



**CITY OF BETHLEHEM**  
OFFICE OF THE CITY SOLICITOR

---

**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

To: Robert G. Vidoni, Esquire, City Clerk

CC: The Honorable Robert J. Donchez, Mayor; W. Alexander Karras, Chief of Staff

From: Edmund J. Healy, Esquire, First Assistant City Solicitor

Re: Proposed amendment to Article 1713.04 relating to composition of Historical Architectural Review Board

Date: January 14, 2021

---

The Administration wishes to inject some level of flexibility into the persons who may serve as members of the Historical Architectural Review Board. On occasion, it is difficult to find qualified or interested persons to accept appointment to this Board, all of whom serve without compensation. The proposed revisions are intended to overcome this problem.

Questions concerning this proposed amendment are best directed to the Director of Community and Economic Development, Alicia Karner.

**Please place this Memorandum and the proposed amendment on the January 19, 2020 City Council Agenda as a Communication.**

Respectfully,

*Edmund J. Healy, Esq.*  
Edmund J. Healy, Esq.  
First Assistant City Solicitor

BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_-2021

**ORDINANCE NO. 2021-\_\_\_\_\_**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM,  
COUNTIES OF LEHIGH AND NORTHAMPTON,  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING  
ARTICLE 1713 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES  
OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM  
RELATING TO HISTORIC BETHLEHEM

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: Article 1713.04 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bethlehem, which presently reads as follows

1713.04 BOARD OF HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW.

A Board of Historical Architectural Review is hereby established to be composed of nine residents of the City appointed by Council, one of whom shall be a registered architect, one a licensed real estate broker, one the Building Inspector of the City of Bethlehem and six additional persons with a knowledge of and interest in the preservation of the historic district. At least three members of the Board shall reside within the historic district. The initial terms of the first nine members of the Board shall be as follows: three shall serve until the first Monday of January, 1963; three until the first Monday of January, 1964; and three until the first Monday of January, 1965. Their successors shall serve for a term of five years. Any member of the Board appointed in his capacity as a registered architect, a licensed real estate broker or as the Building Inspector of the City of Bethlehem who ceases to be so engaged shall be automatically considered vacant. An appointment to fill a vacancy shall be only for the unexpired portion of the term. (Ord. 2532 §1. Passed 10/5/76.)

is hereby amended to read as follows:

1713.04 BOARD OF HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW.

A Board of Historical Architectural Review is hereby established to be composed of nine members residents of the City appointed by Council, one of whom shall be a registered architect, one a licensed real estate broker, one a the building inspector of the City of Bethlehem, and six additional persons with a knowledge of and interest in the preservation of the historic district. At least three members of the Board shall reside within or have a place of business within the historic district. Each appointee, with the exception of the appointed registered architect, licensed real estate broker, and building inspector, must be residents of the City during the term of appointment. In the event any appointee fails to reside within the City or an appointee fails to maintain his/her status as a registered architect, a licensed real estate broker, or building inspector, the position held by such person shall automatically be considered vacant. An appointment to fill a vacancy shall only last for the unexpired portion of the term.

The initial terms of the first nine members of the Board shall be as follows: three shall serve until the first Monday of January, 1963; three until the first Monday of January, 1964; and three until the first Monday of January, 1965. Their successors shall serve for a term of five years. Any member of the Board appointed in his capacity as a registered architect, a licensed real estate broker or as the Building Inspector of the City of Bethlehem who ceases to be so engaged shall be automatically considered vacant. An appointment to fill a vacancy shall be only for the unexpired portion of the term.

SECTION 2: SEVERABILITY.

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable and if any provisions hereof are declared illegal or invalid on constitutional or statutory grounds by any court of competent jurisdiction, then those provisions not specifically declared illegal or invalid remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3: REPEALER.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances, which are inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Sponsored by: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PASSED finally in Council on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of Council

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

This Ordinance APPROVED this this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor