

the Judges and Clerks, and the names of the candidates for the respective offices. Immediately upon the closing of the polls the ballots shall be publicly counted and the Supervisors of Elections shall within two days thereafter make a true and correct return of the votes so cast in a sealed envelope to the Mayor, and within seven days after such election the Mayor and Common Council shall meet and canvass said returns and declare those qualified persons receiving the highest number of votes for their respective offices duly elected. In case two or more persons shall have received the same number of votes so that there is no choice for office, the Mayor and Common Council shall cast the deciding vote and declare which one of the tied candidates is elected.

617. The Mayor and Councilmen elected shall hold office for two years from the second Monday in May or until their successors shall be elected or appointed, and qualified as herein provided. In case any person elected Mayor or Councilman shall fail to qualify within thirty days after election day, or in case of any vacancy, the Mayor and remaining Councilmen shall appoint a qualified person to fill said vacancy, to hold office for such term or unexpired term. All vacancies in the office of Mayor or of Councilmen caused by absence from its session for more than three consecutive meetings without excuse satisfactory to the majority of the remaining Councilmen, or the Councilmen and Mayor as the case may be, shall be filled as other vacancies. The Mayor and Councilmen shall serve without pay. The Mayor and Common Council may pass rules and regulations for their own proceedings while in session.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency law and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety and having been passed upon by yea and nay vote, supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly of Maryland, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 5, 1945.

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## CHAPTER 605.

(House Bill 679)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 6 of Chapter 991 of the Acts of 1943, relating to the bonds.