

Section 297. The Mayor shall be a person of known integrity, experience and sound judgment, not less than thirty years of age, ten years a citizen of the United States, and five years a resident of the said City next preceding the election, and for six months next preceding assessed upon the assessment books of said City with real property to an amount not less than one thousand dollars, and shall hold his office for two years, and until the qualification of his successor.

Section 298. The City Council shall consist of six members who shall be citizens of the United States above twenty-five years of age, residents of said City for three years next preceding their election, and at the time of their election and for six months next preceding, be assessed upon the assessment books of said City with real property to an amount not less than five hundred dollars, and shall hold their office for two years (except as hereinbefore provided), and until the qualification of their successors.

Section 299. The Mayor and members elect of the City Council before entering upon the duties of their respective offices shall each make oath or affirmation before some Justice of the Peace of Harford County that he possesses the property and other qualifications prescribed by this Charter for the office to which he has been elected, and that he will act faithfully, without favor, partiality or prejudice in all things pertaining to the duties of his office. And in addition thereto they shall at the same time take the oath prescribed by Section 6 of Article 1, of the Constitution of Maryland. The members of the Council who shall have taken the oath or affirmation aforesaid, shall meet on the third Monday in May next succeeding their election, at the usual hour and place of meeting, and the Mayor elect presiding and having a casting vote in case of a tie, they shall proceed to elect from their number a President of the Council, who shall preside at all meetings of the Council in the absence of the Mayor, and in case of the death, resignation or removal of the Mayor, shall act as Mayor for the time being until a Mayor shall be elected to fill the vacancy.

In the event of the failure by the Mayor elect or any member elect of the City Council to take the oath above prescribed on or before the third Monday in May after the election aforesaid, such failure shall be deemed a refusal to act, and the Mayor and members of the Council elected and qualified, as the case may be, shall proceed to order a new election to fill the vacancy; said election shall be held after not less than