

## **Howard County Council**

George Howard Building 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392 Mary Kay Sigaty, Chairperson
District 4
Courtney Watson, Vice Chairperson
District 1
Calvin Ball
District 2
Greg Fox
District 5
Jennifer Terrasa
District 3

COUNCILMEMBERS

Minutes (approved) Legislative Work Session June 25, 2012

The work session was called to order by Chairperson Sigaty at 4:34 pm in the Banneker Room, George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City.

Members present: Calvin Ball, Greg Fox, Mary Kay Sigaty and Courtney Watson.

Council Resolution No. 99-2012 Introduced by: Council Member Calvin Ball - A RESOLUTION proposing to amend Section 202 "County Council" of the Howard County Charter by changing from three to four the maximum number of terms the Council Members can serve; and submitting this amendment to the voters of Howard County for their adoption or rejection in accordance with Article X of the Howard County Charter and Article XIA of the Maryland Constitution.

The members discussed the proposal with Jim Vannoy and staff. Mr. Fox requested an amendment to make the resolution inapplicable to present and past councilmembers.

Council Resolution No. 103-2012 Introduced by: The Chair at the Request of the Charter Review Commission - A RESOLUTION proposing to amend Section 211 "The referendum" of the Howard County Charter by providing that the number of required signatures for a referendum be 5% of the qualified voters of the County calculated upon the whole number of votes cast in the County for Governor at the last preceding gubernatorial election; and submitting this amendment to the voters of Howard County for their adoption or rejection in accordance with Article X of the Howard County Charter and Article XIA of the Maryland Constitution.

The members discussed the proposal with Mr. Vannoy and staff. Staff asked to provide further information on the success of referendum efforts in other jurisdictions. (Note: Mr. Vannoy and staff will also review suggestions from the public hearing for potential amendments to other Charter provisions.)

Council Bill No. 26-2012 AN ACT adopting PlanHoward 2030 as the general plan for Howard County, Maryland, for the purpose of planning for land use and land conservation and multiyear development planning for transportation, public facilities, water, sewerage, parkland, housing, human services, and environmental protection; and generally relating to planning, zoning, and land use in Howard County, Maryland. (Please note: topic for discussion will be Section II Environment).

The members reviewed several policies with Marsha McLaughlin and Bill Mackey.

The work session adjourned at 6:57 pm.

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