

R-XX-2022 A Resolution to Amend the City Council Rules Section 308

**City Council of the City of Glenarden, Maryland
2022 Legislation**

Charter Resolution Number: **R-XX-2022**
Sponsor: **Erika L. Fareed, Councilwoman**
Co-Sponsor: **TBD**
Session: **Regular Meeting**
Date of Introduction: **Monday, February 14th, 2022**

A Resolution to Amend the City Council Rules Section 308

WHEREAS, the Glenarden City Charter, Article III, Section 308(b)(c) procedure of enactment of resolutions and ordinances prescribes the process for approving resolutions; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed that the process can be expedited without sacrificing the fundamental elements of notification and public commentary; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of Glenarden, sitting in Regular Meeting this **XX day of XXXX, 2022** that Section 308(b)(c) for “Enactment of Resolutions and Ordinances” shall be amended as outlined in the attached as follows:

Date Approved: _____

ATTEST:

City Council of Glenarden

Victoria Lewis, Council Clerk

Derek D. Curtis, II, Council President

Angela D. Ferguson, Council Vice President

Erika L. Fareed, Councilwoman

Kathleen J. Guillaume, Councilwoman

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Maurice A. Hairston, Councilman

James A. Herring, Councilman

Robin Jones, Councilwoman

Votes:
Yes _____
No _____
Abstain _____

City of Glenarden

Proposed Resolution Explanation

Updated January 26, 2022

January 26, 2022

Erika L. Fareed, Councilmember

Chapter C. Charter

Article III. Organization of Council

Section 308(b) Procedure for enactment of resolutions and ordinances.

~~(b) A resolution may be introduced by any Councilmember at any regular or special meeting of the Council. Unless otherwise required by law, a resolution may be enacted by the Council only after a public hearing has been held. A resolution may not be passed on the same day as the public hearing, but may be passed at any regular or special meeting of the Council held not less than six days after the public hearing. A resolution shall be enacted by the affirmative vote of at least four members of the Council.~~

A resolution may be introduced by any Councilmember at any public meeting of the Council. Unless otherwise required by law, a resolution may be enacted by the Council only after 1) publicly introducing the resolution 2) publicly advertising the resolution for at least six calendar days 3) publicly soliciting comment and 4) obtaining affirmative vote of at least four members of the Council.

The purpose of this change is to make the process of introducing and passing a resolution more efficient while preserving the principles of advertising and soliciting public comment prior to passing resolutions. This change broadens the types of meetings in which a resolution can be introduced. It also reduces the number of public meetings that Citizens need to attend in order to stay abreast of what the Council is doing.

Per the current language in the charter, the process is as follows:

Resolution is introduced at the Regular Meeting on the 2nd Monday of the month. Public comment on the resolution is received on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Council discusses the Resolution at the Work Session on the 1st Monday of the following month. Council votes on the Resolution at the Regular Meeting on the 2nd Monday of the following month. Depending on the calendar, the time from introduction to voting can take from 35 to 56 days and requires a Citizen interested in a resolution to attend 4 meetings.

Examples

- A) Resolution introduced January 10, public comment received January 18, Council discusses February 7, resolution voted on February 14. Total 35 days to enactment.
- B) Resolution introduced February 14, public comment received March 15 (cannot have comment on February 15 because of the 6 day rule), Council discusses April 4, resolution voted on April 11. Total 56 days to enactment.

In practice, the Council has been addressing this extended time frame by having frequent Special meetings and introducing resolutions at the Work Session.

With the revised language, the process would be as follows:

Resolution is introduced at the Work Session on the 1st Monday of the month. The Council discusses the resolution. Public comment on the resolution is received at the start of the Regular meeting on the 2nd Monday of month. Council further discusses and votes on the Resolution during the Regular meeting on the 2nd Monday of the month. Regardless of the calendar, when the resolution is introduced at the Work Session, the time from introduction to voting will be 7 days and requires a Citizen interested in a resolution to attend 2 meetings.

Examples

- A) Resolution introduced and Council discusses January 3, public comment received January 10. Council discusses further and votes January 10. Total 7 days to enactment.
- B) Resolution introduced and Council discusses February 7, public comment received February 14. Council discusses and votes February 14. Total 7 days to enactment.

Resolution is introduced at the Regular Meeting on the 2nd Monday of the month. Council discusses the Resolution at the Work Session on the 1st Monday of the following month. Public comment is received at the start of the Regular Meeting on the 2nd Monday of the following month. Council further discusses and votes on the Resolution during the Regular meeting on the 2nd Monday of the month. Regardless of the calendar, when the resolution is introduced at the Regular meeting the time from introduction to voting will be 28 days and requires a Citizen interested in a resolution to attend 3 meetings.

Examples

- A) Resolution introduced at the Regular Meeting on January 10. Council discusses at the Work Session February 7. Public comment received at the start of the Regular meeting on February 10. Council discusses further and votes February 10. Total 28 days to enactment.
- B) Resolution introduced at the Regular Meeting on February 14. Council discusses at the Work Session March 7. Public comment received at the start of the Regular meeting on March 14. Council discusses further and votes March 14. Total 28 days to enactment.

City of Glenarden

Proposed Resolution Explanation

Updated January 26, 2022

January 26, 2022

Erika L. Fareed, Councilmember

Chapter C. Charter

Article III. Organization of Council

Section 308(c) Procedure for enactment of resolutions and ordinances.

(c) An ordinance may be introduced by any Councilmember at any ~~regular or special~~ **public meeting of the Council** meeting of the Council. No ordinance shall be passed at the meeting at which it is introduced. An ordinance may not be passed until after a ~~p~~**P**ublic ~~h~~**H**earing has been held and an ordinance may not be passed on the same day as the ~~p~~**P**ublic ~~h~~**H**earing. At any ~~regular or special~~ **public** meeting of the Council, held not less than six nor more than 60 days after the ~~p~~**P**ublic ~~h~~**H**earing, the proposed ordinance shall be passed at the meeting at which it is introduced may be suspended by the affirmative votes of five members of the Council.

This change broadens the types of meetings in which an Ordinance can be introduced.

This change also specifies that a distinct Public Hearing is required for Ordinances.

Since Ordinances more directly impact the citizens, there should be a greater opportunity to receive public feedback.