

When the Mayor shall have announced that the signatures on the amendment petition are authentic, the Council shall then provide within sixty days for the submission of the said amendment, without change and as stated in the original petition, at a special election before the next succeeding general election or at the next succeeding general election. The Council shall not have power, on its own motion, to propose an amendment on the subject matter covered by an amendment petition after such petition has been filed with the Mayor, until such time as the Mayor shall have refused to authenticate the signatures on the petition, or the voters shall have accepted or rejected the petition amendment.

108. The Council shall authorize, at City expense, an advertisement of any charter amendment or new charter, to be published in at least one Hagerstown 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 Council, by a petition of voters, or by a charter commission.

109. A Charter amendment, however proposed, shall become a part of this Charter when approved by a majority of the voters voting thereon; such amendment, when approved, shall have the force of law, subject to the Constitution and General Laws of the State of Maryland.

110. The Council may by ordinance authorize and direct the Mayor to appoint a Charter Commission to revise or amend this Charter or to propose a new Charter. The Mayor may also be authorized and directed to appoint a Charter Commission by a petition signed by a number of qualified voters of Hagerstown equal to ten per cent of those voting for candidates for the office of Mayor at the last preceding regular City election; provided; however, that the Mayor shall have thirty days in which to authenticate the signatures on the petition, which shall contain the street address of each signer, and an additional thirty days in which to appoint the Charter Commission.

Any Charter amendment, Charter revision, or new Charter proposed by a duly constituted Charter Commission, shall be submitted by the Council, without change or modi-