RESOLUTION NO. 4-2015

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF TRAPPE TO AMEND THE TOWN CHARTER TO ADD SECTION 414 TO ADDRESS WRITE-IN CANDIDATES IN TOWN ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, Md. Code Ann. Local Government Article § 4-304 confers upon the Council of Trappe the authority to initiate proposed amendments the Charter for the Town of Trappe; and

WHEREAS, the Council of Trappe has determined that it is desirable and in the public interest to amend the Charter for the Town of Trappe to add Section 414 to address write-in candidates in Town elections.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF TRAPPE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Section 1</u>: The Trappe Town Charter is hereby amended to include Section 414 to add provisions to the Charter to address write-in candidates as follows:

Section 414. Write-In Candidates.

(a) As used in this Section, the following definitions shall apply.

"Write-In candidate" means an individual whose name will not appear on the ballot but who files a certificate of nomination in accordance with subsection (b) below.

"Write-in vote" means a vote cast in an election for an individual whose name is not on the ballot for that election.

- (b) A person may run for a council position as a write-in candidate in a general election or a special election to fill a vacancy on the Council provided that he or she is qualified to serve as a town commissioner in accordance with Section 202 of the Town Charter, and provided that he or she has filed a certificate of nomination with the Board of Supervisors of Elections at least fourteen (14) days prior to the election. A write-in candidate shall comply with all requirements imposed by the Town upon candidates running for office.
- (c) In any general election or special election to fill a vacancy on the Council, the Board of Supervisors of Elections shall count any write-in vote for a write-in candidate who has complied with the provisions set forth in subsection (b) above. A write-in vote shall not be counted unless the vote is for a write-in candidate who has complied with subsection (b).

(d) A voter may not cast a write-in vote in a primary election.

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: 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 Article of the Code of Maryland. This Resolution shall be deemed "finally enacted" on the date on which the Council of Trappe indicate their approval of this Resolution by affixing their signatures hereto.

Section 4: As soon as this Resolution becomes effective, the Town Clerk-Treasurer 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 Section 4-308 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

RESOLVED, this day of September, 2015.

Norman Fegel

Rosalee Potter

Tonya Pritchett

Robert Diefenderfer, Ju.

C. Donald English

Attest:

Erin Braband, Clerk/Treasurer

Town of Trappe