

# CITY COUNCIL

## READ FILE COVER SHEET

Subject: **Charter Resolution 308 concerning Amending Sections 53 & 54  
pertaining to the Oath of Office**

**(Public Hearing)**

Date: **7/7/2026**

**Notice:** Any comments made after 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the Council Meeting will not be seen in the agenda packet.

Purpose:

- FYI
- Read and Comment as Needed**
- Action Required by August 3, 2026**
- In Confidential File Drawer

Approve:

Johnny Boker  Yes  No  No Comment  
Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Casi Boyer  Yes  No  No Comment  
Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Lizz Clarke  Yes  No  No Comment  
Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew Ellis  Yes  No  No Comment  
Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

David Glenn  Yes  No  No Comment  
Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Vicki Jones  Yes  No  No Comment  
Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: N/A

CITY COUNCIL  
OF  
HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND

Charter Amendment Resolution 308

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_ Council President Boyer \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND, ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION ARTICLE XI-E, THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, AND THE HAVRE DE GRACE CITY CHARTER SECTION 19, AMENDING IN PART SECTIONS 53 & 54 OF THE CITY CHARTER PERTAINING TO THE OATH OF OFFICE**

On: July 6, 2026

at: 7:00 p.m.

Charter Amendment Resolution introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

A Public Hearing is scheduled for August 3, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

EXPLANATION  
Underlining indicates matter added to existing law.  
**[Bold Brackets]** indicate matter deleted from existing law.  
Amendments proposed prior to final adoption will be noted on a separate page with line references or by handwritten changes on the draft legislation.

25  
26

27 **WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council believe it to be in the best interest of the residents of the  
28 City of Havre de Grace and in the interest of effective and efficient government to adopt the said  
29 amendments to the City Charter;

30  
31 Sections 53 & 54 of the City Charter are to be amended as follows, with the words underscored to  
32 be added and the words in bold and brackets to be deleted.

33  
34 Section 53 **Oath of office.**

35  
36 Before entering upon the discharge of their respective duties, each and every person required under  
37 any provision of this Charter shall first take and subscribe to the following oath of office, not  
38 otherwise herein provided for, before the Mayor and City Council or alternatively before any  
39 Notary Public.

40  
41 "I \_\_\_\_\_ do solemnly swear that I will fulfill the requirements of the office  
42 I am about to assume; that I will support the Constitution of the United States; that I will be faithful  
43 and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland and support the Constitution and Laws thereof;  
44 and that I will faithfully and impartially, without fear, favor or prejudice, discharge the duties of  
45 \_\_\_\_\_ for the City of Havre de Grace to the best of my ability."

46  
47 Section 54 **Oath of office; elected officials; department heads; police officers; members of**  
48 **City boards, commissions, and committees.**

49  
50 All elected officials, Department Heads, all Police Officers, members of the City Election Board,  
51 the Ethics Commission, the Planning Commission, the Board of Appeals, the Historic Preservation  
52 [District] Commission, [the Revolving Loan Committee] and the Havre de Grace Housing  
53 Authority shall take the same prescribed oath before the Mayor and City Council or alternatively  
54 before any Notary Public. The Council may require others to do the same.

55  
56 **NOW, THEREFORE**, it is determined, decided, and resolved by the City Council that the  
57 foregoing amendments to City Charter Sections 53 & 54 are hereby approved.

58  
59 ADOPTED by the City Council of Havre de Grace, Maryland this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

60  
61 SIGNED by the Mayor and attested by the Director of Administration this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
62 2026.

63  
64  
65 ATTEST:

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF HAVRE DE GRACE

66  
67  
68  
69 \_\_\_\_\_  
70 Christopher Ricci  
71 Director of Administration

72  
73  
74  
75 \_\_\_\_\_  
76 William T. Martin  
77 Mayor

**Charter Amendment Resolution 308**

73 Introduced/First Reading: 7/6/2026  
74 Public Hearing: 8/3/2026 (scheduled)  
75 Second Reading/Adopted: 8/17/2026 (scheduled)  
76  
77 Effective Date: 10/6/2026 (if adopted)  
78

79 The effective date is the 50th day after adoption by City Council if a referendum is not presented  
80 40 days after the Charter amendment. Council cannot suspend the time requirements as this is a  
81 state law requirement.  
82

Public Hearing