

## COUNCIL.

1916, ch. 456, sec. 6. 1918 Code, sec. 53. 1927, ch. 135, sec. 6.

**36.** The Council shall consist of six members, two from each of the three wards of the town, who shall hold office for two years or until the qualification of their successors. Each shall be at least twenty-one years of age, a citizen of the United States, and for two years next preceding his election a resident of said town, and assessed with property in said town to the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), and shall have paid taxes thereon for two years preceding his election. Each member of the Council shall receive an annual salary of one hundred dollars (\$100), and no other compensation whatever, provided that the members of the Council may be reimbursed for any expense actually incurred in prosecuting the official business of the municipality.

The members-elect of the Council shall meet on the first Tuesday in September succeeding their election, and shall take before the Mayor the oath of office herein required, and they shall meet on the first Tuesday in every month thereafter, or as often as may be necessary to discharge the duties of their office.

The Council shall elect one of their number Mayor *pro tem.* (to serve at the pleasure of the Council until his successor is elected), who, in the absence of the Mayor, shall be clothed with all the powers and authority of said Mayor. The Mayor, or in his absence the Mayor *pro tem.*, or any four members of the Council, may call such meetings of the Council, from time to time, as they may deem necessary, due notice of which shall be given, and when the call is made by four members, it shall 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