

during his absence and shall perform such duties as shall be required of him by the Mayor and City Council.

SEC. 116. Said Mayor and City Council shall have full power and authority to establish and maintain a Police Department, to be composed of a Chief of Police and Assistant Chief of Police, and such number of patrolmen or policemen as said Mayor and City Council may deem necessary, said officers and members of said police department to be appointed and their duties to be fixed, defined and regulated as herein-after provided; and shall also have power and authority to establish and maintain a Fire Department, to procure fire engines and other apparatus for the extinguishment of fires, and to provide engine houses for keeping and preserving same, and said fire department shall be composed of a chief of the Fire Department, and such number of firemen as the said Mayor and City Council may deem necessary, the officers and members of said fire department to be appointed and their duties to be fixed, defined and regulated as hereinafter provided.

At the first meeting of the said Mayor and City Council, after their qualification, or as soon thereafter as possible, it shall be the duty of the councilman, who may be elected as Police and Fire Commissioner; to prepare and present to the Mayor, in writing, his recommendations of persons for appointment, both in said police and fire departments, based on the integrity of character, physical and intellectual capacities of the applicants for such positions; and the said Mayor and City Council shall, upon receiving such recommendations, select therefrom proper persons to fill such positions in the departments respectively, as may be by them deemed wise and necessary; and upon the failure or refusal of said Police and Fire Commissioner to present said recommendations at the second regular meeting of the said Mayor and City Council, they shall, thereafter, proceed to elect proper persons to fill such positions; provided, however, that so far as it may be practical and consistent with good order, discipline and improvement of the public service, it shall be the duty of said Police and Fire Commissioners to prefer, in recommendations to said Mayor and City Council, for appointment to the Police and Fire Departments, respectively, those men who have proved themselves capable, good and efficient in the performance of their duties, and the said Mayor and City Council shall give due weight to such recommendations; provided, however, that the Chief of Police and Chief of Fire Department shall have the power to temporarily suspend any subordinate officer or members of their departments, respectively, for reasons satisfactory to the said Chief of Police and Fire Department, as