

alderman unless such business has been made a special order of the day, or such action has been taken at a regular meeting of the board of aldermen.

SEC. 275. The board of aldermen shall have and possess and the said board and its members shall exercise all executive, legislative and judicial powers and duties, now had, possessed and exercised by the mayor, board of aldermen, city register, assessors and all other executive and administrative officers of said city. And in addition to the powers and duties conferred by Chapter 57 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1908, the board of aldermen may sit as a board of equalization and may either upon appeal by a property owner, or on its own motion value any taxable property, increase, diminish, or abate any assessment, provided however that before they shall value any property not theretofore assessed or increase the valuation of any property they shall first give notice to the owner or person in charge of said property to show cause why the same should not be valued, or the valuation thereof not increased, as the case may be; and said board shall have power to correct erroneous assessments and to hear complaint thereunder and to readjust any assessment found by it to be erroneous. The executive and administrative power, authorities and duties in said city shall be distributed into and among three departments as follows:

1. Department of Public Affairs, Police and Public Safety.
2. Department of Accounts and Finance.
3. Department of Streets, Public Improvements, Parks and Public Property.

The board of aldermen shall determine the powers and duties to be performed by, and assign them to the appropriate department; shall prescribe the powers and duties of officers and employees; may assign particular officers and employees to one or more of the departments; may require an officer or employee to perform duties in two or more departments; and may make such other rules and regulations as may be necessary or proper for the efficient and economical conduct of the business of the city.

SEC. 276. The mayor shall be superintendent of the department of public affairs, police and public safety, he shall be president of the board of aldermen and preside at its meetings, he shall have general supervision over all the departments of the city government and may require at any time full and particular information from any alderman as to the affairs of his department, but the mayor shall have no power to countermand