




# City of Bowie

2614 Kenhill Drive  
Bowie, Maryland 20715

## MEMORANDUM

To: City Council  
From: David J. Deutsch,  City Manager  
Subject: CAR-1-08 – Board of Elections

February 14, 2008

The Chairman of the Board of Elections has recommended that the number of members serving on the Board of Elections be increased. There has been an increase in the number of registered voters in the City in recent years which has increased the workload for the Board on Election Day. A Charter Amendment Resolution is attached which increases the number of members from five to nine, and leaving the number of alternates at four. Alternates are needed on this Board in the event a regular member is unavailable for some unforeseen reason, or to assist at a polling place when an additional election judge is needed. The City Clerk will begin advertising for members once the Charter Amendment Resolution becomes effective in order to bring members onboard in plenty of time before the 2009 election season begins.

Attachment

**CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION**  
**OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND**  
**AMENDING SECTION 23 OF THE CITY CHARTER TO INCREASE THE**  
**NUMBER OF MEMBERS WHO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Article 23A, §§ 11-18, the City Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland (hereinafter, "the City") have the authority to amend the City's Charter, in accordance with the procedures set forth therein; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 23 of the City Charter sets forth the number of members who will serve on the Board of Elections; and

**WHEREAS**, in recent years there has been an increase in the number of registered voters in the City, as well as the number of polling places; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council deems it to be in the best interest of good government, as well as the welfare of the citizens of Bowie, to increase the membership of the Board of Elections from five to nine members, so that the Board of Elections will be able to address all of the matters that require the Board's attention.

**Section 1:**    **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland, that § 23 of the Charter of the City of Bowie is amended as follows:

Sec. 23.    Board of Elections.

There shall be a Board of Elections, consisting of [five] NINE members and four alternates who shall be appointed by the Council on the third Monday in November or as soon thereafter as practicable, of every even numbered year. The alternates shall be bound by all of the applicable provisions of this Charter and shall attend all meetings of the Board. If a

CAPITALS            :    Indicates matter added to existing law.  
**[Bold Brackets]**    :    Indicate matter deleted from law.

member of the Board is absent or incapacitated for any reason, an alternate shall serve in that member's place until the absence or incapacity has ceased. The acting member shall have all the powers and authority, including the right to vote, and be subject to the duties imposed on a member of the Board of Elections. The terms of the members and alternates shall begin on the third Monday in November in the year in which they are appointed and shall expire on the third Monday in November of the second year following their appointment, but not until their successors have been appointed. Board members and alternates shall be qualified voters of the City 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 chairman. Vacancies on the board shall be filled by the City Council for the remainder of the unexpired term. Compensation for Board members and alternates shall be determined by the Council.

**Section 3:** BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Charter Amendment Resolution is adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008, and that the amendment to the Charter of the City of Bowie, hereby proposed by this enactment, shall be and become effective fifty (50) days after its passage by the City unless petitioned to referendum in accordance with Article 23A, § 13, of the Annotated Code of Maryland within 40 days following its passage. A complete and exact copy of this Resolution shall be posted in the City Hall building for forty (40) days following its passage by the City, and a fair summary of the Charter Amendment shall be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City not less than four (4) times at weekly intervals, also within the forty (40) days following its passage by City.

CAPITALS : Indicates matter added to existing law.  
**[Bold Brackets]** : Indicate matter deleted from law.

**Section 4: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that as soon as the Charter Amendment Resolution hereby enacted becomes effective, either as herein provided or following referendum, the Bowie City Manager shall send to the Department of Legislative Services, the following information concerning the Charter Amendment Resolution: (i) the complete text of this Resolution; (ii) the date of referendum election, if any, held with respect thereto; (iii) the number of votes cast for and against this Resolution by the Council of the City of Bowie or in a referendum; and (iv) the effective date of the Charter Amendment.

**Section 5: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager of the City of Bowie, Maryland be, and hereby is specifically enjoined and instructed to carry out the provisions of Sections 3 and 4 as evidence of compliance herewith; and said City Manager shall cause to be affixed to the minutes of this meeting an appropriate Certificate of Publication of the newspaper in which the fair summary of the Charter Amendment shall have been published, and shall further cause to be completed and executed the Certificate of Effect.

**INTRODUCED** by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland at a Regular Meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2008.

**PASSED** by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland at a Regular Meeting on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND

WITNESS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela A. Fleming  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
G. Frederick Robinson, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND SUFFICIENCY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert H. Levan, City Attorney

CAPITALS  
[Bold Brackets]

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Indicate matter deleted from law.