

RESOLUTION NO. 2501

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF OXFORD AMENDING ARTICLE V OF THE OXFORD CHARTER TO CLARIFY THAT ANY PERSON WHO CAN QUALIFY AS A VOTER IN THE TOWN OF OXFORD MUST REGISTER TO VOTE WITH THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS FOR TALBOT COUNTY

WHEREAS, Md. Code Ann. Local Gov't Article § 4-304 and Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland confer upon the Commissioners of Oxford the authority to initiate proposed amendments to the Charter for the Town of Oxford; and

WHEREAS, Local Gov't Article § 5-202 authorizes the Commissioners of Oxford to adopt those Charter resolutions as they may deem necessary in order to assure the good government of the Town, to protect and preserve the Town's rights, property, and privileges, to preserve peace and good order, to secure persons and property from danger and destruction, and to protect the health, comfort, and convenience of the citizens of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of Oxford have broad home rule authority to conduct elections in the Town of Oxford as they see fit; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section C5-6 of the Charter for the Town of Oxford, qualified individuals must register to vote no later than four (4) weeks prior to the date of the Town election for that election year; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of Oxford have determined that it is desirable to amend Section C5-6 of the Charter of the Town of Oxford to clarify that qualified persons must register with the Board of Elections for Talbot County and be listed on the voter registration list prepared by the Board of Elections for Talbot County to vote in Town of Oxford elections.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF OXFORD AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section C5-6 of the Charter for the Town of Oxford is hereby amended as follows:

**ARTICLE V
Registration, Nomination and Elections**

. . . .

Section C5-6. Registration.

Any person who can qualify as a voter in the town of Oxford (see C5-1) ~~may~~ **must** register **with the Board of Elections for Talbot County** [~~in the town office on any day that it is open for business~~]. **The Town shall use the voter registration list prepared by the Board of Elections for Talbot County.** ~~However all~~ **All** registrations for the next election must be made no later than four (4) weeks prior to the day of that election. [~~Registration shall be permanent, and n]~~**No** person shall be entitled to vote in Town elections unless he **or she** is registered. [~~It shall be the duty of the Board of Supervisors of Elections to keep the registration lists up to date by striking from the lists persons known to have died or to have moved out of the Town. The Commission is hereby authorized and directed, by ordinance, to adopt and enforce any provisions necessary to establish and maintain a system of permanent registration, when necessary.~~]

Section 2. This Resolution shall be posted and published in accordance with the requirements set forth in Md. Code Ann. Local Government Article § 4-304.

Section 3. The Commissioners shall hold a public hearing on this Resolution on **February 25, 2025** at 6:00 p.m.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective 50 days after final enactment unless a petition for referendum has been filed prior thereto in accordance with Section 4-304 of the Local Government Article of the Code of Maryland. This Resolution shall be deemed “finally enacted” on the date on which the Commissioners of Oxford indicate their approval of this Resolution by affixing their signatures hereto.

Section 5. As soon as this Resolution becomes effective, the Town Clerk shall cause to be delivered to the Department of Legislative Reference all the information regarding the Charter Amendment, this Resolution, and any referendum held thereon as may be required by the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this _____ day of _____, 2025.

COMMISSIONERS OF OXFORD:

Norman Bell, President

Thomas Costigan, Commissioner

Katrina Greer, Commissioner

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was passed by a yea and nay vote of the Commissioners of Oxford on the _____ day of _____, 2025.

Attest: _____
Vickie Sharp, Town Clerk
Town of Oxford

Language ~~stricken~~ and in [] indicates language deleted from the Charter for the Town of Oxford.

Language in ***bold and italics*** indicates language added to the Charter for the Town of Oxford.