

216. ADVERTISEMENT. The Mayor and City Council shall authorize, at City expense, an advertisement of any charter amendment or new charter, to be published in at least one Cumberland newspaper of general distribution at least once a week for four weeks immediately preceding an election at which such amendment or new charter is to be voted upon; this advertisement shall contain the date of the election, and a true copy of the proposed amendment or new charter, or a true and unbiased description of the subject matter concerned; such advertisement shall be made for all amendments, whether proposed by the Mayor and City Council, by a petition of voters, or by a charter commission.

217. SUBMISSION. Any charter amendment, charter revision, or new charter proposed by a duly constituted Charter Commission, shall be submitted by the Mayor and City Council, without change or modification, to the voters of Cumberland at a special election before the next succeeding municipal general election or at the next succeeding municipal general election, provided that such Charter amendment, Charter revision, or new Charter shall be submitted to the Mayor and City Council at least sixty days before any election at which such amendment, revision or new Charter is to be submitted to the voters. Special charter amendment elections shall be administered as other elections.

218. APPROVAL. A charter amendment, revision, or new charter, however proposed, shall become a part of this charter, or the entire charter of the City, when approved by a majority of the voters voting thereon. When so approved, it shall have the force of law, subject to the Constitution and Public General Laws of the State of Maryland.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That nothing in this Act shall be construed to affect or invalidate any legal proceedings pending on the date this Act becomes effective, involving a violation or an alleged violation of any part of Article 1A of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland as it existed prior thereto, nor shall it affect or change any application, hearing, petition or legal action of any kind based upon said Article 1A as it existed prior thereto, but any such proceedings, application, hearing, petition, or legal action shall be continued and completed as if this Act had not been passed.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That nothing in this Act shall be construed as affecting the existence of the Civil Service Commission established heretofore, or the tenure of any member thereof, it being the intent and purpose of this