RESOLUTION NO. 01-2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CHESTERTOWN TO AMEND THE CHESTERTOWN CHARTER TO ADD A NEW SECTION 29-1 TITLED "CANCELLATION OF ELECTION WHERE SEAT IS UNCONTESTED" TO AUTHORIZE THE CHESTERTOWN TOWN CLERK TO CANCEL AN ELECTION WHERE THE SEAT IS UNCONTESTED

WHEREAS, Md. Code Ann. Local Gov't Article § 4-304 confers upon the Mayor and Council of Chestertown the authority to initiate proposed amendments to the Charter for the Town of Chestertown; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of Chestertown have determined that it is desirable and in the public interest to amend the Charter for the Town of Chestertown to add a Section to address the scenario where an election results in a candidate running for the office of Mayor and/or Council that is uncontested.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of Chestertown believe it is in the best interest of the Town to cancel an election for a Mayor or Council seat that is uncontested to avoid the expense of an election where there is no contest.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of Chestertown as follows:

Section 1: The Charter of the Town of Chestertown is hereby amended to include a new Section 29-1 as follows:

Section 29-1. Cancellation of Election Where Seat is Uncontested

In the event that the seat for Mayor and/or Council is uncontested and the time period for filing a certificate of candidacy has expired to file as an official candidate, then the Town Clerk may cancel the election for that seat. If the election is canceled, the candidate running for the uncontested seat shall be declared elected and shall be sworn in as the elected Mayor and/or Council.

- Section 2: This Resolution shall be posted and published in accordance with the requirements set forth in Md. Code Ann. Local Government Article § 4-304.
- Section 3: The Mayor and Council shall hold a public hearing on this Resolution on the 7th day of April 2025.
 - Section 4: This Resolution shall become effective 50 days after final enactment.
- Section 5: As soon as this Resolution becomes effective, the Town Clerk shall cause to be delivered to the Department of Legislative Reference all the information regarding the Charter

Amendment, this Resolution, and any referendum held thereon as may be required by the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this 21st day of April 2025.

David Foster, Mayor

Sheila Austrian, Council, Ward

ATTEST:

Larry Dike, Town Manager

Thomas A. Herz, Jr., Council, Ward 2

Jose Medrano, Council Ward 3

Meghan E. Efland, Council, Ward 4

Language stricken indicates language deleted from the Chater for the Town of Chestertown. Language in *bold and italicized* indicates language added to the Charter for the Town of Chestertown.

Date Introduced: February 18, 2025

Hearing Date: April 7, 2025

Date Adopted: April 21, 2025

Effective Date: June 11, 2025