

promoted, demoted, removed, or in any way favored or discriminated against because of his political or religious opinions or affiliations or any other factors not related to ability to perform the work; no person shall wilfully or corruptly commit or attempt to commit any fraud preventing the impartial execution of the personnel provisions of this charter or of the rules and regulations made thereunder; no officer or employee in the classified service of the town shall continue in such position after becoming a candidate for nomination or election to any public office; no person seeking appointment to or promotion in the classified service of the town shall either directly or indirectly give, render, or pay any money, service, or other valuable thing to any person for or on account of or in connection with his appointment, proposed appointment, promotion, or proposed promotion; no person shall orally, by letter or otherwise, solicit or be in any manner concerned in soliciting any assessment, subscription, or contribution for any political party or political purpose whatever from any person holding a position in the classified service of the town; no person holding a position in the classified service of the town shall make any contribution to the campaign funds of any political party or any candidate for public office or take any part in the management, affairs, or political campaign of any political party or candidate for public office, further than in the exercise of his right as a citizen to express his opinion and to cast his vote.

(b) *Penalties.* Any person who by himself or with others wilfully or corruptly violates any of the provisions of this section [shall be] *is* guilty of a misdemeanor and [shall], upon conviction thereof, *shall* be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00), or by imprisonment for a term not exceeding thirty days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Any person who is convicted under this section [shall] for a period of five years [be] *is* ineligible for appointment to or employment in a position in the town service, and [shall], if he be an officer or employee of the town, *shall* immediately forfeit the office or position he holds.

#### 71. Retirement System.

The town [shall have the power to] *may* do all things necessary to include its officers and employees, or any of them, within any retirement system or pension system under the terms of which they are admissible, and to pay the employer's share of the cost of any such retirement or pension system out of the general funds of the town.

#### 72. Compensation of Employees.

The compensation of all officers and employees of the town shall be set from time to time by an ordinance passed by the council, subject to the restrictions imposed upon establishing the salaries of the councilmen and mayor.

#### 73. Employee benefit programs.

The town [is authorized and empowered,] by ordinance [to] *may* provide for or participate in hospitalization or other forms of benefit or welfare programs for its officers and employees, and [to] *may* expend public monies of the town for such programs.