

CHAP. 153.

Judges of elections—they shall take an oath.

3. AND BE IT ENACTED, That any justice of the peace for the counties of Somerset or Worcester shall, in the first instance, be the judge of the said election, and shall return his certificates thereof to the said commissioners, on the day first appointed for their meeting, and the same shall be filed and recorded among their proceedings; and at every subsequent election, the commissioners of the said town, or the major part of them, shall be judges of such election, and the proceedings thereof shall be recorded under their direction; and every commissioner, before he shall proceed to open an election, shall take an oath or affirmation, that he will faithfully and impartially permit every person to vote at such election, who shall be qualified to vote for a commissioner of the said town, according to the directions of this act, and that he will not suffer any person to vote at such election who shall not, in his judgment, be qualified to vote as aforesaid.

Vacancies, how to be supplied.

4. AND BE IT ENACTED, That if any vacancy shall happen in the office of one or more of commissioners, by death, resignation, removal or otherwise, it shall be lawful for the remaining commissioners, and they are hereby required to cause an election to be made at such place as they shall appoint in the said town, by the inhabitants thereof, and others qualified to vote as aforesaid, of one or more judicious and discreet persons, residents and qualified as aforesaid, to supply such vacancy during the remainder of the term; and the time of holding such intervening election shall be previously notified for the space of ten days preceding the election.

Commissioners to take an oath.

5. AND BE IT ENACTED, That every commissioner to be appointed in pursuance of this act, before he shall proceed to execute his office, shall take an oath or affirmation before some justice of the peace, that he will diligently and faithfully, according to the best of his judgment, perform the duties of a commissioner of the said town, according to the directions of this act, without favour, partiality or prejudice; and a certificate of such qualification shall be made and returned by such justice of the peace, to the said commissioners, to be filed and recorded among their proceedings.

Stated days of meeting.

6. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said commissioners, or the major part of them, shall meet together at such public place within the limits of the said town as shall be previously notified, on the first Monday in April in the year aforesaid, and statedly on the first Monday in every third month thereafter, and as much oftener by adjournment as they shall judge to be necessary; and when so assembled, the said commissioners, or the major part of them, shall proceed to execute the several powers and authorities vested in them by this act, from time to time, as occasion shall require.

Commissioners to meet and transact such business as they or the inhabitants may determine to be necessary. Powers specified.

7. AND BE IT ENACTED, That the said commissioners shall be, and they are hereby authorised, empowered and required, to meet as aforesaid, and from time to time to recommend such plans and regulations as they shall judge beneficial to the town, or the inhabitants thereof, and to adopt the same, (provided a majority of the persons entitled to vote for commissioners at a meeting to be called shall agree thereto;) to cause to be removed all nuisances and obstructions that may interrupt the passage of the said inhabitants, or others, in the streets, lanes and alleys, of the said town; to cause the principal or other streets to be repaired and improved