

meeting of the corporation officers he shall have all the rights and privileges of a commissioner when the burgess is present. The assistant burgess and the three commissioners shall qualify, either before a justice of the peace in and for Washington county, State of Maryland, or before the qualified burgess of said corporation of Smithsburg in accordance with oath given in section three hundred and twelve.

Vacancies. SEC. 302. In case of a vacancy by death or otherwise of two of the qualified officers of the corporation other than the burgess, then an election shall be held to fill said vacancies in accordance with section two hundred and ninety-eight.

SEC. 303. The method of holding all regular elections in said town shall be as follows :

Give notice. 1st. It shall be the duty of the burgess to give at least ten days public notice prior to the day of holding an election, which notice shall state the objects and purposes of such election.

Shall appoint. 2d. The burgess shall also appoint two citizens, qualified voters of said town, the one to act as judge and the other as clerk of the election.

Take oath. 3d. The person so appointed, before proceeding to act, shall take an oath or affirmation before the burgess, or a justice of the peace in and for Washington county, State of Maryland, and the oath to be the same as that taken by judges and clerks who serve at a state or county election.

Authority. 4th. The said judge shall have authority to administer oaths or affirmations to any person touching his qualifications as a voter.

Polls. 5th. The polls shall be kept open from eight o'clock in the morning until three o'clock in the afternoon, unless the public notice of election may have different hours.

Count ballots, etc. 6th. At the close of the polls the said judge and clerk shall immediately count the ballots, cast up the votes, and return, under their hands and seals, to the clerk of the circuit court for Washington county the number of votes cast for each candidate, and return the persons receiving the highest number of votes as duly elected; and they shall return at the same time