

of the annual levy placed in his hands for collection. After he has paid to the town treasurer any taxes included in the levy he shall be entitled to enforce payment of the same in all respects as if the Mayor and Council had not been paid. Besides the mode in this charter provided for enforcing the payment of taxes by distress or execution he may, after he has paid to the town treasurer any claim or account for taxes which has not been paid to him by the party or parties against whom the same is charged, bring an action at law for money paid for the party liable for the taxes, if he so elects, and he may maintain such action as long as the account or claim is not barred by limitations, without regard to the expiration of his official term or the extension of his time. He shall within twenty days after his appointment execute a bond to the State of Maryland in the penalty of one thousand dollars, or for such greater sum as the Mayor and Council may designate at or about the time of his appointment with a surety or sureties approved by the Mayor and Council, which approval shall be endorsed on the bond and signed by the Mayor and at least two of the Councilmen. This bond shall be recorded among the general records of the town by the secretary, and also in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Worcester County, where it shall be retained. It shall be recorded therein as other official bonds, and a copy thereof duly certified by said clerk shall be admissible as evidence in any of the Courts of this State, as well as the original, but the failure to record the bond or to endorse said approval thereon shall not affect its validity or the liability of those who execute the same. The following condition shall in substance be set forth therein. Now the condition of this obligation is such that if the above bound, who has lately been appointed tax collector of Berlin, shall well, truly and faithfully perform all the duties and functions belonging to or appertaining to said office under the charter and ordinances of said town, and under the orders of the Mayor and Council thereof, and in particular shall well, truly and faithfully collect all moneys that it may be his duty to collect, or that he may be authorized or directed by said Mayor and Council to collect; and if he shall well, truly and faithfully account for and pay over to said Mayor and Council, or on their order, to the town treasurer of Berlin, all moneys collected by him at such time as the law may appoint or the Mayor and Council may direct, then and in such case the obligation to be void, but otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in law. And the tax collector shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by ordinance for the services rendered in collecting the taxes under the annual levy; or if the Mayor and Council shall pass no ordinance fixing the amount of his compensation, he shall receive such compensation or commission as the Mayor and Council may appoint, by order noted in the minute book at or about the time of his appointment; and in the absence of any such ordinance or note in the minute book, he shall receive a commission of four per cent. on all sums collected. Any tax collector appointed by virtue of this Act is hereby authorized and empowered if so directed by the Mayor and City Council to collect in the manner herein provided all taxes in arrears that