



TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS

FOREST HEIGHTS NEWS

Incorporated 1949

54th Year, Issue No. 19

October 2007

NOTICE

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY TRASH PICK-UP SCHEDULE HAS CHANGED TO
THE FOLLOWING DAYS:**

MONDAYS—RECYCLE & TRASH

WEDNESDAYS—YARD WASTE

THURSDAYS—BULK & TRASH

**PROPOSING TO AMEND THE FOREST HEIGHTS TOWN ORDINANCE
SECTION 24.1(2) LEGISLATIVE PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES ACT OF 2006**

**3 of 4 Publications as Required by the Annotated Code of Maryland
Summary of Proposed Forest Heights Town Ordinance Amendment**

2) Council Committee Chairs shall be able to solicit funding with Federal, State, local officials and other such agencies in the scope of their committee. Council Committee Chairs shall keep the Mayor informed about any communications they may have with such agencies to procure funding. Any negotiations to procure funding and expedite funding must involve the approval of the Mayor and two (2) Council Members.

*****ALL EMERGENCY ORDINANCES SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON ITS PAS-
SAGE AND SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT INDEFINITELY*****

CORRECTION

Amendments to the Town Charter passed on September 19, 2007 had incorrect dates as to the date of enactment and the effective date of the amendments that were not in conformance with Article 23A, and these are deemed to be of a typographical nature;

- (1) In the Title of each amendment change the Charter amendment numbers as follows:
 - (a) The proposed amendment to Charter Section 33-6 shall read: Charter Amendment Resolution Number “29.”
 - (b) The proposed amendment to Charter Section 33-11 shall read: Charter Amendment Resolution Number “30.”
 - (d) The proposed amendment to Charter Section 33-93 shall read: Charter Amendment Resolution Number “31.”
 - (e) The proposed amendment to Charter Section 33-19 shall read: Charter Amendment Resolution Number “32.”

3 of 4 Publications as Required by the Annotated Code of Maryland

Resolution # in italics has been changed to # in brackets []

Summary of Proposed Forest Heights Town Council Resolutions FH001-07[29], FH002-07[30], FH003-07[31] & FH005-07 [32]

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE FOREST HEIGHTS TOWN CHARTER

Introduced on September 19, 2007 and shall take effect November 8, 2007.

Charter Amendment Number FH001-07 [29], Section 33-6 (*Meetings*) proposes to add procedures for closing a meeting. Before the Town Council meets in closed session, at least four members of the Council must vote in favor of closing the meeting. The vote must be conducted and recorded in accordance with the State Open Meeting Act Laws, and a written statement of the reason for closing the meeting must be made in accordance with the State law. The Council shall limit discussion in closed session to the topic stated as the reason for closing the meeting.

Charter Amendment Number FH002-07 [30], Section 33-11 (*Vacancies*) proposes to replace language with the following “If a vacancy on the Council occurs less than fifteen (15) months prior to the next election, the council shall appoint a person qualified in accordance with section Section 33-4 to fill such vacancy until the next regular election. Provided, that the person appointed shall reside in the same ward as his predecessor. The appointment shall require the favorable votes of a majority of the remaining Councilmembers. If the vacancy occurs fifteen (15) months or more prior to the next regular election, the Council shall call a special election to be held not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than sixty (60) days following the occurrence of the vacancy. The person elected at the special election shall serve until the next Regular Election.”

Charter Amendment Number FH003-07 [31], Section 33-93 (*Code of Conduct*) “(a) Charter Violations. Any violations of the Charter of the Town of Forest Heights, as determined by a favorable vote of the 4 members of the Council vote, shall be grounds for immediate suspension from office for a period of not more than 180 days. Suspension from office shall only be effected with a favorable vote of the 4 members of the Council vote. In the case of the Mayor being suspended, the President of the Council shall carry out the duties of the Mayor until said suspension expires. (b) Pending Criminal Charges. Any Town Official facing pending criminal charges may be subject to suspension of duties pending the outcome of the criminal charges against him. Suspension from office shall only be effected with a favorable vote of the 4 members of the Council vote. In the case of the Mayor being suspended, the President of the Council shall carry out the duties of the Mayor until said suspension expires.”

Charter Amendment Number FH005-07 [32], Section 33-19 (*Vacancy*) “If a vacancy in the office of Mayor occurs less than fifteen (15) months prior to the next election, the President of the Council shall become Mayor until the next regular election, and the Council vacancy thus created shall be filled as provided in this Charter. If the Mayoral vacancy occurs fifteen (15) months or more prior to the next regular election, the Council shall call a special election to be held not less than forty-five (45) days nor more than sixty (60) days following the occurrence of the vacancy. The President of the Council shall act as Mayor until the special election. The person elected at the special election shall serve until the next Regular Election.”

****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. ****