

justice of the peace resident of the town; and the clerk may either be sworn by one of the judges or before a justice of the peace resident in the town; and a certificate of every such oath, signed by the person administering the same, respectively, shall be annexed to the polls; and the commissioners of Laurel are vested with power and authority to pass all ordinances necessary and proper for the manner of making the election returns, and the failure of the judges of election to attend at the time appointed for holding any election, and the manner and time of destroying the said election returns.

1878, ch. 468.

199. The commissioners shall qualify and take possession of their office by the second Wednesday in May succeeding the election; and a failure to qualify within the time herein prescribed, shall be deemed a refusal on the part of the party failing to accept the office, whereupon a new election shall be proclaimed to fill the vacancy occasioned thereby.

Ibid.

200. They shall be judges of the qualification of their own members, and may provide by ordinances for contested elections.

Ibid.

201. The said commissioners, at their first meeting after said election, shall choose one of their number president of the commissioners, whose duty it shall be to preside at all their meetings, to preserve order and give instructions to the clerk and bailiff, by their direction; and in the absence of the president, they may appoint some member to fill the chair temporarily, and perform all other duties deemed necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this charter.

1870, ch. 260.

202. They may meet together from time to time as often as occasion may require, upon the business of the town, and not less than once every month; and if in the year for which they may be elected any of the said commissioners shall die, resign, remove from the town, or be otherwise disqualified, an election to fill the