of the City Council, on the third Monday in January next, and on the same day every second year thereafter, who shall, on the third Monday in February, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven, and on the same day every second year thereafter, meet at the Court House, or some other convenient place in the said city, and elect, by ballot, a Mayor and eight members of the Second Branch, to serve for two years thereafter; no person shall be eligible for Mayor, who is not of known integrity, experience, and sound judgment, twenty-five years of age, ten years a citizen of the United States, and five years a resident of Baltimore town, or city, next preceding the election; and in case two or more persons shall have an equal number of votes for Mayor, or members of the Second Branch, the said electors shall determine by lot, which of the persons so having an equal number of votes, shall be appointed to the office of Mayor, or Second Branch of the City Council, as the case may require; the said electors of the Mayor and of the members of the Second Branch, before they proceed to elect, shall swear or affirm, as the case may be, that they will elect without favor, partiality or prejudice, such person for Mayor, and such persons as members of the Second Branch of the City Council, as they in their judgment and conscience believe best qualified for the said offices, and having the other qualifications required by this Act; that the said electors shall be judges of the elections, returns, and qualifications of their members; but no person shall be elector of the Mayor and members of the First Branch of the City Council at the same time; any vacancy happening in the electors of the Mayor, shall be filled up from the ward where such vacancy happened, without delay, in such manner as shall be hereafter directed by ordinance, and any vacancy of the Mayoralty happening, the same shall be filled up without delay, by the electors of the Mayor for the time being, for the remainder of the term; and all vacancies happening in the said Second Branch, shall be filled up by the electors aforesaid.

Electors meet at court house.

Mayor's qualifications.

Lot to determine when votes are equal.

Elector's oath.

Electors judges of their elections

Vacancy in electors.

Vacancy of the mayoralty.

Vacancies in the second branch.

SEC. 7.—And be it enacted, That the City Council shall hold their first session at the Court House in Baltimore, or at any other place within said city, on the second Monday in February, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven; and they shall meet on the second Monday of February in every year thereafter; but the Mayor may summon them to convene whenever, and as often as it may appear to him that the public good may require their deliberations. Three-fourths of the City Council shall be a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day; they may compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties, as they may by ordinance provide; they shall appoint their respective presidents, who shall preside at all their sessions, and shall vote on all questions; they shall settle their rules of proceedings, appoint their own officers, regulate their respective fees, and remove them at pleasure; they shall judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of their own members, and may, with the concurrence of three-fourths of the whole, expel any member for disorderly behaviour, or mal-conduct in office, but not a second time for the same cause; they shall keep a journal of their proceedings, and enter the yeas and nays on any question, resolve or ordinance, at the request of any member, and their deliberations shall be public; they shall ascertain by ordinance, the compensation of their services, which shall not be increased during their continuance in office: The Second Branch of the City Council shall nominate two citizens to each office which may arise under this Act and the ordinances of said corporation, and the Mayor shall appoint and commission one of said nomination, to fill the respective offices during pleasure; and the said Mayor shall appoint proper persons to fill up all vacancies during the recess of the session, to hold such appointment until the ensuing session: The City Council shall settle the salary of the first Mayor at their first session of the second year, and the salary of the succeeding Mayors shall be settled previously to their

Session of the city councils.

The mayor may convene them.

May compel attendance of absent members.

Judges of their elections.

May expel any member.

By ordinan fix the compensation for their services.

Officers of the corporation, how appointed.

Mayor fills up vacancies.

Mayor's salary.