

1884, ch 58.

**156.** The male citizens of Hagerstown, of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, who have resided in the State of Maryland and in said town for twelve months next preceding the election, shall elect by ballot, on the fourth Monday of March, in every second year, accounting from the year eighteen hundred and eighty-four, a person not under twenty-five years of age, a citizen of the United States, and five years a resident of said town next preceding the election, to be mayor of said town; he shall take the oath of office as hereinafter prescribed for town officers, and remain in office for two years and until his successor is elected and qualified.

1886, ch. 409.

**157.** In case of a vacancy in the office of mayor, by death or otherwise, or in case any person who may have been elected mayor at any general election, shall fail or refuse to qualify as mayor within three days after service of notice of election, as hereinafter provided, the council, at any general or special meeting shall elect some legally qualified person to fill the office of mayor for any unexpired term of any vacancy caused by death or otherwise, or for the term of any person who may have refused to qualify; and in case of any election of mayor by the council, the person receiving a majority of the whole number of members of the council shall be declared elected as mayor of said town for any unexpired term, in case of a vacancy caused by death or otherwise, or for any term for which any person previously elected may have refused to qualify; and the clerk of the mayor and council shall immediately certify the vote so taken to elect any such successors, or to elect any person for any term so as aforesaid, under his hand and the corporate seal of the town, to the clerk of the circuit court for Washington county; and the said clerk of the circuit court, upon receipt thereof, shall forthwith notify the person so elected, who shall, within three days after the service of such notice, qualify by taking the oath hereinafter prescribed for town officers; and if such person elected shall fail to qualify as hereinafter provided, another election shall be held by the council, to fill the vacancy; and until such vacancy is filled, the council shall choose one of their number as mayor, who shall discharge the duties of the office *pro tempore*.