

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-03  
OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF HENDERSON  
CAROLINE COUNTY

AN AMENDMENT TO THE TOWN CHARTER, ALLOWING FOR  
POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS DURING PERIODS OF STATE OF  
EMERGENCY OR CATASTROPHIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES

WHEREAS Section 207(b) of the Town Charter provides for election of Commissioners to be on the fourth Monday in April, and

WHEREAS use of the polling location for the election during a state of emergency could hinder social distancing, enable the transmission of disease during a catastrophic health emergency, and pose risks to public health, welfare, and safety, and

WHEREAS holding Town elections at the polling location during a state of emergency or catastrophic health emergency would potentially expose government buildings, voters, and municipal officers, employees, and volunteers to the hazards or health risks addressed by a state of emergency or catastrophic health emergency, and

WHEREAS the Town Charter does not currently specifically authorize the Town Commissioners to postpone the election.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commissioners of Henderson make the following findings of fact and adopt the following Amendment to the Town Charter:

1. The Commissioners find that this Amendment will not endanger the public health, welfare, or safety; and do further find that this Amendment is necessary to amend the date on which a municipal election will be held.

2. Section 207(b) of the Town Charter is amended by adding the following sentence at the end of the paragraph:


Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Section, if the Governor orders or decrees a state of emergency or a catastrophic health emergency during a period of time that includes the fourth Monday in April, the Commissioners may postpone the election until a date after the termination of the state of emergency or the catastrophic health emergency.


3. The effect of the provisions of the *Annotated Code of Maryland, Local Government Article*, Title 4, Subtitle 3 dealing with procedures for adoption of Charter amendments are suspended under the terms of the Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland No. 20-03-30-03, dated March 30, 2020, and this Amendment will go into effect immediately.

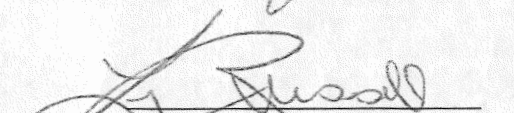
Commissioners of Henderson

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Witness

Date: 4-6-99

  
Sandy Cook, Mayor

  
Jesse J. Cook, Jr., Treasurer

  
Lynn Russell, Commissioner