

be given by the said commissioners, and all persons qualified to vote at the regular shall be entitled to vote at such special election.

37. Every person elected a commissioner shall, before he enters upon the duties of his office, make oath before some justice of the peace that he will diligently and faithfully, without favor, partiality or prejudice, perform the duties of a commissioner of the said town, and a certificate of such qualification shall be returned by the justice to the commissioners and be filed and recorded among their proceedings.

38. The said commissioners shall meet on the second Saturday in March ensuing their election, and shall hold stated quarterly meetings to be appointed by them by their own ordinances; and as much oftener as by adjournment or by ordinance they may direct.

39. They may appoint a clerk, who shall keep a record of their proceedings in well bound books to be provided by them for that purpose, and to be subject to the inspection of the inhabitants of said town and all persons interested therein.

40. They may annually, on the first Monday in May, appoint a bailiff and prescribe his duties; and may pay their clerk and bailiff a reasonable compensation for their services.

41. The bailiff shall, before he enters upon the duties of his office, take an oath before one of said commissioners, faithfully and impartially to discharge the duties of his office, without favor, affection or prejudice.

42. He shall, whenever required, attend the meetings of the commissioners, and perform such service as shall be required of him; he shall prevent tumultuous and irregular meetings of negroes and slaves, and other dissolute and disorderly persons, and disperse them when assembled by reasonable and lawful means, and may punish with moderate correction, under such rules as may be prescribed by said commissioners, all such slaves as shall be found strolling about the streets at night or frequenting the houses of other persons without the permission of their owners.