

The Charter of the City of Annapolis

Anne by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, and the Dominions thereto belonging Queen, Defender of the Faith &c. To all and singular our faithful Subjects within our Province of Maryland greeting, Whereas there is a very pleasant, healthful and Commodious Place for Trade, by Act of the General Assembly of this our Province, laid out for a Town and port and called Annapolis in honour of us Which said Town and Port hath in few years (especially since the Accession of our Trusty and well Belov'd JOHN BEGNETT Esq; our Captain General and Governour in chief of this our Province to the Government thereof) very considerably increased in the number of its Inhabitants as well as Buildings both publick and private so that it Excelleth all other Town and Ports in our said Province, AND for that our present Seat of Government within our Province aforesaid is fixed at the sd Port and Town. Whereby the same is become the chief Mart of the whole Country, We being willing to Encourage all our good and faithful Subjects as well att present residing and Inhabiting or which hereafter shall or may inhabit or reside within the same Port of Annapolis, of our Royall Grace, good will and mere motion wth the advice of our Council in our said Province have thought fit and do by these our Letters patents constitute and Erect the said Town and Port of Annapolis together wth the Circuits and Precincts thereof including the same Lands heretofore laid out for the said Town and Port of Annapolis, publick Pasture and Town Common together wth the river and Creeks adjacent into a City by the name of the City of Annapolis, and grant unto the Inhabitants of the said City that the same City shall be an Incorporated City consisting of a Mayor, One Person Learned in the Law to be Chosen and bearing the Office of Recorder of the said City and six Aldermen and seven other Persons to be Common Council Men of the said City, which said Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council shall be a Body incorporate and one Community for ever in Right of the name of Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and common Council of the said City of Annapolis. Shall be Able and Capable to sue and be sued att Law and to Act, Execute, do and perform as a Body incorporate which shall have Succession for Ever and to that End to have a Common Seal and that Amos Garrett Esq; one of the Inhabitants of the said City shall for the present be and be named Mayor of the sd City for the ensuing Year, and Wornell Jant Esq; Recorder thereof and William

591
 all the limits
 ill of the
 to be Eld
 before mention
 of the like
 freeholders
 Council
 or hereafter
 men to be
 before that
 to be taken
 Recorder
 to be Elector
 Mayor or
 in the Proc
 the and sta
 habitants
 have power
 behalf man
 unto by Exp
 ing that us
 the or Prov
 them to Ex
 the precinct
 ing them
 Recorder, Al
 ing full spo
 a Sheriff
 around the Co
 City, and to
 among them
 other mat
 as to them
 they be con
 veniently
 D. of Laws
 persons tra
 pains, penac