

than three consecutive months without satisfactory excuse, or otherwise, shall be filled by vote of the council until the next annual town election.

Ibid. sec. 5.

539. That the qualifications for member of the council shall be as follows: That he be a voter of said town as above prescribed and a citizen of the State of Maryland, a bona fide property owner, or the husband of such, within the corporate limits, and must have resided within said limits for a period of not less than one year next preceding the election in which he is a candidate for such office. The council shall meet in some convenient place in said town on or before the first Monday in June next succeeding their election, and as often thereafter as the duties of their office may require, but meeting not less than once every month. Failure of the council to meet as herein prescribed shall not work a forfeiture of this charter, and meetings not held in due time may be held as soon thereafter as practicable. A majority of the council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

1906, ch. 795, sec. 6.

540. That the council shall annually, on or before the first Monday in April appoint three judges of election, who shall appoint a clerk, and said judges shall conduct an election by ballot, in accordance with the provisions of section 537 of this act, the polls to be opened at five o'clock P. M. and close at nine o'clock P. M., or at such other hours as the people at any election may determine upon for the future. The Mayor and other members of the council shall be liable to presentment and indictment in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County for wilful failure to do any act or to perform any duty required by this sub-title of this article or by the ordinances or by-laws that shall be passed relating to the holding of town elections, and, upon conviction, shall be liable to fine or imprisonment or both, in the discretion of the court. The judges and clerk shall make their returns to the council, and also, in the case of election of Mayor, to the clerk of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, but said judge and clerk shall receive no compensation for their services. Not more than two of said judges of election shall be of the same political party. In case of a tie vote for any official or officials at any election the council shall order a new election, upon giving ten days' notice thereof, by posting a copy of said notice in not less than three conspicuous places in said town and by publication of the same in the official journal of the town or in some newspaper published in Montgomery county.