ 38. Conduct of elections generally.**

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 ballots and/or voting machines. The ballots and/or voting machines shall show the name of each candidate nominated for elective office in accordance with the provisions of this charter, arranged in alphabetical order by office with no party designation of any kind. The board of supervisors of elections shall keep the polls open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on election days or for longer hours if the council requires it.

The Board of Supervisors of Elections shall arrange for voting by absentee ballot in accordance with the provisions of the election law of the Annotated Code of Maryland as it now exists and/or may be subsequently amended and shall so notify the voters of same.

**§ 39. Special elections.**

All special town elections shall be conducted by the board of supervisors of elections in the same manner and with the same personnel, as far as practicable, as regular town elections.

**§ 40. Vote count.**

Within forty-eight hours after the closing of the polls, the board of supervisors of elections shall determine the vote cast for each candidate or question and shall certify the results of the election to the clerk-treasurer of the town, who shall record the results in the minutes of the council. The candidate for mayor with the highest number of votes in the general election shall be declared elected as mayor. The candidate for assistant mayor with the highest number of votes in the general election shall be declared elected as assistant mayor. The five candidates for council members with the highest number of votes in the general election shall be declared elected as council members.

**§ 41. Preservation of votes.**

All ballots used in any town election shall be preserved for at least six months from the date of the election.

**§ 42. Vacancies.**

In the case of a vacancy on the council, except for the office of mayor, for any reason, the council shall elect some qualified person to fill such vacancy for the unexpired term of such person. In case of a vacancy in the office of mayor for any reason, the assistant mayor shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term. The council shall fill the then existing vacancy of assistant mayor by a favorable vote of the majority of the remaining members of the council. Any vacancies of any other council members for any reason whatsoever shall be filled by the favorable votes of a majority of the remaining members of the council. The results of any such vote shall be recorded in the minutes of the council. Vacancies shall be filled in the method set forth within fifteen (15) days of said vacancy.

**§ 43. Regulation and control by council.**

The council has the power to provide by ordinance in every respect not covered by the provisions of this charter for the conduct of registration, nomination, and town elections and for the prevention of fraud in connection therewith, and for a recount of ballots in case of doubt or fraud.



#### **§ 44. Penalties.**

Any person who (1) fails to perform any duty required of said person under the provisions of this subheading or any ordinances passed thereunder, (2) in any manner willfully or corruptly violates any of the provisions of this subheading or any ordinances passed thereunder, or (3) willfully or corruptly does anything which will or will tend to affect fraudulently any registration, nomination or town election, is guilty of a misdemeanor. Any officer or employee of the town government who is convicted of a misdemeanor under the provisions of this section shall immediately upon conviction thereof cease to hold such office or employment. The above penalty is in addition to and is not in derogation of any punishment or penalty for violation of any Federal, state or local election laws.

### **FINANCE**

#### **§ 45. Clerk-treasurer.**

**Amended – Resolution 2006-01 ( See Appendix 2)**

**Amended – Resolution 2017-01 (Supersedes 2006-01 See Appendix 2)**  
**(See inserted next pages)**

#### **§ 46. Same – Powers and duties.**

**Amended – Resolution 2017-1 (See inserted next pages)**

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE**

**§45. Town Manager.**

**A. Creation of position of Town Manager.**

The position of Town Manager for the Town of Williamsport is hereby created.

**B. Appointment of Town Manager.**

The Town Manager shall be appointed by the Mayor, with the approval of the Council. The Town Manager shall serve at the direction and pleasure of the Mayor and Council. The Town Manager shall be chosen on the basis of accomplishments in organization and planning, and on the basis of experience in administration i.e business, institution, or political subdivision, with special reference to knowledge and experience in the accepted practices of the duties of the office hereinafter set forth. The Town Manager shall only be subject to removal by five (5) votes of the Mayor and Council. The Town Manager's term of employment shall continue uninterruptedly until termination in accordance with this Section.

**C. Compensation of Town Manager.**

The Town Manager shall receive such compensation as the Council shall prescribe.

**D. Duties and responsibilities of Town Manager.**

The duties and responsibilities of Town Manger include the following:

- (1) The Town Manger shall organize, direct and supervise the administration of all departments, offices, and agencies of the Town in accordance with the direction of the Mayor and Council. The Town Manager shall also serve as the Clerk-Treasurer and shall discharge all duties and responsibilities of that position as provided in the Charter of the Town of Williamsport provided that said duties are delegated to the Town Manager by the Mayor and Council by appropriate Resolution. The terms, "Town Manager" and "Clerk-Treasurer" shall be construed as synonymous in this Charter in said event.
- (2) The Town Manager shall oversee and supervise the management of all personnel of the Town subject to the powers of the Mayor and the Council set forth elsewhere in this Charter.
- (3) The Town Manager shall see that all laws, provisions of the Town Charter and acts of the Council are faithfully executed.

**Liber 12 Folio 0689**  
Acts, Ordinances, Resolutions- Town  
Clerk of the Circuit Clerk  
Washington County

(4) The Town Manager shall attend all public meetings of the Council and shall have the right to participate in such discussions at such meetings, but the Town Manager may not vote.

(5) The Town Manager shall undertake such research and make reports and recommendations as the Council may direct or they may deem desirable and in the best interest of the Town of Williamsport.

**§46 Clerk-treasurer.**

There shall be a Clerk-Treasurer appointed by the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer shall serve at the direction of the Mayor and Council and shall only be removed for just cause. The Clerk-Treasurer shall only be subject to removal by five (5) votes, of the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer's terms of employment shall continue uninterruptedly until terminated in accordance with this Section. The Clerk-Treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of the town. The financial powers of the town, except as otherwise provided by this Charter, shall be exercised by the Clerk-Treasurer under the direct supervision of the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer's compensation shall be determined by the Council.

**§46A. Town Manager as Clerk-Treasurer.**

If delegated by the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager shall act as Clerk-Treasurer and carry out the duties of the Clerk-Treasurer as said duties are delegated to the Town Manager as set forth in this Charter.

If the Mayor and Council does not delegate the Clerk-Treasurer powers to the Town Manager, then there shall be a Clerk-Treasurer appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Council. The Clerk-Treasurer shall serve in accordance with §§45, 46 and 47 of this Charter. The Clerk-Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial officer of the Town. The financial powers of the Town, except as otherwise provided in this Charter, shall be exercised by the Clerk-Treasurer under the direct supervision of the Mayor.

**§46B. Clerk-Treasurer Powers and Duties.**

Under the supervision of the Mayor, the Clerk-Treasurer shall have authority and be shall be required to:

- (1) Prepare at the request of the Mayor an annual budget to be submitted by the Mayor to the Council.
- (2) Supervise and be responsible for the disbursement of all monies and have control over all expenditures to assure that budget appropriations are not exceeded.
- (3) Maintain a general accounting system for the Town in such form as the

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Washington County**

**Council may require, not contrary to State law.**

**(4) Submit at the end of each fiscal year, and at such other times as the Council may require, a complete financial report to the Council through the Mayor.**

**(5) Ascertain that all taxable property within the town is assessed for taxation.**

**(6) Collect all taxes, special assessments, license fees, liens, and all other revenues (including utility revenues) of the Town, and all other revenues for whose collection the Town is responsible and receive any funds receivable by the Town.**

**(7) Have custody of all public monies belonging to or under the control of the Town, except as to funds in the control of any set of trustees and have custody of all bonds and notes of the Town.**

**(8) Do such other things in relation to the fiscal or financial affairs of the Town as the Mayor or the Council may require or as may be required elsewhere in this Charter.**

**§47. Same – Bond.**

**The Town Manager and the Clerk-Treasurer shall provide a bond with such corporate surety and in such amount as the Council by Ordinance or Resolution may require.**

(6) Collect all taxes, special assessments, license fees, liens, and all other revenues (including utility revenues) of the town, and all other revenues for whose collection the town is responsible, and receive any funds receivable by the town.

(7) Have custody of all public moneys belonging to or under the control of the town, except as to funds in the control of any set of trustees, and have custody of all bonds and notes of the town.

(8) Do such other things in relation to the fiscal or financial affairs of the town as the mayor or the council may require or as may be required elsewhere in this charter.

**§ 47. Same—Bond.**

**Amended – Resolution 2017-01 ( See previous inserted pages)**

**§ 48. Fiscal year.**

The town shall operate on an annual budget. The fiscal year of the town shall begin on the first day of July in any year and shall end on the last day of June in the following year. The fiscal year constitutes the tax year, the budget year, and the accounting year.

**§ 49. Budget.**

The mayor, on such date as the council by ordinance determines, but at least thirty (30) days before the beginning of any fiscal year, shall submit a budget to the council. The budget shall provide a complete financial plan for the budget year and shall contain estimates of anticipated revenues and proposed expenditures for the coming year. The total of the anticipated revenues shall equal or exceed the total of the proposed expenditures. The budget shall be a public record in the office of the clerk-treasurer, open to public inspection by anyone during normal business hours.

**§ 50. Same -- Adoption of Budget.**

Before adopting the budget the council shall hold a public hearing thereon after two weeks' notice thereof in some newspaper or newspapers having general circulation within the municipality. The council may insert new items or may increase or decrease the items of the budget. If the council increases the total proposed expenditures it shall also increase the total anticipated revenues in an amount at least equal to the total proposed expenditures. The budget shall be prepared and adopted in the form of an ordinance. A favorable vote of at least a majority of the total elected membership of the council is necessary for adoption. The budget shall be effective on July 1; the commencement of the fiscal year.

### **§ 51. Appropriations.**

No public money may be expended without having been appropriated by the council. From the effective date of the budget, the several amounts stated therein as proposed expenditures shall be and become appropriated to the several objects and purposes names therein.

### **§ 52. Transfer of funds.**

Any transfer of funds between major appropriations for different purposes by the mayor must be approved by the council before becoming effective.

### **§ 53. Over expenditures forbidden.**

No officer or employee during any budget year may expend or contract to expend any money or incur any liability or enter into any contract which by its terms involves the expenditure of money for any purpose, in excess of the amounts appropriated for or transferred to that general classification of expenditure pursuant to this charter. Any contract, verbal or written, made in violation of this charter is null and void. Nothing in this section contained, however, prevents the making of contracts or the spending of money for capital improvements to be financed in whole or in part by the issuance of bonds, nor the making of contracts of lease for services for a period exceeding the budget year in which the contract is made, when the contract is permitted by law.

### **§ 54. Appropriations lapse after one year.**

All appropriations lapse at the end of the budget year to the extent that they are not expended or lawfully encumbered. Any unexpected and unencumbered funds shall be considered a surplus at the end of the budget year and shall be included among the anticipated revenues for the next succeeding budget year.

### **§ 55. Checks.**

All checks issued in payment of salaries or other municipal obligations shall be issued and signed by the clerk-treasurer and shall be countersigned by the assistant mayor. In the absence of the assistant mayor, the mayor shall countersign said checks.

#### **§ 56. Taxable property.**

All real property and all tangible personal property within the corporate limits of the town, or personal property which may have a situs there by reason of the residence of the owner therein, is subject to taxation for municipal purposes, and the assessment used shall be the same as that for State and county taxes. No authority is given by this section to impose taxes on any property which is exempt from taxation by any act of the General Assembly.

#### **§ 57. Budget authorizes levy.**

From the effective date of the budget, the amount stated therein as the amount to be raised by the property tax constitutes a determination of the amount of the tax levy in the corresponding tax year.

#### **§ 58. Notice of tax levy.**

Immediately after the levy is made by the council in each year, the clerk-treasurer shall give notice of the making of the levy by posting a notice thereof in some public place or places in the town. The clerk-treasurer shall make out and mail or deliver in person to each taxpayer or taxpayer's agent at their last known address a bill or account of the taxes due from said taxpayer. This bill or account shall contain a statement of the amount of real and personal property with which the taxpayer is assessed, the rate of taxation, the amount of taxes due, and the date on which the taxes will bear interest. Failure to give or receive any notice required by this section shall not relieve any taxpayer of the responsibility to pay on the dates established by this charter all taxes levied on taxpayer's property.

#### **§ 59. When taxes are overdue.**

The taxes provided for in § 56 of this charter are due and payable on the first day of July in the year for which they are levied and are overdue and in arrears on the first day of the following October. They shall bear interest while in arrears at the maximum rate provided for by State law for each month or fraction of a month until fully paid. All taxes not paid and in arrears shall be collected as provided in § 60.

#### **§ 60. Sale of tax-delinquent property.**

A list of all property on which the town taxes have not been paid and which are in arrears after they are levied shall be submitted by the clerk-treasurer of the town to the treasurer, collector, or any other official of the County of Washington responsible for the sale of tax-delinquent property

as provided by the Annotated Code of Maryland. The official designated herein for the purposes of collection shall proceed to sell and sell in accordance with the provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland applicable thereto, said real property at any time thereafter, but in no case later than two years from the date the tax is in arrears.

Failure of the collector or designated official to sell any real property within the two year period shall not affect the validity or the collectability of any tax, or the validity of any sale thereafter made.

#### **§ 61. Fees.**

All fees received by an officer or employee of the town government in their official capacity shall belong to the town government and be accounted for to the town.

#### **§ 62. Audit.**

The financial books and accounts of the town shall be audited annually as required by Article 19, Uniform System of Accounts, of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as it now exists and as may be subsequently amended from time to time.

### **CREATION OF MUNICIPAL PUBLIC DEBT**

#### **§ 63. Authority to borrow money, issue bonds and tax anticipation notes.**

(a) Authority to borrow. -- (1) During the first 6 months of any fiscal year, the town may borrow in anticipation of the collection of the property tax imposed for that fiscal year, any may issue tax anticipation notes or other evidences of indebtedness as evidence of such borrowing.

(2) Such tax anticipation notes or other evidences of indebtedness shall be a first lien upon the proceeds of such tax and shall mature and be paid not later than 6 months after the beginning of the fiscal year in which they are issued.

(3) No tax anticipation notes or other evidences of indebtedness shall be issued which will cause the total tax anticipation indebtedness of the town to exceed 50 percent of the property tax imposed for the fiscal year in which the notes or other evidences of indebtedness are issued.

(4) All tax anticipation notes or other evidences of indebtedness shall be authorized by ordinance before being issued.

(5) The council shall have the power to regulate all matters concerning the issuance and sale of tax anticipation notes.



(b) Public sale; notice of sale; price; issuance for cash or other valuable consideration; signatures and seals; marketing agreements. -- (1) Municipal bonds or notes may be sold for any public purpose by private negotiated sale without advertisement or publication of notice of sale or at public sale after solicitation of competitive bids, as determined by the resolution or ordinance authorizing the issuance of the bonds or notes.

(2) (i) Any public sale of municipal bonds or notes may be held only after 1 or more insertions of a notice of the sale in either a newspaper of general circulation in the town or a publication having a circulation primarily among the investment and financial community.

(ii) The first insertion of the notice of sale shall be published at least 10 days before the date fixed for sale.

(3) (i) Municipal bonds or notes issued under this subsection may be sold or redeemed for a price or prices which may be at, above, or below the par value of the bonds or notes, as provided in the authorizing resolution or ordinance.

(ii) The resolution or ordinance that authorizes the municipal bonds or notes may provide for prior redemption of the bonds or notes.

(iii) Municipal bonds or notes may be issued, sold, and delivered on such terms and conditions, including fixed or variable rate or rates of interest or method of determining interest rate or rates, as provided in the authorizing resolution or ordinance.

(4) Municipal bonds or notes may be issued for either cash or other valuable consideration.

(5) The official signatures and seals affixed to any municipal bonds or notes may be imprinted in facsimile.

(6) The town may enter into agreements with agents, banks, fiduciaries, insurers, or others for the purpose of enhancing the marketability of or as security for the bonds or notes and for security any tendered option granted to holders.

(c) The town shall have the power to borrow money for any proper public purpose in accordance with the provisions of the Annotated Code of the Public Laws of Maryland in addition to and not in derogation of this section if so authorized.

The municipal corporation shall also have and retain all powers set forth in Title 9 of the Environmental Article and any other powers to borrow money, finance projects or negotiate agreements pertaining to same.

(b) The town may enter into agreements with agents, banks, fiduciaries, insurers, or others for the purposes of enhancing the marketability of, or as security for the bonds or notes, and for security of any tendered option granted to holders.

#### **§ 64. Payment of indebtedness.**

The power and obligation of the town to pay any and all bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued by it under the authority of this charter shall be unlimited and the town shall levy ad valorem taxes upon all the taxable property of the town for the payment of such bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness and interest thereon, without limitation of amount. The faith and

credit of the town is hereby pledged for the payment of the principal of and the interest on all bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued under the authority of this charter, whether or not such pledge be stated in the bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness, or in the ordinance authorizing their issuance.

#### **§ 65. Previous issues.**

All bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness validly issued by the town previous to the effective date of this charter and all ordinances passed concerning them are hereby declared to be valid, legal, and binding and of full force and effect as if herein fully set forth.

#### **§ 66. Purchasing and contracts.**

All purchases and contracts for the town government shall be administered by the clerk-treasurer. The council may provide by ordinance for rules and regulations regarding the use of competitive bidding and contracts for all town purchases and contracts. All expenditures for supplies, materials, equipment, construction of public improvements, or contractual services involving more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) shall be made on written contract. The clerk-treasurer shall advertise for sealed bids, in such manner as may be prescribed by ordinance, for all such written contracts. The written contracts shall be awarded to the bidder who offers the lowest or best bid, quality of goods and work, time of delivery or completion, and responsibility of bidders being considered. All such written contracts shall be approved by the council before becoming effective. The council may reject any or all bids in whole or in part within its discretion, and readvertise within its sole discretion if it is determined to be in the best interest of the citizenry. The town at any time in its discretion may employ its own forces for the construction or reconstruction of public improvements without advertising for (or readvertising for) or receiving bids. All written contracts may be protected by such bonds, penalties, and conditions as the town may require.

### **PERSONNEL**

#### **§ 67. Clerk to council.**

The clerk-treasurer shall serve as clerk to the council. The clerk shall attend every meeting of the council and keep a full and accurate account of the proceedings of the council. The clerk shall keep such other records and perform such other duties as may be required by this charter or the council.

#### **§ 68. Town attorney.**

The mayor with the approval of the council may appoint a town attorney. The town attorney shall be a member of the bar of the Maryland Court of Appeals. The town attorney is the legal adviser of the town and shall perform such duties in this connection as may be required by the council or the mayor. The town attorney's compensation shall be determined by the council. The town has the power to employ such legal consultants as it deems necessary from time to time.

#### **§ 69. Authority to employ personnel.**

The town may employ such officers and employees as it deems necessary to execute the powers and duties provided by this charter or other State law and to operate the town government.

#### **§ 70. Merit system authorized.**

The town may provide by ordinance for appointments and promotions in the administrative service on the basis of merit and fitness. To carry out this purpose the council may adopt such rules and regulations governing the operation of a merit system as it deems desirable or necessary. Among other things these rules and regulations may provide for competitive examinations, the use of eligible lists, a classification plan, a compensation plan, a probation period, appeals by employees included within the classified service from dismissal or other disciplinary action, and vacation and sick leave regulations. The town may request and avail itself of the facilities of the Commissioners of State Personnel for the administration of its merit system, as provided in State law.

#### **§ 71. Unclassified and classified service.**

(a) Civil service divided into unclassified and classified service. --The civil service of the town shall be divided into the unclassified and classified service.

(b) Unclassified service. -- The unclassified service shall comprise the following offices and positions, which shall not be included within the merit system:

(1) The mayor, the council members, and persons appointed to fill vacancies in these positions.

(2) The clerk-treasurer and the town attorney.

(3) The heads of all offices, departments, and agencies and members of town boards and commissions.

(4) Part-time, temporary, and unpaid offices and positions.

(c) Classified service. -- The classified service shall comprise all positions not specifically included by this section in the unclassified service. All offices and positions included in the classified service shall be subject to any merit system rules and regulations which may be adopted.

## **§ 72. Prohibitions and penalties.**

(a) Prohibitions. -- If a merit system is adopted, no person in the classified service of the town or seeking admission thereto shall be appointed, promoted, demoted, removed, or in any way favored or discriminated against because of his political or religious opinions or affiliations or any other factors not related to ability to perform the work; no person shall wilfully or corruptly commit or attempt to commit any fraud preventing the impartial execution of the personnel provisions of this charter or of the rules and regulations made thereunder; no officer or employee in the classified service of the town shall continue in such position after becoming a candidate for nomination or election to any public office; no person seeking appointment to or promotion in the classified service of the town shall either directly or indirectly give, render, or pay any money, service, or other valuable thing to any person for or on account of or in connection with the person's appointment, proposed appointment, promotion, or proposed promotion; no person shall orally, by letter or otherwise, solicit or be in any manner concerned in soliciting any assessment, subscription, or contribution for any political party or political purpose whatever from any person holding a position in the classified service of the town; no person holding a position in the classified service of the town shall make any contribution to the campaign funds of any political party or any candidate for public office or take any part in the management, affairs, or political campaign of any political party or candidate for public office, further than in the exercise of the person's right as a citizen to express their opinion and to cast their vote.

(b) Penalties. -- Any person who by himself or with others wilfully or corruptly violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than the maximum set forth in the provisions of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 3, as it now exists or as it may be subsequently amended. Any person who is convicted under this section for a period of five years is ineligible for appointment to or employment in a position in the town service, and, if the person be an officer or employee of the town, same shall immediately forfeit the office or position which said person holds.

(c) The penalty provisions set forth in this section are not to be construed as in derogation of any other applicable laws pertaining to violations of the Election Code of the State of Maryland or any other governmental agency, but are in addition thereto.

## **§ 73. Retirement system.**

The town may do all things necessary to include its officers and employees, or any of them, within any retirement system or pension system under the terms of which they are admissible, and to pay the employer's share of the cost of any such retirement or pension system out of the general funds of the town.

#### **§ 74. Compensation of employees.**

The compensation of all officers and employees of the town shall be set from time to time by resolution passed by the council, subject to the restrictions imposed upon establishing the salaries of the council members and the mayor.

#### **§ 75. Employee benefit programs.**

The town may provide for or participation in hospitalization or other forms of benefit or welfare programs for its officers and employees, and may expend public moneys of the town for such programs, and enter into contractual agreements pertaining to same in accordance with the provisions of this Charter.

### **PUBLIC WAYS AND SIDEWALKS**

#### **§ 76. Definition of public ways.**

The term "public ways" as used in this charter includes all streets, avenues, roads, highways, public thoroughfares, lanes, and alleys.

#### **§ 77. Control of public ways.**

The town shall have control of all public ways in the town except those that are under the jurisdiction of the State Highway Administration. Subject to the laws of the State of Maryland and this charter, the town may do whatever it deems necessary to establish, operate, and maintain in good condition the public ways of the town.

#### **§ 78. Powers of town as to public ways.**

The town may:

- (1) Establish, regulate, and change from time to time the grade lines, width, and construction materials of any town public way or part thereof, bridges, curbs, and gutters.
- (2) Grade, lay out, construct, open, extend, and make new town public ways.
- (3) Grade, straighten, widen, alter, improve, or close up any existing town public way or part thereof.
- (4) Pave, surface, repave, or resurface any town public way or part thereof.
- (5) Install, construct, reconstruct, repair, and maintain curbs and/or gutters along any town public way or part thereof.
- (6) Construct, reconstruct, maintain, and repair bridges.

- (7) Name town public ways.
- (8) Have surveys, plans, specifications, and estimates made for any of the above activities or projects or parts thereof.
- (9) Regulate any construction of or placing of or changing the location of any utility infrastructure to regulate and require any and all individuals, firms or corporations utilizing any rights of way or public ways in the town for improvements, construction or infrastructure as maybe requisite for the appropriate maintenance of any town water or sewer system.
- (10) The town has all other powers not enumerated herein pertaining to public ways provided by the laws of the State of Maryland.

#### **§ 79. Powers of town as to sidewalks.**

The town may:

- (1) Establish, regulate, and change from time to time the grade lines, width, and construction materials of any sidewalk or part thereof on town property along any public way or part thereof.
- (2) Grade, lay out, construct, reconstruct, pave, repaved, repair, extend, or otherwise alter sidewalks on town property along any public way or part thereof.
- (3) Require that the owners of any property abutting on a sidewalk keep the sidewalk in good repair, clear of all ice, snow, and other obstructions.
- (4) Require and order the owner of any property abutting on any public way in the town to perform any projects authorized by this section at the owner's expense according to reasonable plans and specifications. If, after due notice, the owner fails to comply with the order within a reasonable time, the town may do the work, and the expense shall be a lien on the property and shall be collectible in the same manner as are town taxes or by suit at law.
- (5) The town has all other powers not enumerated herein pertaining to sidewalks provided by the laws of the State of Maryland.

### **WATER AND SEWERS**

#### **§ 80. Powers of town as to water and sewers.**

The town may:

- (1) Construct, operate and maintain a water system and water plant.
- (2) Construct, operate and maintain a sanitary sewerage system and a sewage treatment plant.
- (3) Construct, operate, and maintain a storm water drainage system and storm water sewers.
- (4) Construct, maintain, reconstruct, enlarge, alter, repair, improve, or dispose of all parts, installations, and structures of the above plants and systems for the efficient and orderly operation of said facilities. **PROVIDED, HOWEVER,** that the council does not have the authority to sell or lease or convey, the entire water or sewer system unless it submits the question of said sale to the qualified voters of the town for approval or disapproval in accordance with the provisions of Town Property § 83 or any other applicable provisions of this Charter or the laws of the State of Maryland.

(5) Have surveys, plans, specifications, and estimates made for any of the above plants and systems or parts thereof or the extension thereof.

(6) Do all things it deems necessary for the efficient operation and maintenance of the above plants and systems.

(7) Make a charge, the amount to be determined by the council for each connection made to the town's water or sewer system, and to assess appropriate charges for water and sewer usages and rates or other charges as the council deems advisable or required from time to time. Said fees and charges may be revised and/or changed from year to year and shall be established with the provisions of the applicable provisions of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

All charges provided for are to be billed and collected by the clerk-treasurer, and if bills are unpaid within thirty (30) days, or in accordance with the policies promulgated and adopted by ordinance by the council or in accordance with the laws of the State of Maryland, then service may be disconnected. All charges shall be a lien on the property, collectable in the same manner as town taxes or by suit at law.

(8) To promulgate any rules or regulations and pass any ordinances pertaining to the operation, maintenance and control of any water or sewage drainage systems or any other related matters.

(9) Contract with any party or parties inside or outside the town, to obtain water or to provide for the removal of sewage.

(10) To establish a water board and/or other commission to manage the water system and/or department.

(11) The town has all other powers not enumerated herein pertaining to water and sewer provided by the laws of the State of Maryland.

## **ELECTRIC SERVICE**

### **§ 81. Powers of town as to electric service.**

The town may:

(1) Own, operate, modify and maintain an electric light and power plant, and to distribute for charge electricity produced by the plant.

(2) Construct, operate and maintain all necessary appurtenances and fixtures for the distribution and sale of electricity in the corporate limits of the town.

(3) Construct, maintain, reconstruct, enlarge, alter, repair, improve, or dispose of all parts, installation and appurtenances in reference to said electrical distribution system. **PROVIDED, HOWEVER,** that the council does not have the authority to sell or lease or convey, the entire water or sewer system unless it submits the question of said sale to the qualified voters of the town for approval or disapproval in accordance with the provisions of Town Property § 83 or any other applicable provisions of this Charter or the laws of the State of Maryland.

(4) Enter into agreements for the purchase of energy and electricity for distribution and sale as a utility in the town of Williamsport.

(5) Promulgate any rules or regulations and pass any ordinances pertaining to the operation, maintenance and control of the electric utility system subject to and in accordance with the Public Service Commission regulations and any Federal acts, ordinances or regulations applicable.

(6) Charge for electricity and distribution thereof to the customers in accordance with applicable Town rules, regulations or ordinances validly enacted and /or all applicable Public Service Commission acts, rules and regulations and Federal acts and regulations.

All charges shall be billed and collected by the clerk-treasurer unless otherwise specified by the council.

(7) The town has all powers not enumerated herein pertaining to an electrical utility system provided by the laws of the State of Maryland.

### **GENERAL UTILITY POWERS**

#### **§ 82. Entering on county public ways.**

The town may enter upon or do construction in, on, or over any county public way for the purpose of installing or repairing any equipment or doing any other things necessary, to establish, operate, and maintain the water system, water plant, sanitary sewerage system, sewage treatment plant, storm water sewers, or electrical utility system provided for in this charter. Unless required by the county, the town need not obtain any permit or pay any charge for these operations, but it must notify the county of its intent to enter on the public way and must leave the public way in a condition not inferior to that existing before.

#### **§ 83. Extensions beyond boundaries.**

The town may extend its water or sewerage systems beyond the town limits.

#### **§ 84. Exception.**

The provisions of this subheading shall not extend to any town located in a sanitary district or special tax area or district authorized to discharge the powers provided in this subheading, as to the particular powers included in the authorization.



## **SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS**

### **§ 85. Power of town to levy special assessments.**

The town may levy and collect taxes in the form of special assessments upon property in a limited and determinable area for special benefits conferred upon the property by the installation or construction, of water mains, sanitary sewer mains, storm water sewers, curbs, and gutters and by the construction, and paving of public ways and sidewalks or parts thereof, and it may provide for the payment of all or any part of the above projects out of the proceeds of the special assessment. The cost of any project to be paid in whole or in part by special assessments may include the direct cost thereof, the cost of any land acquired for the project, the interest on bonds, notes, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in anticipation of the collection of special assessments, a reasonable charge for the services of the administrative staff of the town, and any other item of cost which may reasonably be attributed to the project.

In addition thereto, but not limited thereto, the town may exercise all powers pertaining to special taxing districts as set forth in Article 23A, Section 44(a) of the Annotated Code of Maryland or pursuant to any other applicable public general law of the State of Maryland as it now exists or may be subsequently amended from time to time.

### **§ 86. Procedure.**

(a) Provided. -- The procedure for special assessments, wherever authorized in this charter, is as provided in this section.

(b) Assessment of cost. -- The cost of the project being charged for shall be assessed according to the front rule of apportionment or some other equitable basis determined by the council.

(c) Amount. -- The amount assessed against any property for any project or improvement shall not exceed the value of the benefits accruing to the property therefrom, nor shall any assessment be levied which causes the total amount of special assessments levied by the town and outstanding against any property at any time, exclusive of delinquent installments, to exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the assessed value of the property after giving effect to the benefit accruing thereto from the project or improvement for which assessed.

(d) Uniformity of rates. -- When desirable, the affected property may be divided into different classes to be charged different rates, but, except for this, any rate shall be uniform.

(e) Levy of charges; public hearing; notice. -- All special assessment charges shall be levied by the council by ordinance. Before levying any special assessment charges, the council shall hold a public hearing. The clerk-treasurer shall cause notice to be given stating the nature and extent of the proposed project, the kind of materials to be used, and the estimated cost of the project, the portion of the cost to be assessed, the number of installments in which the assessment may be paid, the method to be used in apportioning the cost, and the limits of the proposed area of assessment. The notice shall also state the time and place at which all persons interested, or their agents or attorneys, may appear before the council and be heard concerning the proposed project and special assessment.

Such notice shall be given by sending a copy thereof by mail to the owner of record of each parcel of property proposed to be assessed and to the person in whose name the property is assessed for taxation and by publication of a copy of the notice at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the town. The clerk-treasurer shall present at the hearing a certificate of publication and mailing of copies of the notice, which certificate shall be deemed proof of notice, but failure of any owner to receive the mailed copy shall not invalidate the proceedings. The date of hearing shall be set at least ten and not more than thirty days after the clerk-treasurer shall have completed publication and service of notice as provided in this section. Following the hearing the council, in its discretion, may vote to proceed with the project and may levy the special assessment.

(f) Right to appeal. -- Any interested person feeling aggrieved by the levying of any special assessment under the provisions of this section shall have the right to appeal to the circuit court for the county within ten days after the levying of any assessment by the council.

(g) Payments; interest. -- Special assessments may be made payable in annual or more frequent installments over such period of time, not to exceed ten years, and in such manner as the council may determine. The council shall determine on what date installments shall be due and payable. Interest may be charged on installments at the rate to be determined by the council.

(h) When due; lien on property; collection. -- All special assessment installments are overdue six months after the date on which they became due and payable. All special assessments shall be liens on the property and all overdue special assessments shall be collected in the same manner as town taxes or by suit at law.

(i) Clerk-treasurer. -- All special assessments shall be billed and collected by the clerk-treasurer.

## **TOWN PROPERTY**

### **§ 87. Acquisition, possession and disposal.**

The town may acquire in accordance with the provisions of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland as it now exists or as may be amended from time to time, by conveyance, purchase or gift, real, personal, mixed or leaseable property for any public purposes; to erect buildings and structures thereon for the benefit of the town and its inhabitants; and to convey any property so acquired when no longer needed for the public use in accordance with the provisions of Article 23A after having given at least twenty (20) days notice of the proposed conveyance; to control, protect and maintain public buildings, grounds, and property of the town, **PROVIDED, HOWEVER,** that said Mayor and council shall not have the property and authority to sell or lease to any person, association, or corporation the light, water, or sewer system of the said town without submitting the question of said sale to the qualified voters of said town for approval or disapproval and that if the majority of the said voters voting on the said question shall be against such sale, then the said Mayor and council shall not sell same.

## **§ 88. Condemnation.**

The town may condemn property of any kind, or interest therein or franchise connected therewith, in fee or as an easement, within the corporate limits of the town, for any public purpose. Any activity, project, or improvement authorized by the provisions of this charter or any other State law applicable to the town is a public purpose. The manner of procedure in case of any condemnation proceeding shall be that established in Title 12, Eminent Domain, of the Real Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland as it now exists or as it may be amended from time to time.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **§ 89. Oath of office.**

(a) Oath required. -- Before entering upon the duties of their offices, the mayor, the council members, the clerk treasurer, the members of the board of supervisors of elections, and all other persons elected or appointed to any office of profit or seat in the town government shall take and subscribe to the following oath or affirmation: "I ....., do swear (or affirm, as the case may be), that I will support the Constitution of the United States; and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland, and support the Constitution and laws thereof; and that I will, to the best of my skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the office of ....., according to the Constitution and laws of this State."

(b) Before whom taken and subscribed. -- The mayor shall take and subscribe to this oath or affirmation before the clerk of the circuit court for the county or before one of the sworn deputies of the clerk. All other persons taking and subscribing to the oath shall do so before the mayor.

### **§ 90. Official bonds.**

The clerk-treasurer and such other officers or employees of the town as the council or this charter may require, shall give bond in such amount and with such surety as may be required by the council. The premiums on such bonds shall be paid by the town.

### **§ 91. Prior rights and obligations.**

All right, title, and interest held by the town or any other person or corporation at the time this charter is adopted, in and to any lien acquired under any prior charter of the town, are hereby preserved for the holder in all respects as relation thereto. This charter shall not discharge, impair, or release any contract, obligation, duty, liability, or penalty whatever existing at the time this charter becomes effective. All suits and actions, both civil and criminal, pending, or which may hereafter be instituted for causes of action now existing or offenses already committed against any law or

ordinance repealed by this charter, shall be instituted, proceeded with, and prosecuted to final determination and judgment as if this charter had not become effective.

**§ 92. Effect of charter on existing ordinances.**

(a) Ordinances, etc., not in conflict with charter remain in effect. -- All ordinances, resolutions, rules, and regulations in effect in the town at the time this charter becomes effective which are not in conflict with the provisions of this charter shall remain in effect until changed or repealed according to the provisions of this charter.

(b) Ordinances, etc., in conflict with charter repealed. -- All ordinances, resolutions, rules, and regulations in effect in the town at the time this charter becomes effective which are in conflict with the provisions of this charter are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

**§ 93. Separability.**

If any section or part of section of this charter is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, this holding shall not affect the remainder of this charter or the context in which such section or part of section so held invalid appears, except to the extent that an entire section or part of section may be inseparably connected in meaning and effect with the section or party of section to which such holding shall directly apply.

## **APPENDIX**

### **Metes and Bounds Description of the Town of Williamsport**

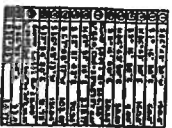
The following description is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Washington County, Maryland at Liber 2 Folio 671 among the Acts, Ordinances and Resolutions for Incorporated Towns, and is also on file with the Department of Legislative Reference for the State of Maryland as required by the provisions of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The plat of the corporate boundaries set forth is on file with the Clerk-Treasurer, Town Hall, Williamsport, Maryland, and is also recorded at plat Folio 1728 at the Land Records of Washington County, Maryland.

The undersigned further certifies that he is the Chief Executive Officer of said Municipal Corporation.

Clément Franch. May 18/18

WASHINGTON COUNTY - MARYLAND

J. H. SCIBERT P.E. & L.S.



WASH. CO. FLAT NO. 1728  
TALL OF REC. NO. 1878

١٥٧٣

AUGUST 1954  
 Douglas G. Davis  
 Clerk



Area Amended by Resolution  
Effective July 26, 1984

Beginning at the low water mark on the right or North bank of the Conococheague Creek at its confluence with the Potomac River, and running thence upstream along the North bank of said Creek to the stone arch bridge, thence crossing the Creek on a line with the Southwest side of said bridge to the East marginal line of Conococheague Street, thence North 43 degrees 15' West 70.0 feet to the Northeast side of said bridge, thence along the Northeast side thereof North 61 degrees 40' West 70.0 feet, more or less, to the East bank of the Conococheague Creek, thence upstream along the East bank thereof North 17 degrees 20' East 470.0 feet, thence North 28 degrees 09' East 225.95 feet, thence North 51 degrees 10' East 368.64 feet, thence North 36 degrees 00' East 270.9 feet, thence North 26 degrees 00' East 780.0 feet, more or less, to the South margin of the right of way of the main line of the Western Maryland Railway Company, thence along same by a curve to the left having a radius of approximately 1320 feet for a distance of 323 feet, more or less, to the West margin of the right of way of the said Railway Company's spur line leading into Williamsport, thence crossing same at right angles South 68 degrees 27' East 66.0 feet to the East margin thereof, thence along said margin South 21 degrees 33' West 554.0 feet, South 25 degrees 18' West 420.0 feet, South 28 degrees 45' West 449.0 feet, and South 31 degrees 17' West 241.0 feet, thence leaving said right of way and running along the South side of a lane or alley at the North end of the property formerly owned by Mrs. W. C. Byron South 68 degrees East 550.0 feet to the West margin of the Williamsport-Greencastle Highway, thence along the margin thereof South 28 degrees West 227.0 feet, thence Williamsport Corporate Boundary Continued- - - crossing said Highway and running along the South margin of a street as shown on the Plat of Cloverton recorded in Plat Record Book No. 2, Page 122, one of the Records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Washington County, South 69 degrees East 290.0 feet to the East margin of a 15 foot alley, thence along the East

margin thereof South 23 degrees West 637.0 feet to the North margin of an intersecting alley, thence along the North margin thereof North 68 degrees East 437.0 feet, more or less, to the West margin of Peachtree Lane, thence along the North margin of the alley North of the Hagerstown-Williamsport Highway and the projection thereof North 65 degrees 57' East 2032.92 feet to a point in the division line between Cloverton and the lands of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Maryland, thence along said division line and the division line between Cloverton and the land of C. William Hetzer, Inc. North 3 degrees 16' 30" West 1224.62 feet, and North 20 degrees 12' 30" West 41.39 feet, thence leaving said division line and running North 86 degrees 03' 30" East 823.15 feet to the East marginal line of Shawnee Terrace, thence along said marginal line South 3 degrees 16' 30" East 716.96 feet, thence crossing it and continuing in a straight line South 86 degrees 43' 30" West 190.0 feet, thence South 3 degrees 16' 30" East 60.0 feet, thence North 86 degrees 43' 30" East 130.0 feet to the West marginal line of Shawnee Terrace, thence continuing in a straight line North 86 degrees 43' 30" East 30.0 feet into the center of Shawnee Terrace, thence along the center line thereof South 3 degrees 16' 30" East 6.0 feet, thence North 86 degrees 43' 30" East 30.0 feet to the East marginal line of said Terrace, thence along said East marginal line South 3 degrees 16' 30" East 201.55 feet to a point, thence continuing along said marginal line by a curve to the left having a radius of 354.55 feet for a distance of 6.20 feet, the chord being South 3 degrees 46' 33" East 6.20 feet to a point, thence leaving Shawnee Terrace and running along the margin of relocated Hopewell Road North 87 degrees 31' 15" East 229.77 feet to a point, thence South 22 degrees 51' 43" East 70.94 feet to the Northwest marginal line of U.S. Route No. 11 as relocated, thence binding on said marginal line South 67 degrees 08' 17" West 103.89 feet to a point, and South 56 degrees 49' 13" West 131.04 feet to the East marginal line of Shawnee



Terrace and to intersect the present Corporate Boundary of Williamsport, thence along said marginal line South 23 degrees 54' 30" East 9.79 feet to a point, thence by a curve to the left having a radius of 25.0 feet for a distance of 39.27 feet, the chord being South 68 degrees 54' 30" East 35.36 feet to the Northwest margin of U.S. Route No. 11, thence along - - - - - the margin of said Highway South 66 degrees 03' 49" West 33.17 feet to intersect the present Corporate Boundary of Williamsport, thence with it South 24 degrees 03' East 30.77 feet to a spike in the center of U.S. Route No. 11, thence leaving the Highway and running along the existing fence line South 7 degrees 53' East 1303.45 feet to the West margin of the right of way of the Williamsport Bypass Expressway, thence along same South 22 degrees 59' West 2415.83 feet, thence continuing along said right of way and the projection thereof by a curve to the right having a radius of 5988.83 feet for a distance of 1115.19 feet, the chord being South 28 degrees 19' 05" West 1113.58 feet, into the center of the Williamsport-Boonsboro Highway, thence along or near the center thereof North 60 degrees 57' West 1464.99 feet, thence leaving said Highway and running back therefrom along the West side of Grove Street South 28 degrees 55' West 235.94 feet to the South margin of the public alley South of said Highway, thence along the South margin thereof North 61 degrees 05' West 315.70 feet, thence South 77 degrees 10' West 84.10 Feet to the East margin of the alley East of the Downsville Highway, thence along the East margin of said alley South 12 degrees 50' East 500.0 feet to the North margin of a seventy foot street, thence along the North margin thereof South 77 degrees 10' West 206.0 feet to the East margin of the said Downsville Highway, thence crossing same South 2 degrees 21' East 223.63 feet to the West margin thereof, thence leaving the Highway and running back therefrom South 87 degrees 48' West 194.17 feet, thence so as to exclude the lots along the West side of said Highway South 12 degrees 32' East 626.79 feet,

and South 1 degree 57' East 771.21 feet, thence North 82 degrees 28' West 632.0 feet, North 83 degrees 58' West 502.61 feet, thence North 85 degrees 46' West 258.2 feet, thence North 82 degrees 30' West 200.0 feet, thence South 7 degrees 30' West 203.45 feet to the Southern boundary of the lands of the South End Development Company, thence with said Southern boundary North 83 degrees 52' West 440.54 feet, and North 79 degrees 52' West 413.3 feet, more or less, to the East margin of the Old Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Property, thence continuing in a straight line to the low water line of the Potomac River, thence up said River with its several meanderings for a distance of 4840 feet, more or less, to the place of beginning.

# Appendix 1

Chapter 599

(House Bill 528)

AN ACT concerning

**Town of Williamsport (Washington County) – Urban Renewal Authority for  
Blight Clearance**

FOR the purpose of granting the Town of Williamsport in Washington County the authority to exercise urban renewal powers in areas zoned for commercial use for blight clearance and redevelopment under Article III, Section 61 of the Maryland Constitution; authorizing the municipality to levy certain taxes and issue general obligation bonds and revenue bonds to carry out urban renewal powers; and generally relating to urban renewal authority for blight clearance for the Town of Williamsport in Washington County.

BY adding to

Chapter 153 – Charter of the Town of Williamsport

Section A1-101 through A1-114 to be under the new heading “Appendix I – Urban  
Renewal Authority for Blight Clearance”

Public Local Laws of Maryland – Compilation of Municipal Charters  
(2008 Replacement Edition, Revisions Current as of November 2009)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
That the Public Local Laws of Maryland – Compilation of Municipal Charters read as  
follows:

**Chapter 153 – Charter of the Town of Williamsport**

**APPENDIX I – URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY FOR BLIGHT CLEARANCE**

**A1-101. DEFINITIONS.**

(A) IN THIS APPENDIX THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
INDICATED.

(B) “BLIGHTED AREA” MEANS AN AREA OR SINGLE PROPERTY IN WHICH  
THE BUILDING OR BUILDINGS HAVE DECLINED IN PRODUCTIVITY BY REASON OF  
OBSCURITY, DEPRECIATION, OR OTHER CAUSES TO AN EXTENT THAT THEY NO  
LONGER JUSTIFY FUNDAMENTAL REPAIRS AND ADEQUATE MAINTENANCE.

(C) “BONDS” MEANS ANY BONDS (INCLUDING REFUNDING BONDS), NOTES,  
INTERIM CERTIFICATES, CERTIFICATES OF INDEBTEDNESS, DEBENTURES, OR  
OTHER OBLIGATIONS.

(D) "FEDERAL GOVERNMENT" MEANS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA OR ANY AGENCY OR INSTRUMENTALITY, CORPORATE OR OTHERWISE, OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

(E) "MUNICIPALITY" MEANS THE TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT, MARYLAND.

(F) "PERSON" MEANS ANY INDIVIDUAL, FIRM, PARTNERSHIP, CORPORATION, COMPANY, ASSOCIATION, JOINT STOCK ASSOCIATION, OR BODY POLITIC. IT INCLUDES ANY TRUSTEE, RECEIVER, ASSIGNEE, OR OTHER PERSON ACTING IN SIMILAR REPRESENTATIVE CAPACITY.

(G) "URBAN RENEWAL AREA" MEANS A BLIGHTED AREA WHICH THE MUNICIPALITY DESIGNATES AS APPROPRIATE FOR AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT.

(H) "URBAN RENEWAL PLAN" MEANS A PLAN, AS IT EXISTS FROM TIME TO TIME, FOR AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT. THE PLAN SHALL BE SUFFICIENTLY COMPLETE TO INDICATE ANY LAND ACQUISITION, DEMOLITION, AND REMOVAL OF STRUCTURES, REDEVELOPMENT, IMPROVEMENTS, AND REHABILITATION AS MAY BE PROPOSED TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE URBAN RENEWAL AREA, ZONING AND PLANNING CHANGES, IF ANY, LAND USES, MAXIMUM DENSITY, AND BUILDING REQUIREMENTS.

(I) "URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT" MEANS UNDERTAKINGS AND ACTIVITIES OF A MUNICIPALITY IN AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA FOR THE ELIMINATION AND FOR THE PREVENTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT OR SPREAD OF BLIGHT, AND MAY INVOLVE CLEARANCE AND REDEVELOPMENT IN AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA, OR REHABILITATION OR CONSERVATION IN AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA, OR ANY COMBINATION OR PART OF THEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN URBAN RENEWAL PLAN. THESE UNDERTAKINGS AND ACTIVITIES MAY INCLUDE:

(1) ACQUISITION OF A BLIGHTED AREA OR PORTION OF THE BLIGHTED AREA;

(2) DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL OF BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS;

(3) INSTALLATION, CONSTRUCTION OR RECONSTRUCTION OF STREETS, UTILITIES, PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS NECESSARY FOR CARRYING OUT THE URBAN RENEWAL OBJECTIVES OF THIS APPENDIX IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN;

(4) DISPOSITION OF ANY PROPERTY ACQUIRED IN THE URBAN

RENEWAL AREA, INCLUDING SALE, INITIAL LEASING, OR RETENTION BY THE MUNICIPALITY ITSELF, AT ITS FAIR VALUE FOR USES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN;

(5) CARRYING OUT PLANS FOR A PROGRAM OF VOLUNTARY OR COMPULSORY REPAIR AND REHABILITATION OF BUILDINGS OR OTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN;

(6) ACQUISITION OF ANY OTHER REAL PROPERTY IN THE URBAN RENEWAL AREA WHERE NECESSARY TO ELIMINATE UNHEALTHFUL, UNSANITARY, OR UNSAFE CONDITIONS, LESSEN DENSITY, ELIMINATE OBSOLETE OR OTHER USES DETRIMENTAL TO THE PUBLIC WELFARE, OR OTHERWISE TO REMOVE OR PREVENT THE SPREAD OF BLIGHT OR DETERIORATION, OR TO PROVIDE LAND FOR NEEDED PUBLIC FACILITIES; AND

(7) THE PRESERVATION, IMPROVEMENT, OR EMBELLISHMENT OF HISTORIC STRUCTURES OR MONUMENTS.

#### **A1-102. POWERS.**

(A) THE MUNICIPALITY MAY UNDERTAKE AND CARRY OUT URBAN RENEWAL PROJECTS IN AREAS OF THE MUNICIPALITY THAT ARE ZONED FOR COMMERCIAL USE.

(B) THESE PROJECTS SHALL BE LIMITED:

(1) TO BLIGHT CLEARANCE IN BLIGHTED AREAS AND REDEVELOPMENT OR THE REHABILITATION OF BLIGHTED AREAS;

(2) TO ACQUIRE IN CONNECTION WITH THOSE PROJECTS, WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE MUNICIPALITY, LAND AND PROPERTY OF EVERY KIND AND ANY RIGHT, INTEREST, FRANCHISE, EASEMENT, OR PRIVILEGE, INCLUDING LAND OR PROPERTY AND ANY RIGHT OR INTEREST ALREADY DEVOTED TO PUBLIC USE, BY PURCHASE, LEASE, GIFT, CONDEMNATION, OR ANY OTHER LEGAL MEANS; AND

(3) TO SELL, LEASE, CONVEY, TRANSFER, OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF ANY OF THE LAND OR PROPERTY, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT IT HAS BEEN DEVELOPED, REDEVELOPED, ALTERED, OR IMPROVED AND IRRESPECTIVE OF THE MANNER OR MEANS IN OR BY WHICH IT MAY HAVE BEEN ACQUIRED, TO ANY PRIVATE, PUBLIC, OR QUASI-PUBLIC CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP, ASSOCIATION, PERSON, OR OTHER LEGAL ENTITY.

(C) LAND OR PROPERTY TAKEN BY THE MUNICIPALITY FOR ANY OF THESE PURPOSES OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE EXERCISE OF ANY OF THE POWERS WHICH ARE GRANTED BY THIS APPENDIX TO THE MUNICIPALITY BY EXERCISING THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN MAY NOT BE TAKEN WITHOUT JUST COMPENSATION, AS AGREED ON BETWEEN THE PARTIES, OR AWARDED BY A JURY, BEING FIRST PAID OR TENDERED TO THE PARTY ENTITLED TO THE COMPENSATION.

(D) ALL LAND OR PROPERTY NEEDED OR TAKEN BY THE EXERCISE OF THE POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN BY THE MUNICIPALITY FOR ANY OF THESE PURPOSES OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE EXERCISE OF ANY OF THE POWERS GRANTED BY THIS APPENDIX IS DECLARED TO BE NEEDED OR TAKEN FOR PUBLIC USES AND PURPOSES.

(E) ANY OR ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO THIS APPENDIX CONSTITUTE GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTIONS UNDERTAKEN FOR PUBLIC USES AND PURPOSES AND THE POWER OF TAXATION MAY BE EXERCISED, PUBLIC FUNDS EXPENDED, AND PUBLIC CREDIT EXTENDED IN FURTHERANCE OF THEM.

#### **A1-103. ADDITIONAL POWERS.**

THE MUNICIPALITY HAS THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL POWERS. THESE POWERS ARE DECLARED TO BE NECESSARY AND PROPER TO CARRY INTO FULL FORCE AND EFFECT THE SPECIFIC POWERS GRANTED IN THIS APPENDIX AND TO FULLY ACCOMPLISH THE PURPOSES AND OBJECTS CONTEMPLATED BY THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION:

(1) TO MAKE OR HAVE MADE ALL SURVEYS AND PLANS NECESSARY TO THE CARRYING OUT OF THE PURPOSES OF THIS APPENDIX AND TO ADOPT OR APPROVE, MODIFY, AND AMEND THOSE PLANS. THESE PLANS MAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

(I) PLANS FOR CARRYING OUT A PROGRAM OF VOLUNTARY OR COMPULSORY REPAIR AND REHABILITATION OF BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS;

(II) PLANS FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF CODES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE USE OF LAND AND THE USE AND OCCUPANCY OF BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS AND TO THE COMPULSORY REPAIR, REHABILITATION, DEMOLITION, OR REMOVAL OF BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS; AND

(III) APPRAISALS, TITLE SEARCHES, SURVEYS, STUDIES, AND OTHER PLANS AND WORK NECESSARY TO PREPARE FOR THE UNDERTAKING OF

URBAN RENEWAL PROJECTS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES, AND TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND UTILIZE GRANTS OF FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY FOR THOSE PURPOSES;

(2) TO PREPARE PLANS FOR THE RELOCATION OF PERSONS (INCLUDING FAMILIES, BUSINESS CONCERNS, AND OTHERS) DISPLACED FROM AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA, AND TO MAKE RELOCATION PAYMENTS TO OR WITH RESPECT TO THOSE PERSONS FOR MOVING EXPENSES AND LOSSES OF PROPERTY FOR WHICH REIMBURSEMENT OR COMPENSATION IS NOT OTHERWISE MADE, INCLUDING THE MAKING OF PAYMENTS FINANCED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT;

(3) TO APPROPRIATE WHATEVER FUNDS AND MAKE WHATEVER EXPENDITURES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS APPENDIX, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED:

(I) TO THE PAYMENT OF ANY AND ALL COSTS AND EXPENSES INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH, OR INCIDENTAL TO, THE ACQUISITION OF LAND OR PROPERTY, AND FOR THE DEMOLITION, REMOVAL, RELOCATION, RENOVATION, OR ALTERATION OF LAND, BUILDINGS, STREETS, HIGHWAYS, ALLEYS, UTILITIES, OR SERVICES, AND OTHER STRUCTURES OR IMPROVEMENTS, AND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION, RELOCATION, OR REPAIR OF STREETS, HIGHWAYS, ALLEYS, UTILITIES, OR SERVICES, IN CONNECTION WITH URBAN RENEWAL PROJECTS;

(II) TO LEVY TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS FOR THOSE PURPOSES;

(III) TO BORROW MONEY AND TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT ADVANCES, LOANS, GRANTS, CONTRIBUTIONS, AND ANY OTHER FORM OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE STATE, COUNTY, OR OTHER PUBLIC BODIES, OR FROM ANY SOURCES, PUBLIC OR PRIVATE, FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS APPENDIX, AND TO GIVE WHATEVER SECURITY AS MAY BE REQUIRED FOR THIS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE; AND

(IV) TO INVEST ANY URBAN RENEWAL FUNDS HELD IN RESERVES OR SINKING FUNDS OR ANY OF THESE FUNDS NOT REQUIRED FOR IMMEDIATE DISBURSEMENT IN PROPERTY OR SECURITIES WHICH ARE LEGAL INVESTMENTS FOR OTHER MUNICIPAL FUNDS;

(4) (I) TO HOLD, IMPROVE, CLEAR, OR PREPARE FOR REDEVELOPMENT ANY PROPERTY ACQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH URBAN RENEWAL PROJECTS;

(II) TO MORTGAGE, PLEDGE, HYPOTHECATE, OR OTHERWISE



**ENCUMBER THAT PROPERTY; AND**

**(III) TO INSURE OR PROVIDE FOR THE INSURANCE OF THE PROPERTY OR OPERATIONS OF THE MUNICIPALITY AGAINST ANY RISKS OR HAZARDS, INCLUDING THE POWER TO PAY PREMIUMS ON ANY INSURANCE;**

**(5) TO MAKE AND EXECUTE ALL CONTRACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS NECESSARY OR CONVENIENT TO THE EXERCISE OF ITS POWERS UNDER THIS APPENDIX, INCLUDING THE POWER TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER PUBLIC BODIES OR AGENCIES (THESE AGREEMENTS MAY EXTEND OVER ANY PERIOD, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OR RULE OF LAW TO THE CONTRARY), AND TO INCLUDE IN ANY CONTRACT FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR OR WITH RESPECT TO AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT AND RELATED ACTIVITIES ANY CONDITIONS IMPOSED PURSUANT TO FEDERAL LAWS AS THE MUNICIPALITY CONSIDERS REASONABLE AND APPROPRIATE;**

**(6) TO ENTER INTO ANY BUILDING OR PROPERTY IN ANY URBAN RENEWAL AREA IN ORDER TO MAKE INSPECTIONS, SURVEYS, APPRAISALS, SOUNDINGS, OR TEST BORINGS, AND TO OBTAIN AN ORDER FOR THIS PURPOSE FROM THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE MUNICIPALITY IS SITUATED IN THE EVENT ENTRY IS DENIED OR RESISTED;**

**(7) TO PLAN, REPLAN, INSTALL, CONSTRUCT, RECONSTRUCT, REPAIR, CLOSE, OR VACATE STREETS, ROADS, SIDEWALKS, PUBLIC UTILITIES, PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, AND OTHER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT AND TO MAKE EXCEPTIONS FROM BUILDING REGULATIONS;**

**(8) TO GENERALLY ORGANIZE, COORDINATE, AND DIRECT THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS APPENDIX AS THEY APPLY TO THE MUNICIPALITY IN ORDER THAT THE OBJECTIVE OF REMEDYING BLIGHTED AREAS AND PREVENTING ITS CAUSES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY MAY BE PROMOTED AND ACHIEVED MOST EFFECTIVELY; AND**

**(9) TO EXERCISE ALL OR ANY PART OR COMBINATION OF THE POWERS GRANTED IN THIS APPENDIX.**

**A1-104. ESTABLISHMENT OF URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY.**

**(A) A MUNICIPALITY MAY ITSELF EXERCISE ALL THE POWERS GRANTED BY THIS APPENDIX, OR MAY, IF ITS LEGISLATIVE BODY BY ORDINANCE DETERMINES THE ACTION TO BE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, ELECT TO HAVE THE POWERS**

**EXERCISED BY A SEPARATE PUBLIC BODY OR AGENCY.**

**(B) IN THE EVENT THE LEGISLATIVE BODY MAKES THAT DETERMINATION, IT SHALL PROCEED BY ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A PUBLIC BODY OR AGENCY TO UNDERTAKE IN THE MUNICIPALITY THE ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED BY THIS APPENDIX.**

**(C) THE ORDINANCE SHALL INCLUDE PROVISIONS ESTABLISHING THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC BODY OR AGENCY, THE MANNER OF THEIR APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL, AND THE TERMS OF THE MEMBERS AND THEIR COMPENSATION.**

**(D) THE ORDINANCE MAY INCLUDE WHATEVER ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE PUBLIC BODY OR AGENCY AS MAY BE NECESSARY.**

**(E) IN THE EVENT THE LEGISLATIVE BODY ENACTS THIS ORDINANCE, ALL OF THE POWERS BY THIS APPENDIX GRANTED TO THE MUNICIPALITY, FROM THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE ORDINANCE, ARE VESTED IN THE PUBLIC BODY OR AGENCY ESTABLISHED BY THE ORDINANCE.**

**A1-105. POWERS WITHHELD FROM THE AGENCY.**

**THE AGENCY MAY NOT:**

**(1) PASS A RESOLUTION TO INITIATE AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT PURSUANT TO SECTIONS A1-102 AND A1-103 OF THIS APPENDIX;**

**(2) ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS PURSUANT TO SECTION A1-111 OF THIS APPENDIX; OR**

**(3) APPROPRIATE FUNDS OR LEVY TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTION A1-103(3) OF THIS APPENDIX.**

**A1-106. INITIATION OF PROJECT.**

**IN ORDER TO INITIATE AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT, THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL ADOPT A RESOLUTION WHICH:**

**(1) FINDS THAT ONE OR MORE BLIGHTED AREAS EXIST IN THE MUNICIPALITY;**

**(2) LOCATES AND DEFINES THE BLIGHTED AREA; AND**

(3) FINDS THAT THE REHABILITATION, REDEVELOPMENT, OR A COMBINATION OF THEM, OF THE AREA OR AREAS, IS NECESSARY AND IN THE INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, MORALS, OR WELFARE OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE MUNICIPALITY.

**A1-107. PREPARATION AND APPROVAL OF PLAN FOR URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT.**

(A) IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS APPENDIX, THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL HAVE PREPARED AN URBAN RENEWAL PLAN FOR BLIGHTED AREAS IN THE MUNICIPALITY AND SHALL APPROVE THE PLAN FORMALLY. THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT AFTER PUBLIC NOTICE OF IT BY PUBLICATION IN A NEWSPAPER HAVING A GENERAL CIRCULATION WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE MUNICIPALITY. THE NOTICE SHALL DESCRIBE THE TIME, DATE, PLACE, AND PURPOSE OF THE HEARING, SHALL GENERALLY IDENTIFY THE URBAN RENEWAL AREA COVERED BY THE PLAN, AND SHALL OUTLINE THE GENERAL SCOPE OF THE URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION. FOLLOWING THE HEARING, THE MUNICIPALITY MAY APPROVE AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT AND THE PLAN THEREFOR IF IT FINDS THAT:

(1) A FEASIBLE METHOD EXISTS FOR THE LOCATION OF ANY FAMILIES OR NATURAL PERSONS WHO WILL BE DISPLACED FROM THE URBAN RENEWAL AREA IN DECENT, SAFE, AND SANITARY DWELLING ACCOMMODATIONS WITHIN THEIR MEANS AND WITHOUT UNDUE HARDSHIP TO THE FAMILIES OR NATURAL PERSONS;

(2) THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN CONFORMS SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE MASTER PLAN OF THE MUNICIPALITY AS A WHOLE; AND

(3) THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN WILL AFFORD MAXIMUM OPPORTUNITY, CONSISTENT WITH THE SOUND NEEDS OF THE MUNICIPALITY AS A WHOLE, FOR THE REHABILITATION OR REDEVELOPMENT OF THE URBAN RENEWAL AREA BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

(B) AN URBAN RENEWAL PLAN MAY BE MODIFIED AT ANY TIME. IF MODIFIED AFTER THE LEASE OR SALE OF REAL PROPERTY IN THE URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT AREA, THE MODIFICATION MAY BE CONDITIONED ON WHATEVER APPROVAL OF THE OWNER, LESSEE, OR SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST AS THE MUNICIPALITY CONSIDERS ADVISABLE. IN ANY EVENT, IT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO WHATEVER RIGHTS AT LAW OR IN EQUITY AS A LESSEE OR PURCHASER, OR THE SUCCESSOR OR SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST, MAY BE ENTITLED TO ASSERT. WHERE THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION WILL CHANGE SUBSTANTIALLY THE URBAN

RENEWAL PLAN AS APPROVED PREVIOUSLY BY THE MUNICIPALITY, THE MODIFICATION SHALL BE APPROVED FORMALLY BY THE MUNICIPALITY, AS IN THE CASE OF AN ORIGINAL PLAN.

(C) ON THE APPROVAL BY THE MUNICIPALITY OF AN URBAN RENEWAL PLAN OR OF ANY MODIFICATION OF IT, THE PLAN OR MODIFICATION SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT FOR THE RESPECTIVE URBAN RENEWAL AREA. THE MUNICIPALITY MAY HAVE THE PLAN OR MODIFICATION CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS TERMS.

#### A1-108. DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY IN URBAN RENEWAL AREA.

(A) THE MUNICIPALITY, BY ORDINANCE, MAY SELL, LEASE, OR OTHERWISE TRANSFER REAL PROPERTY OR ANY INTEREST IN IT ACQUIRED BY IT FOR AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT TO ANY PERSON FOR RESIDENTIAL, RECREATIONAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, EDUCATIONAL, OR OTHER USES OR FOR PUBLIC USE, OR IT MAY RETAIN THE PROPERTY OR INTEREST FOR PUBLIC USE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN AND SUBJECT TO WHATEVER COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS, INCLUDING COVENANTS RUNNING WITH THE LAND, AS IT CONSIDERS NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE TO ASSIST IN PREVENTING THE DEVELOPMENT OR SPREAD OF FUTURE BLIGHTED AREAS OR TO OTHERWISE CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS APPENDIX. THE PURCHASERS OR LESSEES AND THEIR SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS SHALL BE OBLIGATED TO DEVOTE THE REAL PROPERTY ONLY TO THE USES SPECIFIED IN THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN AND MAY BE OBLIGATED TO COMPLY WITH WHATEVER OTHER REQUIREMENTS THE MUNICIPALITY DETERMINES TO BE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, INCLUDING THE OBLIGATION TO BEGIN WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME ANY IMPROVEMENTS ON THE REAL PROPERTY REQUIRED BY THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN. THE REAL PROPERTY OR INTEREST MAY NOT BE SOLD, LEASED, OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED, OR RETAINED AT LESS THAN ITS FAIR VALUE FOR USES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN. IN DETERMINING THE FAIR VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR USES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN, THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT AND GIVE CONSIDERATION TO THE USES PROVIDED IN THE PLAN, THE RESTRICTIONS ON, AND THE COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND OBLIGATIONS ASSUMED BY THE PURCHASER OR LESSEE OR BY THE MUNICIPALITY RETAINING THE PROPERTY, AND THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PLAN FOR THE PREVENTION OF THE RECURRENCE OF BLIGHTED AREAS. IN ANY INSTRUMENT OR CONVEYANCE TO A PRIVATE PURCHASER OR LESSEE, THE MUNICIPALITY MAY PROVIDE THAT THE PURCHASER OR LESSEE MAY NOT SELL, LEASE, OR OTHERWISE TRANSFER THE REAL PROPERTY WITHOUT THE PRIOR WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE MUNICIPALITY UNTIL THE PURCHASER OR LESSEE HAS COMPLETED THE CONSTRUCTION OF ANY OR ALL IMPROVEMENTS WHICH THE PURCHASER OR LESSEE HAS BEEN OBLIGATED TO CONSTRUCT ON THE PROPERTY. REAL PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE MUNICIPALITY

WHICH, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN, IS TO BE TRANSFERRED, SHALL BE TRANSFERRED AS RAPIDLY AS FEASIBLE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST CONSISTENT WITH THE CARRYING OUT OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN. ANY CONTRACT FOR THE TRANSFER AND THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN (OR ANY PART OR PARTS OF THE CONTRACT OR PLAN AS THE MUNICIPALITY DETERMINES) MAY BE RECORDED IN THE LAND RECORDS OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE MUNICIPALITY IS SITUATED IN A MANNER SO AS TO AFFORD ACTUAL OR CONSTRUCTIVE NOTICE OF IT.

(B) THE MUNICIPALITY, BY ORDINANCE, MAY DISPOSE OF REAL PROPERTY IN AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA TO PRIVATE PERSONS. THE MUNICIPALITY MAY, BY PUBLIC NOTICE BY PUBLICATION IN A NEWSPAPER HAVING A GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE COMMUNITY, INVITE PROPOSALS FROM AND MAKE AVAILABLE ALL PERTINENT INFORMATION TO PRIVATE REDEVELOPERS OR ANY PERSONS INTERESTED IN UNDERTAKING TO REDEVELOP OR REHABILITATE AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA, OR ANY PART THEREOF. THE NOTICE SHALL IDENTIFY THE AREA, OR PORTION THEREOF, AND SHALL STATE THAT PROPOSALS SHALL BE MADE BY THOSE INTERESTED WITHIN A SPECIFIED PERIOD. THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL CONSIDER ALL REDEVELOPMENT OR REHABILITATION PROPOSALS AND THE FINANCIAL AND LEGAL ABILITY OF THE PERSONS MAKING PROPOSALS TO CARRY THEM OUT, AND MAY NEGOTIATE WITH ANY PERSONS FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE PURCHASE, LEASE, OR OTHER TRANSFER OF ANY REAL PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE MUNICIPALITY IN THE URBAN RENEWAL AREA. THE MUNICIPALITY MAY ACCEPT ANY PROPOSAL AS IT DEEMS TO BE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND IN FURTHERANCE OF THE PURPOSES OF THIS APPENDIX. THEREAFTER, THE MUNICIPALITY MAY EXECUTE AND DELIVER CONTRACTS, DEEDS, LEASES, AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS AND TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE TRANSFERS.

(C) THE MUNICIPALITY MAY OPERATE TEMPORARILY AND MAINTAIN REAL PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY IT IN AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA FOR OR IN CONNECTION WITH AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT PENDING THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROPERTY AS AUTHORIZED IN THIS APPENDIX, WITHOUT REGARD TO THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (A), FOR USES AND PURPOSES CONSIDERED DESIRABLE EVEN THOUGH NOT IN CONFORMITY WITH THE URBAN RENEWAL PLAN.

(D) ANY INSTRUMENT EXECUTED BY THE MUNICIPALITY AND PURPORTING TO CONVEY ANY RIGHT, TITLE, OR INTEREST IN ANY PROPERTY UNDER THIS APPENDIX SHALL BE PRESUMED CONCLUSIVELY TO HAVE BEEN EXECUTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS APPENDIX IN SO FAR AS TITLE OR OTHER INTEREST OF ANY BONA FIDE PURCHASERS, LESSEES, OR TRANSFEREES OF THE PROPERTY IS CONCERNED.

**A1-109. EMINENT DOMAIN.**

CONDEMNATION OF LAND OR PROPERTY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS APPENDIX SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURE PROVIDED IN THE REAL PROPERTY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND.

**A1-110. ENCOURAGEMENT OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.**

THE MUNICIPALITY, TO THE EXTENT IT DETERMINES TO BE FEASIBLE IN CARRYING OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS APPENDIX, SHALL AFFORD MAXIMUM OPPORTUNITY TO THE REHABILITATION OR REDEVELOPMENT OF ANY URBAN RENEWAL AREA BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE CONSISTENT WITH THE SOUND NEEDS OF THE MUNICIPALITY AS A WHOLE. THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL GIVE CONSIDERATION TO THIS OBJECTIVE IN EXERCISING ITS POWERS UNDER THIS APPENDIX.

**A1-111. GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS.**

FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING AND CARRYING OUT AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT AND RELATED ACTIVITIES, THE MUNICIPALITY MAY ISSUE AND SELL ITS GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS. ANY BONDS ISSUED BY THE MUNICIPALITY PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE ISSUED IN THE MANNER AND WITHIN THE LIMITATIONS PRESCRIBED BY APPLICABLE LAW FOR THE ISSUANCE AND AUTHORIZATION OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS BY THE MUNICIPALITY, AND ALSO WITHIN LIMITATIONS DETERMINED BY THE MUNICIPALITY.

**A1-112. REVENUE BONDS.**

(A) IN ADDITION TO THE AUTHORITY CONFERRED BY SECTION A1-111 OF THIS APPENDIX, THE MUNICIPALITY MAY ISSUE REVENUE BONDS TO FINANCE THE UNDERTAKING OF ANY URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT AND RELATED ACTIVITIES. ALSO, IT MAY ISSUE REFUNDING BONDS FOR THE PAYMENT OR RETIREMENT OF THE BONDS ISSUED PREVIOUSLY BY IT. THE BONDS SHALL BE MADE PAYABLE, AS TO BOTH PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST, SOLELY FROM THE INCOME, PROCEEDS, REVENUES, AND FUNDS OF THE MUNICIPALITY DERIVED FROM OR HELD IN CONNECTION WITH THE UNDERTAKING AND CARRYING OUT OF URBAN RENEWAL PROJECTS UNDER THIS APPENDIX. HOWEVER, PAYMENT OF THE BONDS, BOTH AS TO PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST, MAY BE FURTHER SECURED BY A PLEDGE OF ANY LOAN, GRANT, OR CONTRIBUTION FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OR OTHER SOURCE, IN AID OF ANY URBAN RENEWAL PROJECTS OF THE MUNICIPALITY UNDER THIS APPENDIX, AND BY A MORTGAGE OF ANY URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT, OR ANY PART OF A PROJECT, TITLE TO WHICH IS IN THE MUNICIPALITY. IN ADDITION, THE MUNICIPALITY MAY ENTER INTO AN INDENTURE OF TRUST WITH ANY PRIVATE BANKING INSTITUTION OF THIS STATE HAVING TRUST POWERS AND MAY MAKE IN

THE INDENTURE OF TRUST COVENANTS AND COMMITMENTS REQUIRED BY ANY PURCHASER FOR THE ADEQUATE SECURITY OF THE BONDS.

(B) BONDS ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION DO NOT CONSTITUTE AN INDEBTEDNESS WITHIN THE MEANING OF ANY CONSTITUTIONAL OR STATUTORY DEBT LIMITATION OR RESTRICTION, ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ANY OTHER LAW OR CHARTER RELATING TO THE AUTHORIZATION, ISSUANCE, OR SALE OF BONDS, AND ARE EXEMPTED SPECIFICALLY FROM THE RESTRICTIONS CONTAINED IN §§ 19-205 AND 19-206 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND. BONDS ISSUED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS APPENDIX ARE DECLARED TO BE ISSUED FOR AN ESSENTIAL PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENTAL PURPOSE AND, TOGETHER WITH INTEREST ON THEM AND INCOME FROM THEM, ARE EXEMPT FROM ALL TAXES.

(C) BONDS ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE AUTHORIZED BY RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY. THEY MAY BE ISSUED IN ONE OR MORE SERIES AND SHALL:

- (1) BEAR A DATE OR DATES;
- (2) MATURE AT A TIME OR TIMES;
- (3) BEAR INTEREST AT A RATE OR RATES;
- (4) BE IN A DENOMINATION OR DENOMINATIONS;
- (5) BE IN A FORM EITHER WITH OR WITHOUT COUPON OR REGISTERED;
- (6) CARRY A CONVERSION OR REGISTRATION PRIVILEGE;
- (7) HAVE A RANK OR PRIORITY;
- (8) BE EXECUTED IN A MANNER;
- (9) BE PAYABLE IN A MEDIUM OF PAYMENT, AT A PLACE OR PLACES, AND BE SUBJECT TO TERMS OF REDEMPTION (WITH OR WITHOUT PREMIUM);
- (10) BE SECURED IN A MANNER; AND
- (11) HAVE OTHER CHARACTERISTICS, AS ARE PROVIDED BY THE RESOLUTION, TRUST INDENTURE, OR MORTGAGE ISSUED PURSUANT TO IT.



(D) THESE BONDS MAY NOT BE SOLD AT LESS THAN PAR VALUE AT PUBLIC SALES WHICH ARE HELD AFTER NOTICE IS PUBLISHED PRIOR TO THE SALE IN A NEWSPAPER HAVING A GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE AREA IN WHICH THE MUNICIPALITY IS LOCATED AND IN WHATEVER OTHER MEDIUM OF PUBLICATION AS THE MUNICIPALITY MAY DETERMINE. THE BONDS MAY BE EXCHANGED ALSO FOR OTHER BONDS ON THE BASIS OF PAR. HOWEVER, THE BONDS MAY NOT BE SOLD TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AT PRIVATE SALE AT LESS THAN PAR, AND, IN THE EVENT LESS THAN ALL OF THE AUTHORIZED PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF THE BONDS IS SOLD TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE BALANCE MAY NOT BE SOLD AT PRIVATE SALE AT LESS THAN PAR AT AN INTEREST COST TO THE MUNICIPALITY WHICH DOES NOT EXCEED THE INTEREST COST TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE PORTION OF THE BONDS SOLD TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

(E) IN CASE ANY OF THE PUBLIC OFFICIALS OF THE MUNICIPALITY WHOSE SIGNATURES APPEAR ON ANY BONDS OR COUPONS ISSUED UNDER THIS APPENDIX CEASE TO BE OFFICIALS OF THE MUNICIPALITY BEFORE THE DELIVERY OF THE BONDS OR IN THE EVENT ANY OF THE OFFICIALS HAVE BECOME SUCH AFTER THE DATE OF ISSUE OF THEM, THE BONDS ARE VALID AND BINDING OBLIGATIONS OF THE MUNICIPALITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR TERMS. ANY PROVISION OF ANY LAW TO THE CONTRARY NOTWITHSTANDING, ANY BONDS ISSUED PURSUANT TO THIS APPENDIX ARE FULLY NEGOTIABLE.

(F) IN ANY SUIT, ACTION, OR PROCEEDING INVOLVING THE VALIDITY OR ENFORCEABILITY OF ANY BOND ISSUED UNDER THIS APPENDIX, OR THE SECURITY FOR IT, ANY BOND WHICH RECITES IN SUBSTANCE THAT IT HAS BEEN ISSUED BY THE MUNICIPALITY IN CONNECTION WITH AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT SHALL BE CONSIDERED CONCLUSIVELY TO HAVE BEEN ISSUED FOR THAT PURPOSE, AND THE PROJECT SHALL BE CONSIDERED CONCLUSIVELY TO HAVE BEEN PLANNED, LOCATED, AND CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS APPENDIX.

(G) ALL BANKS, TRUST COMPANIES, BANKERS, SAVINGS BANKS, AND INSTITUTIONS, BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS, SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS, INVESTMENT COMPANIES, AND OTHER PERSONS CARRYING ON A BANKING OR INVESTMENT BUSINESS; ALL INSURANCE COMPANIES, INSURANCE ASSOCIATIONS, AND OTHER PERSONS CARRYING ON AN INSURANCE BUSINESS; AND ALL EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, CURATORS, TRUSTEES, AND OTHER FIDUCIARIES, MAY LEGALLY INVEST ANY SINKING FUNDS, MONEYS, OR OTHER FUNDS BELONGING TO THEM OR WITHIN THEIR CONTROL IN ANY BONDS OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS ISSUED BY THE MUNICIPALITY PURSUANT TO THIS APPENDIX. HOWEVER, THE BONDS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS SHALL BE SECURED BY AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ISSUER AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN WHICH THE



ISSUER AGREES TO BORROW FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGREES TO LEND TO THE ISSUER, PRIOR TO THE MATURITY OF THE BONDS OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS, MONEYS IN AN AMOUNT WHICH (TOGETHER WITH ANY OTHER MONEYS COMMITTED IRREVOCABLY TO THE PAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS) WILL SUFFICE TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF THE BONDS OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS WITH INTEREST TO MATURITY ON THEM. THE MONEYS UNDER THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT SHALL BE REQUIRED TO BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE PRINCIPAL OF AND THE INTEREST ON THE BONDS OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS AT THEIR MATURITY. THE BONDS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS SHALL BE AUTHORIZED SECURITY FOR ALL PUBLIC DEPOSITS. THIS SECTION AUTHORIZES ANY PERSONS OR PUBLIC OR PRIVATE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS AND OFFICERS TO USE ANY FUNDS OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY THEM FOR THE PURCHASE OF ANY BONDS OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS. WITH REGARD TO LEGAL INVESTMENTS, THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO RELIEVE ANY PERSON OF ANY DUTY OF EXERCISING REASONABLE CARE IN SELECTING SECURITIES.

**A1-113. SHORT TITLE.**

THIS APPENDIX SHALL BE KNOWN AND MAY BE CITED AS THE WILLIAMSPORT URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY FOR BLIGHT CLEARANCE ACT.

**A1-114. AUTHORITY TO AMEND OR REPEAL.**

THIS APPENDIX, ENACTED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 61 OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION, MAY BE AMENDED OR REPEALED ONLY BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2022.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 29, 2022.

# Appendix 2

**Liber 12 Folio 0691**  
Acts, Ordinances, Resolutions- Town  
Clerk of the Circuit Clerk  
Washington County

LR - Government  
Instrument 0.00  
Agency Name: Town of  
Williamsport  
Instrument List: Other  
Describe Other:  
Ref:

Total: 0.00  
03/12/2018 01:54  
CC21-TR  
#9977985 CC0403 -  
Washington  
County/CC04.03.04 -  
Register 04

This page not to be counted in calculating Recording Fee

**Clerk of Circuit Court**  
**Washington County, Maryland**  
Dennis J. Weaver, Clerk  
24 Summit Avenue  
Hagerstown, MD 21740  
301-790-7991

**For Clerks Use Only**

Improvement Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
County Transfer Tax \_\_\_\_\_  
Recordation Tax \_\_\_\_\_  
State Transfer Tax \_\_\_\_\_  
Non-Resident Tax \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION NO. 2006-1**

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT, MARYLAND  
TO AMEND THE CORPORATE CHARTER  
SECTION 45. CLERK-TREASURER**

*Superseded by  
2017-1*

RESOLUTION of the Council of the Town of Williamsport, Maryland, adopted pursuant to Article XI-E, Section 4, of the Constitution of the State of Maryland, entitled, "MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS, PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTION, AMENDMENT OR REPEAL OF CHARTERS"; and pursuant to Article 23-A of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, entitled "Corporations, Municipal, Charter Amendments," as said sections were enacted by Charter 423 of the Laws of Maryland, 1955, and subsequent amendments thereto; to amend the now existing Section 45 of the Corporate Charter of the Town of Williamsport as adopted July 8, 1957, and subsequently amended entitled, SECTION 45. CLERK-TREASURER, and to amend said Corporate Charter as herein set forth.

WHEREAS, the Council of the Town of Williamsport deems it to be in the best interest of the Town of Williamsport and the community to amend said Charter.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Council of the Town of Williamsport, Maryland, that Section 45. Clerk-treasurer, of the aforementioned Charter of the Town of Williamsport be and is hereby repealed in its entirety, and be it further

RESOLVED, ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Council of the Town of Williamsport, Maryland, that Section 45. Clerk-treasurer, of the aforementioned Charter of the Town of Williamsport be and is hereby amended, enacted and reenacted and shall read as follows:

FINANCE

DW HAGE  
Apr 21, 2006 11:23 am

**Section 45. Clerk-treasurer.**

There shall be a Clerk-Treasurer appointed by the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-

Acts, Ordinances,  
Resolutions-Towns  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Washington County

Treasurer shall serve at the direction ~~and pleasure~~ of the Mayor and Council ((and shall only be removed for just cause)). The Clerk-Treasurer shall only be subject to removal by five (5) votes, of the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer's term of employment shall continue uninterruptedly until terminated in accordance with this Section. The Clerk-Treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of the town. The financial powers of the town, except as otherwise provided by this Charter, shall be exercised by the Clerk-Treasurer under the direct supervision of the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer's compensation shall be determined by the Council.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, ENACTED AND ORDAINED**, that said amendment shall become and be considered a part of the Charter of the Town of Williamsport, as herein set forth in all respects to be effective and observed as such upon the fiftieth (50th) day after the date of passage, unless on or before the fortieth (40th) day after such passage there shall be presented to the Legislative Body of the Town of Williamsport, or mailed to it by registered mail, a Petition meeting the requirements for referendum.

WITNESS

Judith Lowman  
Judith Lowman

MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF  
THE TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT

By: James G. McCleaf  
James G. McCleaf, Mayor

Date of Introduction: March 13, 2006  
Date of Passage: March 13, 2006  
Effective Date: May 3, 2006

Record and return to: Town Clerk  
Town of Williamsport  
P. O. Box 307  
Williamsport, MD 21795

**MAILED** APR 25 2006



**RESOLUTION 2017-1**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF  
WILLIAMSPORT, MARYLAND, TO AMEND THE CORPORATE CHARTER  
SECTION 45. CLERK-TREASURER; SECTION 46. SAME - POWERS AND  
DUTIES AND SECTION 47. SAME - BOND.**

**RESOLUTION** of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Williamsport, Maryland, adopted pursuant to Article XI-E, Section 4, of the Constitution of the State of Maryland, entitled, "MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, PROCEDURES FOR ADOPTION, AMENDMENT OR REPEAL OF CHARTERS", and pursuant to §4-403 entitled "Initiation of charter amendment by legislative body," to amend the now existing Sections 45, 26 and 47 of the Corporate Charter of the Town of Williamsport as adopted entitled Clerk-treasurer; Same-Powers and duties and Same-Bond to create the position of Town Manager and to amend the Charter as same relates to the Clerk-treasurer.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Williamsport deem it in the best interest of the Town of Williamsport and the community to amend said Charter.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it **RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Williamsport, Maryland, that Sections 45, 46 and 47 of the Town of Williamsport, Maryland, Charter dated May 2, 1994 and subsequently amended, be and are hereby amended to read as follows:

[[FINANCE]]  
**MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE**

**§45. [[Clerk-treasurer]] Town Manager.**

[[There shall be a Clerk-Treasurer appointed by the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer shall serve at the direction and pleasure of the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer shall only be subject to removal by five (5) votes of the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer's term of employment shall continue uninterruptedly until terminated in accordance with this Section. The Clerk-Treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of the town. The financial powers of the town, except as otherwise provided by this Charter, shall be exercised by the Clerk-Treasurer under the direct supervision of the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer's compensation shall be determined by the Council. (Res. No. 2006-1, 05-02-06).]]

**A. Creation of position of Town Manager.**

**The position of Town Manager for the Town of Williamsport is hereby created.**

**B. Appointment of Town Manager.**

The Town Manager shall be appointed by the Mayor, with the approval of the Council. The Town Manager shall serve at the direction and pleasure of the Mayor and Council. The Town Manager shall be chosen on the basis of accomplishments in organization and planning, and on the basis of experience in administration i.e business, institution, or political subdivision, with special reference to knowledge and experience in the accepted practices of the duties of the office hereinafter set forth. The Town Manager shall only be subject to removal by five (5) votes of the Mayor and Council. The Town Manager's term of employment shall continue uninterruptedly until termination in accordance with this Section.

**C. Compensation of Town Manager.**

The Town Manager shall receive such compensation as the Council shall prescribe.

**D. Duties and responsibilities of Town Manager.**

The duties and responsibilities of Town Manger include the following:

(1) The Town Manger shall organize, direct and supervise the administration of all departments, offices, and agencies of the Town in accordance with the direction of the Mayor and Council. The Town Manager shall also serve as the Clerk-Treasurer and shall discharge all duties and responsibilities of that position as provided in the Charter of the Town of Williamsport provided that said duties are delegated to the Town Manager by the Mayor and Council by appropriate Resolution. The terms, "Town Manager" and "Clerk-Treasurer" shall be construed as synonymous in this Charter in said event.

(2) The Town Manager shall oversee and supervise the management of all personnel of the Town subject to the powers of the Mayor and the Council set forth elsewhere in this Charter.

(3) The Town Manager shall see that all laws, provisions of the Town Charter and acts of the Council are faithfully executed.

(4) The Town Manager shall attend all public meetings of the Council and shall have the right to participate in such discussions at such meetings, but the Town Manager may not vote.

(5) The Town Manager shall undertake such research and make reports and recommendations as the Council may direct or they may deem desirable and in the best interest of the Town of Williamsport.



**§46 Clerk-treasurer.**

There shall be a Clerk-Treasurer appointed by the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer shall serve at the direction of the Mayor and Council and shall only be removed for just cause. The Clerk-Treasurer shall only be subject to removal by five (5) votes, of the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer's terms of employment shall continue uninterrupted until terminated in accordance with this Section. The Clerk-Treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of the town. The financial powers of the town, except as otherwise provided by this Charter, shall be exercised by the Clerk-Treasurer under the direct supervision of the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer's compensation shall be determined by the Council.

**§46A. Town Manager as Clerk-Treasurer.**

If delegated by the Mayor and Council, the Town Manger shall act as Clerk-Treasurer and carry out the duties of the Clerk-Treasurer as said duties are delegated to the Town Manager as set forth in this Charter.

If the Mayor and Council does not delegate the Clerk-Treasurer powers to the Town Manager, then there shall be a Clerk-Treasurer appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Council. The Clerk-Treasurer shall serve in accordance with §§45, 46 and 47 of this Charter. The Clerk-Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial officer of the Town. The financial powers of the Town, except as otherwise provided in this Charter, shall be exercised by the Clerk-Treasurer under the direct supervision of the Mayor.

**§46B. Clerk-Treasurer Powers and Duties.**

Under the supervision of the Mayor, the Clerk-Treasurer shall have authority and be shall be required to:

- (1) Prepare at the request of the Mayor an annual budget to be submitted by the Mayor to the Council.
- (2) Supervise and be responsible for the disbursement of all monies and have control over all expenditures to assure that budget appropriations are not exceeded.
- (3) Maintain a general accounting system for the Town in such form as the Council may require, not contrary to State law.
- (4) Submit at the end of each fiscal year, and at such other times as the Council may require, a complete financial report to the Council through the Mayor.
- (5) Ascertain that all taxable property within he town is assessed for taxation.
- (6) Collect all taxes, special assessments, license fees, liens, and all other revenues (including utility revenues) of the Town, and all other revenues for whose

**Liber 12 Folio 0686**  
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Clerk of the Circuit Clerk  
Washington County

collection the Town is responsible, and receive any funds receivable by the Town.

(7) Have custody of all public monies belonging to or under the control of the Town, except as to funds in the control of any set of trustees, and have custody of all bonds and notes of the Town.

(8) Do such other things in relation to the fiscal or financial affairs of the Town as the Mayor or the Council may require or as may be required elsewhere in this Charter.

**§47. Same – Bond.**

[[The clerk-treasurer shall provide a bond with such corporate surety and in such amount as the council by ordinance may require.]]

The Town Manager and the Clerk-Treasurer shall provide a bond with such corporate surety and in such amount as the Council by Ordinance or Resolution may require.

And be it further **RESOLVED** that the exact text of the proposed Charter Amendment prepared so that each provision is shown as the provision would read when amended or enacted is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and is incorporated herein by reference; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that said Amendment shall become and be considered a part of the Charter of the Town of Williamsport as herein set forth in all respects to be effective and observed as such upon the fiftieth (50<sup>th</sup>) day after such passage unless on or before the fortieth (40<sup>th</sup>) day of such passage there shall be presented to the legislative body of the Town of Williamsport, or mailed to it by registered mail, a Petition meeting the requirements for referendum; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, local Government Article, §4-303(d) the proposed Amendment specifically repeals and/or is intended to repeal any provision in the Charter for the Town of Williamsport that is inconsistent with the Amended provision; and be it is further

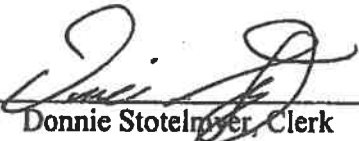
**RESOLVED**, that notice is further given that the Amendment proposed by the Legislative Body of the Town of Williamsport Maryland, that the Municipal Charter according to this Amendment, shall be effective and observed as such, in all respects set forth above on the fiftieth (50<sup>th</sup>) after passage, as set forth above, unless on or before the fortieth (40<sup>th</sup>) day after passage there shall be presented to the Mayor and Council (Legislative Body) or mailed to it by registered mail, a petition for referendum in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Local Government Article.

(Note: Double [[’s indicate deletion. Underlining indicates addition.)

**Liber 12 Folio 0687**  
Acts, Ordinances, Resolutions- Town  
Clerk of the Circuit Clerk  
Washington County

**WITNESS AND ATTEST  
AS TO CORPORATE SEAL**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE  
TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT,  
MARYLAND**

By:   
Donnie Stotelmyer, Clerk

By:   
William Green, Mayor

Date of Introduction: 10/09/17  
Date of Passage: 10/09/17  
Effective Date: 11/28/17

Record and Return to: MAR 13 2018

Mr. Donnie Stotelmyer, Clerk  
30 W. Baltimore Street  
P O Box 307  
Williamsport, MD 21795

Charter Amendments.Town Manager.10.09.17

MAR 13 2018

MAR 13 2018

MAR 13 2018

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE**

**§45. Town Manager.**

**A. Creation of position of Town Manager.**

The position of Town Manager for the Town of Williamsport is hereby created.

**B. Appointment of Town Manager.**

The Town Manager shall be appointed by the Mayor, with the approval of the Council. The Town Manager shall serve at the direction and pleasure of the Mayor and Council. The Town Manager shall be chosen on the basis of accomplishments in organization and planning, and on the basis of experience in administration i.e business, institution, or political subdivision, with special reference to knowledge and experience in the accepted practices of the duties of the office hereinafter set forth. The Town Manager shall only be subject to removal by five (5) votes of the Mayor and Council. The Town Manager's term of employment shall continue uninterruptedly until termination in accordance with this Section.

**C. Compensation of Town Manager.**

The Town Manager shall receive such compensation as the Council shall prescribe.

**D. Duties and responsibilities of Town Manager.**

The duties and responsibilities of Town Manger include the following:

- (1) The Town Manger shall organize, direct and supervise the administration of all departments, offices, and agencies of the Town in accordance with the direction of the Mayor and Council. The Town Manager shall also serve as the Clerk-Treasurer and shall discharge all duties and responsibilities of that position as provided in the Charter of the Town of Williamsport provided that said duties are delegated to the Town Manager by the Mayor and Council by appropriate Resolution. The terms, "Town Manager" and "Clerk-Treasurer" shall be construed as synonymous in this Charter in said event.
- (2) The Town Manager shall oversee and supervise the management of all personnel of the Town subject to the powers of the Mayor and the Council set forth elsewhere in this Charter.
- (3) The Town Manager shall see that all laws, provisions of the Town Charter and acts of the Council are faithfully executed.

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Washington County

(4) The Town Manager shall attend all public meetings of the Council and shall have the right to participate in such discussions at such meetings, but the Town Manager may not vote.

(5) The Town Manager shall undertake such research and make reports and recommendations as the Council may direct or they may deem desirable and in the best interest of the Town of Williamsport.

**§46 Clerk-treasurer.**

There shall be a Clerk-Treasurer appointed by the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer shall serve at the direction of the Mayor and Council and shall only be removed for just cause. The Clerk-Treasurer shall only be subject to removal by five (5) votes, of the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer's terms of employment shall continue uninterruptedly until terminated in accordance with this Section. The Clerk-Treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of the town. The financial powers of the town, except as otherwise provided by this Charter, shall be exercised by the Clerk-Treasurer under the direct supervision of the Mayor and Council. The Clerk-Treasurer's compensation shall be determined by the Council.

**§46A. Town Manager as Clerk-Treasurer.**

If delegated by the Mayor and Council, the Town Manager shall act as Clerk-Treasurer and carry out the duties of the Clerk-Treasurer as said duties are delegated to the Town Manager as set forth in this Charter.

If the Mayor and Council does not delegate the Clerk-Treasurer powers to the Town Manager, then there shall be a Clerk-Treasurer appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Council. The Clerk-Treasurer shall serve in accordance with §§45, 46 and 47 of this Charter. The Clerk-Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial officer of the Town. The financial powers of the Town, except as otherwise provided in this Charter, shall be exercised by the Clerk-Treasurer under the direct supervision of the Mayor.

**§46B. Clerk-Treasurer Powers and Duties.**

Under the supervision of the Mayor, the Clerk-Treasurer shall have authority and be shall be required to:

(1) Prepare at the request of the Mayor an annual budget to be submitted by the Mayor to the Council.

(2) Supervise and be responsible for the disbursement of all monies and have control over all expenditures to assure that budget appropriations are not exceeded.

(3) Maintain a general accounting system for the Town in such form as the

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Council may require, not contrary to State law.

(4) Submit at the end of each fiscal year, and at such other times as the Council may require, a complete financial report to the Council through the Mayor.

(5) Ascertain that all taxable property within the town is assessed for taxation.

(6) Collect all taxes, special assessments, license fees, liens, and all other revenues (including utility revenues) of the Town, and all other revenues for whose collection the Town is responsible and receive any funds receivable by the Town.

(7) Have custody of all public monies belonging to or under the control of the Town, except as to funds in the control of any set of trustees and have custody of all bonds and notes of the Town.

(8) Do such other things in relation to the fiscal or financial affairs of the Town as the Mayor or the Council may require or as may be required elsewhere in this Charter.

**§47. Same -- Bond.**

The Town Manager and the Clerk-Treasurer shall provide a bond with such corporate surety and in such amount as the Council by Ordinance or Resolution may require.

**RESOLUTION-2024-1  
CHARTER AMENDMENT**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF  
WILLIAMSPORT, MARYLAND, TO AMEND TO THE CORPORATE CHARTER §35  
Filing certificate of Nomination/Candidacy and §36 Primary election; municipal meeting or  
convention**

**RESOLUTION** of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Williamsport, Maryland, adopted pursuant to Article XI-E, Section 4, of the Constitution of the State of Maryland, entitled, "MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, PROCEDURES FOR ADOPTION, AMENDMENT OR REPEAL OF CHARTERS", and pursuant to §4-304 entitled "Initiation of charter amendment by legislative body," to amend **§35 Filing certificate of Nomination/Candidacy and §36 Primary election; municipal meeting or convention** to the *Corporate Charter of the Town of Williamsport*.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Williamsport deem it in the best interest of the Town of Williamsport and the community to amend said *Charter*.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it **RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Williamsport, Maryland, that **§35 Filing certificate of Nomination/Candidacy and §36 Primary election; municipal meeting or convention** be amended to read as follows:

**§ 35. Filing certificate of Nomination/Candidacy.**

Persons may be nominated for elective office in the town by filing a certificate of nomination/candidacy at the office of the board of supervisors *no later than the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Monday of February of the year of the election* ((at least ten days preceding the election)). No person shall file for nomination to more than one elective town public office or hold more than one elective town public office at any one time. In addition thereto, no elected officer of the town, except elected officers running for re-election, shall be a candidate or nominee for election to any town public office until he or she shall have first resigned from his/her office. If he/she fails to resign upon registering for candidacy and/or upon nomination, he/she shall be deemed to have forfeited his/her town public office immediately upon registration and/or nomination. Any such officer of the town who shall become a candidate for election by the people to a public office, other than a **town** public office, shall automatically forfeit such town position when and if he/she is elected for said public office.

**§36 Deleted.**

**((§36. Primary election; municipal meeting or convention.**

Town meeting or convention: Candidates for the general election may be chosen at a town meeting or convention held at least ten days prior to the day of the election. Such a





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meeting or convention for the selection of candidates shall be conducted generally according to accepted parliamentary procedure.))

Key:

Italics = New

(( )) = Deletion

Unless noted as indicated above, the text remains unchanged.

And be it further **RESOLVED** that the exact text of the proposed Charter Amendment prepared so that each provision is shown as the provision would read when amended or enacted is attached hereto as **Exhibit "A"** and is incorporated herein by reference; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that pursuant to the *Annotated Code of Maryland, Local Government Article, §4-303(d)* the proposed Amendment specifically repeals and/or is intended to repeal any provision in the *Charter for the Town of Williamsport* that is inconsistent with the Amended provision; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that notice is further given that the Amendment proposed by the Legislative Body of the Town of Williamsport Maryland, that the Municipal Charter according to this Amendment, shall be effective and observed as such, in all respects set forth above on the fiftieth (50<sup>th</sup>) day after passage, as set forth above, unless on or before the fortieth (40<sup>th</sup>) day after passage there shall be presented to the Mayor and Council (Legislative Body) or mailed to it by registered mail, a petition for referendum in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Local Government Article.



**Liber 14 Folio 0345**  
Acts, Ordinances, Resolutions- Town  
Clerk of the Circuit Clerk  
Washington County

**WITNESS AND ATTEST  
AS TO CORPORATE SEAL  
MARYLAND**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chad Rooney, Town Manager**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE  
TOWN OF WILLIAMSPORT,**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**William Green, Mayor**

Date of Introduction: June 10, 2024

Date of Passage: June 10, 2024

Effective Date: July 30, 2024

Record and Return to:

Chad Rooney, Town Administrator  
**Town of Williamsport**  
Town Hall  
P.O. Box 307  
2 N. Conococheague Street  
Williamsport, MD 21795

**AUG 26 2024**

Resolution.Charter.Amendment.Elections.06.10.2024



**EXHIBIT "A"**

**CHARTER AFTER AMENDMENTS**

**§ 35. Filing certificate of Nomination/Candidacy.**

Persons may be nominated for elective office in the town by filing a certificate of nomination/candidacy at the office of the board of supervisors no later than the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Monday of February of the year of the election. No person shall file for nomination to more than one elective town public office or hold more than one elective town public office at any one time. In addition thereto, no elected officer of the town, except elected officers running for re-election, shall be a candidate or nominee for election to any town public office until he or she shall have first resigned from his/her office. If he/she fails to resign upon registering for candidacy and/or upon nomination, he/she shall be deemed to have forfeited his/her town public office immediately upon registration and/or nomination. Any such officer of the town who shall become a candidate for election by the people to a public office, other than a **town** public office, shall automatically forfeit such town position when and if he/she is elected for said public office.

**§36 Deleted.**



Send Certification to:

Chad Rooney, Town Administrator  
**Town of Williamsport**  
Town Hall  
P.O. Box 307  
2 N. Conococheague Street  
Williamsport, MD 21795





**Liber 14 Folio 0348**  
Acts, Ordinances, Resolutions- Town  
Clerk of the Circuit Clerk  
Washington County

LR - Government  
Instrument 0.00  
Agency Name: Town of  
Williamsport  
Instrument List: Other  
Describe Other:  
Ref:  
Total: 0.00  
08/23/2024 01:40  
CC21-RD  
#18359258 CC0403 -  
Washington  
County/CC04.03.03 -  
Register 03

This page not to be counted in calculating Recording Fee

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**Clerk of Circuit Court**  
**Washington County, Maryland**  
Kevin R. Tucker, Clerk  
24 Summit Avenue  
Hagerstown, MD 21740  
301-790-7991

**For Clerks Use Only**

Improvement Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
County Transfer Tax \_\_\_\_\_  
Recordation Tax \_\_\_\_\_  
State Transfer Tax \_\_\_\_\_  
Non-Resident Tax \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

