



FOREST HEIGHTS NEWS

"WHAT A MAN DOES FOR HIMSELF WILL DIE WITH HIM. WHAT HE DOES FOR HIS COMMUNITY WILL LIVE FOREVER"

Incorporated 1949

November 25, 2005

52nd Year, Issue No 10

Forest Heights Town Council Proposes to Amend Town Charter



2nd of 4 Publications as Required by the Annotated Code of Maryland

Summary of Proposed Forest Heights Town Council Resolutions 3 – 14

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE FOREST HEIGHTS TOWN CHARTER

December 5, 2005

Greetings Neighbors:

The following is a Summary of Council Resolutions 3 through 14 as amended and adopted by the Forest Heights Town Council at its regular legislative Town Meeting on November 16, 2005, to initiate amendments to the Forest Heights Town Charter, and submitted to the Forest Heights Town Clerk on November 21, 2005 for publication by the Mayor as provided for by Article 23A of the Annotated Maryland Code (Article 23A). The Summary provides an attempt to explain how each of the Proposed Resolutions, if adopted by the legislative body or voter referendum, would change the Forest Heights Town Charter. In addition to providing for amendments to the charter to be made by the legislative body of a municipality, Article 23A also provides that 20% of the registered voters in that municipality may petition for a Referendum to vote on Council Resolutions to amend the Charter as proposed. You are encouraged to read each of the Proposed Resolutions and if so desire, petition for a Referendum on the proposed changes. You may contact the Town Clerk for further information regarding your rights to be involved in Charter amendments.

Joyce A. Beck

Mayor

- Council Resolution 3:** The Forest Heights Council, via **Charter Resolution Amendment Number 3**, has proposed a charter amendment to Section 33-18(a) (*Powers and Duties*), of the Forest Heights Town Charter **which eliminates the Mayor as the Chief Executive Officer of the Town, as head of the administrative branch of the Town government, and relieves the Mayor of the duty of seeing that the ordinances of the Town are faithfully executed.**
- Council Resolution 4:** The Forest Heights Council, via **Charter Amendment Number 4**, has proposed a charter amendment to Section 33-18(b) (*Appointments*), of the Forest Heights Town Charter **which takes away from the Mayor the authority to appoint and remove officials, and delegates that authority to the Council.**
- Council Resolution 5:** The Forest Heights Council, via **Charter Amendment Number 5**, has proposed a charter amendment to Section 33-18(d) (*Finances-Budget*), of the Forest Heights Town Charter **takes away from Mayor the duty to completely oversee administration of the Budget and financial administration of the Town.**

4. **Council Resolution 6:** The Forest Heights Council, via **Charter Amendment Number 6**, has proposed a charter amendment to Section 33-15 (*Selection and Term*), of the Forest Heights Town Charter **removes the current Mayor from the office on January 6, 2006 and gives Council authority to appoint a new Mayor; and extends the term of the Mayor and Council from 2 years to four years.**
5. **Council Resolution 7:** The Forest Heights Council, via **Charter Amendment Number 7**, has proposed a charter amendment to Section 33-64 (*Town Clerk*), of the Forest Heights Town Charter **removes the authority of the Mayor to employ and supervise the Town Clerk; gives authority to the Town Council to approve employment of the Clerk; and gives a Councilperson selected by a majority of the Council full authority to supervise the Clerk.**
6. **Council Resolution 8:** The Forest Heights Council, via **Charter Amendment Number 8**, has proposed a charter amendment to Section 33-32 (*Election of Mayor*), of the Forest Heights Town Charter **extends the Mayor's term of office from 2 years to 4 years beginning with the May 2007 elections.**
7. **Council Resolution 9:** The Forest Heights Council, via **Charter Amendment Number 9**, has proposed a charter amendment to Section 33-32 (*Election of Councilmen*), of the Forest Heights Town Charter, **extends Council Members' terms of office from 2 years to 4 years beginning with the elections in May 2006 and elections in May 2007.**
8. **Council Resolution 10:** The Forest Heights Council, via **Charter Amendment Number 10**, has proposed a charter amendment to Section 33-40 (*Treasurer-Appointment-Compensation*), of the Forest Heights Town Charter, **removes the Mayor's authority to supervise the Treasurer and places the Treasurer under the direct supervision of the Town Council.**
9. **Council Resolution 11:** The Forest Heights Council, via **Charter Amendment Number 11**, has proposed a charter amendment to Section 33-41 (*Same-Powers and Duties*), of the Forest Heights Town Charter, **strips the Mayor of supervisory authority over the Treasurer and gives the Treasurer full authority to prepare the Budget, have custody of all funds, collect taxes and maintain a general accounting system.**
10. **Council Resolution 12:** The Forest Heights Council, via **Charter Amendment Number 12**, has proposed an additional amendment to the Charter, Section 33-92 (*Terms*), **makes the Mayor a legislator.**
11. **Council Resolution 13:** The Forest Heights Council, via **Charter Amendment Number 13**, has proposed an additional charter amendment, Section 33-93 (*Code of Conduct*), to the Forest Heights Town Charter. This amendment **provides for removal of Forest Heights elected officials under certain conditions as determined by 2/3 vote of Council Members.**
12. **Council Resolution 14:** The Forest Heights Council, via **Charter Amendment Number 14**, has proposed a charter amendment to Section 33-50 (*Checks*), of the Forest Heights Town Charter **to take away from the Mayor the obligation to countersign checks and gives check countersigning authority to the Council President and one other member of the Council creating the requirement for triple signatures.**

****The full text of all amendments referred to above can be found posted on the BULLETIN BOARD at the Forest Heights Municipal Center, 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, Maryland 20745, (301) 839-1030. ****



CHRISTMAS DONATIONS NEEDED

ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED FOR A FAMILY OF 3 WHO RESIDES IN THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS FOR CHRISTMAS. THE TOWN IS ASKING FOR DONATIONS OF TOYS, BOOKS & ETC. FOR A GIRL & A BOY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AGE.

AND ALSO, ALL THE NECESSARY FIXINGS FOR A CHRISTMAS DINNER.

MAYOR BECK WILL DONATE A TURKEY FOR THEIR CHRISTMAS DINNER.

DEADLINE FOR DONATIONS IS DECEMBER 16, 2005. PLEASE CONTACT BONITA ANDERSON, TOWN CLERK FOR MORE INFORMATION (301) 839-1030.



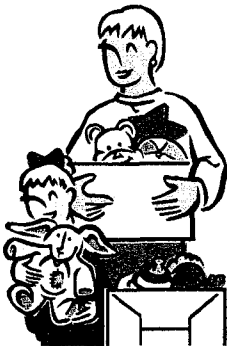
\$1.50

Take a picture with Santa!

At the

Forest Heights

Children's Holiday Gift Shop



Our children will be invited to shop for siblings and parents at the Forest Heights Gift Shop on Saturday, December 17, 2005 as they visit with Santa Clause

Please help us stock our shelves by donating (unused) items from your dresser or closets that would be suitable for wrapping. These items will be "sold" for 25¢ to \$1.00 to your shoppers. Deadline to submit items is December 15, 2005.

Proceeds will be used to cover the cost of refreshments

Contact: Cynthia Carter, Co-president of the Forest Heights Recreation Council (301) 839-1030

To make arrangements for delivery of your donation.

Mayor Joyce A. Beck
mayor.fh@verizon.net
(301) 839-1030 ofc. (301) 567-0084 h

TOWN COUNCIL:

Ward I

Alice Hoskins—(301) 839-1030
thecook@worldnet.att.net
George Wiggers—(301) 839-3712
wiggers@forestheights.biz

Ward II

Clifton Atkinson—(301) 567-4839
cliftonatkinsonI@yahoo.com
Myles Spires, Jr.—(301) 567-4204

Ward III

Worthington Ross—(301) 567-5016
wsross@comcast.net
Larry Stoner—(301) 839-9040

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

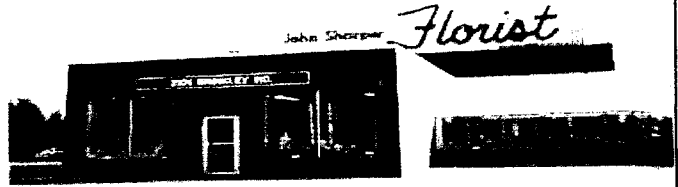
Phone: (301) 839-1030
Joycelyn Boissiere, Town Treasurer
towntreasurer.fh@verizon.net
Bonita Anderson, Town Clerk
townclerk.fh@verizon.net
Jose Acosta, Risk Manager
riskmanager.fh@verizon.net
Gloria Wallace, Receptionist
receptionist.fh@verizon.net

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Phone: (301) 686-1432
William Clarke, Director

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Phone: (301) 839-4040
Lt. Larry Blake, Commander of Police
fhpd2004@verizon.net
Latessa Crawford, Police Clerk



8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday - Saturday
Closed on Sundays

sharperflorist@aol.com
John Sharper Inc. Florist
2101 Brinkley Rd
Fort Washington, MD 20744
www.sharperflorist.com



Sincere appreciation to Sharper's Florists for their Christmas contribution of 12 poinsettias to the Town of Forest Heights for decoration of the Municipal Building.

Please remember their kindness and support of our community in your selection of Florist's this holiday season.

Merry Christmas!

from

The Mayor and Staff