

act of incorporation, passed in the year eighteen hundred and thirty-one, chapter one hundred and eleven.

195. The free white male citizens of Mechanicstown, of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, who have resided in said town twelve months next preceding the election, and who are freeholders within said town, or tenants of some freehold within the town, for one year preceding the election, shall on the first Monday of April, annually, at such place as shall be designated by the burgess and commissioners, elect a burgess and three commissioners for the said town, who shall have resided in said town twelve months next preceding the election, and who shall each be the proprietor of a house and lot of ground within the town, and upwards of twenty-one years of age.

196. All elections shall be held and conducted as shall from time to time be directed by the ordinances of the corporation, not inconsistent with the provisions of this charter.

197. If during the year for which they may be elected, the burgess, or any of the said commissioners, shall die, resign, remove from said town, or be *non compos* or displaced, an election to fill such vacancy shall be held, and all persons qualified to vote at a general shall vote at such special election.

198. The burgess shall qualify as required by section 6 of article sixty-eight of the code; each commissioner, before he acts, shall make oath before the burgess, that he will faithfully and honestly, to the best of his skill and judgment, exercise the powers given, and discharge the duties required of him as a commissioner of Mechanicstown, impartially, and without favor or resentment to any, and without delay.

199. The burgess and commissioners shall meet from time to time, as often as occasion may require, upon the business of the town, and not less than once in every six months; the burgess shall preside at all meetings, and shall sign all ordinances passed by the commissioners, or a majority of them.

200. The commissioners, or a majority of them, may appoint a clerk, and allow him such compensation as they may think proper; all ordinances passed by the commissioners, or a majority of them, shall be entered, by their clerk, in a book to be kept by him for that purpose, and shall be open to the inspection of any