

Upon receiving the petition for a referendum, the legislative body of the municipal corporation is directed to verify that any person who signed it is qualified to vote in its municipal general elections and shall consider the petition as of no effect if it is signed by fewer than twenty per centum of the persons who are qualified to vote in municipal general elections. If the petition for a referendum complies with the requirements of this section, the legislative body shall by resolution, passed as in its normal legislative procedure, specify the day and the hours for the election at which the question shall be submitted to the voters of the municipal corporation. This may be at either the next regular municipal general election or at a special election, in the discretion of the legislative body. In the event a special election is designated, it shall be held within a period of not less than forty days nor more than sixty days after the final passage of the resolution providing for the referendum. The resolution providing for the referendum shall specify the exact wording which is to be placed on the ballots or voting machines when the question is submitted to the voters of the municipal corporation.

15. Posting and publication.

The mayor or other chief executive officer of the municipal corporation, by whatever name known, shall give notice by posting and publication of any submission of a proposed charter amendment to the voters thereof. For not less than the four weeks immediately preceding the election at which the question is to be submitted a complete and exact copy of the wording of the proposed amendment or amendments shall be posted at the town hall or other main municipal building or in a public place. On the day of the election, a similar copy shall be posted at the place or places for voting. Or, in lieu of such posting, there shall be posted a statement that, if the amendment is adopted, the municipal corporation shall be governed under and according to the municipal corporation charter contained in Article 23B of the Annotated Code of Maryland, title "Municipal Corporation Charter", and that this municipal corporation charter comprises the proposed amendment; *or if the municipal corporation has adopted substantially the provisions of said Article 23B, the posted statement shall so declare and also should include a fair summary of the provisions in the charter which differ from those in Article 23B.* Notice of the election, together with a fair summary of the proposed amendment or amendments, shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipal corporation, not less than once in each of the four weeks immediately preceding the election.

23. Text of proposed charter.

The petition presented to the board of county commissioners or county council shall make provision for the text of the charter proposed for the municipal corporation. The petition either shall include, as a supplementary paper, the exact text of the proposed charter, or shall state that, if incorporated, the municipal corporation shall be governed under and according to the municipal corporation charter contained in Article 23B of the Annotated Code of Maryland, title "Municipal Corporation Charter", *or, if the petition proposes that the provisions of said Article 23B be adopted substantially as the municipal charter, it shall so declare and shall also in-*