

be in writing and signed by them. A majority of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but no ordinance shall be adopted without the affirmative vote of four members and the Council shall pass rules and by-laws for their government while in session.

No person elected and qualified as Mayor or Councilman, or any person holding any office by election, appointment, or otherwise, under the provisions of this charter, shall during the term of his office, be interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract to which the town is a party or in which it is interested; nor shall any such person, while holding such office be directly or indirectly engaged in furnishing work, labor or materials for said town, any person violating the provisions of this section shall be proceeded against by indictment in the Circuit Court of Frederick County, and upon conviction shall be fined or imprisoned, or both, in the discretion of the Court.

The Council shall receive all election returns, and determine all questions arising thereon, and any person conceiving himself aggrieved by reason of such decision, may appeal to the Circuit Court for Frederick County, which shall hear and determine the same and determine who shall pay the costs of appeal. In case of a tie vote in any election for Mayor or members of the Council, or any proposition or question submitted to the voters, another election shall be held within sixty days thereafter pursuant to the foregoing provisions in regard to elections. In case of a vacancy in the office of Mayor or Councilman by death, resignation, disqualification or removal from the town, the Council shall, within ten days thereafter, order a special election to fill such vacancy.

TAXING POWER.

SEC. 16. The Mayor and Council, whenever they think the public interests require it, may cause an assessment to be made of all real and personal property within the corporate limits of said town, subject to assessment for state and county taxes, and they may prescribe the manner in which such assessments shall be made, and provide for the adjustment of all differences in relation to such assessment, and to do all other things necessary in making such assessment; and the Mayor and Council shall have power to levy and collect taxes in the town, not exceeding for general purposes in any one year one dollar (\$1.00) on each One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of assessable property, and shall also levy and collect the taxes required to meet the interest and redeem at maturity all bonds heretofore legally issued.