

to continue for six months, subject to the provisions herein set forth. At said time the Commissioners, or a majority thereof, shall appoint as members of the regular police force four sober, discreet and muscular policemen; provided, however, that if in their judgment the interest of the town allow the Commissioners, or a majority of them, may by order retire any policemen, to take effect at any time on and after new year following such annual appointment, but a policeman to be thus retired ought to have twenty days' notice of the same previous to the date fixed for such retirement. The Commissioners may notify the officer to be retired to appear before them, and on his appearance give him the notice or the Town Clerk may, by order of the Commissioners, send such notice in writing by the chief bailiff or a sub-bailiff.

Appointment
of policemen.

Provided further, That at the time of the annual appointment the Commissioners may in advance designate the term for which the several policemen shall be appointed, but, unless for cause, no policeman shall be retired at the expiration of the term of service fixed in advance, unless the numbers of the force is to be reduced. When the time for retiring a policeman has been fixed in advance, no previous notice shall be requisite.

Term of office.

The Commissioners may fill all vacancies in the police force occasioned by death, resignation, change of residence, removal from office or by any other cause, and they shall have authority to increase temporarily the number of policemen, and as well to appoint policemen for service between the first day of April and the first day of October in any year, if, in their judgment, the peace of the town and the security of the people or their property require such appointment. They shall by ordinance or order arrange the police force so that a part of them shall be on duty during each day, and a part of them during each night. The board shall furnish the chief bailiff, the sub-bailiffs and the members of the police force with proper arms and badges of office, and the said officers shall wear such badges exposed on the left breast of their coats. The Commissioners shall have authority to make and pass such rules and regulations by ordinance or by order for governing the police force appointed by them, as, in their judgment, will best insure the efficiency of the force, and secure and preserve the peace, good order and safety of the town, the people and their property. At least one of the policemen shall patrol in the vicinity of the harbor and the bridge over same.

Vacancies.
How filled.