

the Annotated Code of Maryland, title "Municipal Corporation Charter."

24. (*Posting and Publication.*) The Board of County Commissioners or County Council shall give notice by posting and publication of the submission of the proposal of incorporation to the voters of the area proposed to be incorporated. For not less than the four weeks immediately preceding the election at which the question is to be submitted, a complete and exact copy of the wording of the proposed charter shall be posted or available for public inspection at the office of the Board or Council. On the day of the election a similar copy shall be posted or available for public inspection at the place or places for voting on the question of incorporation. Notice of the election, together with a fair summary of the proposed charter, shall be published in a newspaper OR NEWSPAPERS of general circulation in the particular area proposed to be incorporated not less than once in each of the four weeks immediately preceding the election.

25. (*Referendum.*) (a) On the day and during the hours specified for the referendum, the question of incorporation under the proposed charter shall be submitted to the registered voters of the area proposed to be incorporated. The Board of Supervisors of Elections of the county, and its clerks, judges of election and subordinates, shall arrange for and conduct the referendum. It is the intent of this section that the referendum election shall be conducted generally according to the procedures and practices observed for regular county-wide elections, except as specifically or necessarily modified by the provisions of this sub-title. The wording specified by the Board of County Commissioners or County Council, in the resolution providing for a referendum on the question of the proposed incorporation, shall be placed on the ballots or voting machines used at the referendum election.

(b) The Board of Supervisors of Elections, and its clerks, judges of election and subordinates, promptly following the closing of the polls shall tally the results thereof, and shall forthwith certify the results of the referendum to the Board of County Commissioners or County Council.

(c) If a majority of those who vote on any question so submitted to the voters of a particular area, proposing the incorporation thereof, shall cast their votes in favor of the incorporation under the proposed charter, the Board of County Commissioners or County Council shall within ten days after receiving a certification of the vote from the Board of Supervisors of Elections so proclaim publicly, and on the thirtieth day following the public proclamation the area specified, and the residents thereof, shall be deemed to be a municipal corporation operating under and in accordance with the charter so proposed, in all respects to be effective and observed as the charter of the municipal corporation. If less than a majority of those who vote on any such question of proposed incorporation shall cast their votes in favor of the incorporation under the proposed charter, the Board or Council likewise shall so proclaim, adding to the proclamation the statement that the proposed incorporation is of no effect and that as to the said proposed municipal incorporation the proposed charter is null and void and of no effect whatsoever.