his application and such other information as the said Board may require, touching the merits and fitness of the applicant; such application shall be signed by the applicant and shall contain the affidavit of the applicant executed before a Notary Public of the State of Maryland that the information set forth on said application is true and correct; such application shall further contain certificates executed by not less than four reputable citizens who are owners of real estate in Anne Arundel County that they have known the applicant for not less than three years and that his character, reputation, and habits are such as recommend and qualify him for duty as a police officer and that he is in all respects fit and qualified for such duty; provided, however, that no person shall be appointed on the Anne Arundel County Police Department who is less than twenty-four nor more than forty years of age, and who shall not have been found physically and mentally qualified to perform and discharge the duties of a police officer by the Board of Police Examiners of Anne Arundel County and no such appointment shall be made until the applicant shall have filed with the Chief of Police of Anne Arundel County a certificate from said Board of Police Examiners of Anne Arundel County that they have examined the applicant and found that said applicant is physically and mentally qualified to perform and discharge the duties of a police officer.

Section 406AA. (a) The Chief of Police shall be appointed on the basis of training, experience and qualifications by the Board of Police Examiners in accordance with this sub-title, but the Chief of Police in office on June 1, 1939, shall continue to hold office in accordance with this sub-title. The Chief of Police shall hold office until removed or retired in accordance with this sub-title.

(b) The Chief of Police shall make all appointments and promotions in said Department. Whenever any appointment or promotion is to be made, the Board of Examiners shall submit to the Chief of Police a list of three names compiled as hereinafter provided, and such appointment or promotion shall be made from such list. The sergeants, and officers heretofore appointed by the County Commissioners and in office on June 1, 1939, shall continue to hold office until removed or retired in accordance with this sub-title, and the two persons heretofore classified as desk clerks shall become desk sergeants, and the officer in charge of the Bureau of Identification shall become a sergeant on June 1, 1939.