

periods of time for which they were appointed as provided for in Chapter 678 of the Acts of 1916 of the General Assembly of Maryland, and on the first Monday in April, 1922, and on the first Monday in April biennially thereafter, the said Mayor and City Council shall appoint one Civil Service Commissioner to serve for a term of six years, so that the said Board of Civil Service Commissioners shall always consist of three members.

The Chairman of the Commission for each biennial period shall be the member whose term first expires. No person, while on the said commission, shall hold or be a candidate for any office of public trust. Two of said members shall constitute a quorum to transact business. The commissioners must be citizens of Maryland and residents of the city for more than three years next preceding their appointment.

The Council may remove any of the said commissioners during their term of office for cause, four councilmen voting in favor of such removal, and shall fill any vacancy that may occur in said commission for the unexpired term. The City Council shall provide a suitable room in which the said Civil Service Commission may hold its meetings. The city clerk shall act for them and shall keep a record of all their meetings. The city shall also supply the said commissioners with all necessary equipment to properly attend to such business.

(a) Before entering upon the duties of their office, each of said commissioners shall take or subscribe an oath which shall be filed and kept in the office of the city clerk, to support the Constitution of the United States and the State of Maryland and to obey the laws and to aim to secure and maintain an honest and efficient force, free from partisan distinction or control and to perform the duties of his office to the best of his ability.

(b) Such commission shall, on the first Monday in April, and October of each year, or oftener if they shall deem it necessary, under such rules and regulations as it may prescribe, hold examinations for the purpose of determining the qualifications of applications for positions, including applications for position of Chief of Police and Chief of Fire Department, which examinations shall be practical in their character and shall relate to such matters as will fairly test the fitness of the person examined to discharge the duties of the position to which he seeks to be appointed. Such commission shall, as soon as possible after every such examination, certify to the city council the names of ten persons for each department, who, accord-