

dents of the City of Cumberland for more than three years next preceding their appointment. Each of the said Civil Service Commissioners shall receive the sum of Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars per annum for their duties as such; said sum to be paid semi-annually. 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 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, during the last week in April 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 applicants for positions, including applications for positions of Chief of Police, Assistant Chief of Police and Lieutenant of Police and Chief of the Fire Department and Assistant Chief of the 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 each such examination, certify to the City Council the names of ten persons for each department, who, according to its records, have the highest standing for the positions they seek to fill, as a result of such examinations and all vacancies, in positions under Civil Service which shall occur before the holding of the next examination, shall be filled from said list so certified; provided, however, if the list for any cause shall be reduced to less than three for any division or department, then the Commissioner of said Department may temporarily fill a vacancy until the next examination of the Commission. The employees of the Police and Fire Departments so appointed, shall only hold office by virtue of such appointments until Civil