

Branch of the City Council, who shall possess the qualifications required and hereinbefore defined, of the Mayor of the City of Baltimore. His duty shall be to preside over the Second Branch of the City Council, and vote on all questions, and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by ordinances not inconsistent with this Article. He shall be paid a salary of three thousand dollars per annum, payable monthly. A joint convention of the two branches of the City Council, by a majority vote of all the members elected to the City Council, may remove from office the President of the Second Branch for incompetency, willful neglect of duty or misdemeanor in office, upon charges preferred by the Mayor, and after notice of such charges is given to the President of the Second Branch, and an opportunity afforded him to be heard.

215. The qualifications of electors of members of the City Council shall be the same as those of electors of the Mayor. All vacancies in the First Branch shall be filled without delay by the First Branch from the ward in which the said vacancy occurs, by an election of a person possessing the qualifications hereinbefore prescribed, to fill the unexpired term of the former incumbent. If a vacancy occurs in the Second Branch, then said Branch shall forthwith fill said vacancy by the election of a person possessing the qualifications hereinbefore prescribed from the City at large or from the proper Councilmanic District, if there be such District at that time.

216. The City Council shall meet on the Thursday next after the third Monday in May, in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and upon the same day in each year thereafter, and may continue in session for one hundred and twenty days, and no longer, in each year; provided, that they may, by ordinance or resolution, so arrange their sittings that the same may be held continuously or otherwise, and provided further, that the Mayor may convene the City Council in extra session, as he may now do by the fourth section of the Eleventh Article of the State Constitution.

ARTICLE XI-A.*

LOCAL LEGISLATION.

SECTION 1. On demand of the Mayor of Baltimore and City Council of the City of Baltimore, or on petition bearing the signatures of not less than 20 per cent of the registered voters of said city or any county (provided, however, that

* Added by Chapter 416, 1914, ratified November 2, 1915.