

1900, ch. 339, sec. 50.

54. If any vacancy shall happen in the office of Commissioners by reason of resignation, death, removal from office, change of residence, failure to qualify, or otherwise, the remaining Commissioners shall order a special election to be held in the ward where the vacancy occurs to fill the unexpired time for which the Commissioner who vacated his office was elected. In such cases judges of election for said ward shall be appointed, a polling place shall be designated, and the notice and the date and the object of the election shall be given, the election shall be held, and the returns shall be made as provided for by Section 52 and 53 of this Charter; provided that no special election shall be held to fill a vacancy within the four months next preceding the date appointed for the regular biennial election. While a vacancy exists ordinances may be passed with the concurrence of three Commissioners, as in other cases, and any other acts may be done and performed by a quorum which may ordinarily be done and performed thereby.

In elections held to take the sense of the qualified voters of the town in respect to the passage of any contemplated ordinance or ordinances, the several Commissioners in their respective wards shall act as judges of election without pay, and one clerk shall be appointed.

OFFICIAL OATHS.

1900, ch. 339, sec. 51. 1904, ch. 395, sec. 51.

55. All officers of said town, except the Mayor, whether elected or appointed, before they enter upon the duties of the office to which they are elected or appointed, shall take the oath required by Article 1, Section 6, of the Constitution of Maryland, before the Mayor, who is hereby authorized to administer all official oaths and to administer an oath to any person who may desire to give testimony before the Commissioners, or who may be summoned by the Commissioners, on any subject, if the Mayor or two Commissioners shall demand that such testimony be given on oath, and any person who shall refuse or fail to appear when summoned, or who shall refuse to answer any relevant or pertinent question, or who shall answer falsely any question, or make any false statement on oath before the Commissioners or a majority of them, or before the Mayor, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof before any justice of the peace, or in the Circuit Court for Dorchester County, shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars and costs, and shall be confined in the Maryland House of Correction until both fine and costs are paid. In addition to the oath prescribed above, every officer shall also take an oath that he will well and faithfully, without fear or favor, partiality or prejudice, perform the office of (here insert the official title) to the best of his knowledge and ability, according to law.