

District of Montreal, or in the Gaol of the City, if there be one, for a period of time not to exceed one calendar month; and if any witness, in such trial or proceeding, knowingly forswear himself, he shall be deemed guilty of wilful perjury.

Power to administer oaths to witnesses.

XXIII. The Mayor and the Members of the said Town Council are hereby authorized to examine upon oath all witnesses summoned to appear before the said Council, and to administer the oath to such witnesses. 5

Duty of Sheriffs and Gaolers.

XXIV. The Sheriff and the Gaoler of the District of Montreal, and of the County of St. Hyacinthe, when there shall be such, shall be bound, and they are hereby enjoined and empowered, to receive and safely to keep until they shall be duly discharged, all persons committed to their custody by the said Town Council, or by any of its Members or Officers by its authority. 10

Mayor's Oath of Office.

XXV. Any person who shall have been chosen to be Mayor or Councillor of the said City shall, before sitting as such, take the oath of office hereinafter mentioned, before the Councillor who shall have presided at the annual Municipal Election, or in his absence, before any of the Justices of the Peace residing in the said City, who are hereby authorized to administer the same, that is to say:— 15

“I, A. B., do solemnly swear that I will faithfully discharge the duties of Mayor, (or, of Councillor, as the case may be) of the City of St. Hyacinthe, to the best of my judgment and ability—So help me God.” 20

Penalty for refusal to take such Oath.

XXVI. If any of the persons who shall hereafter be elected to represent the several Wards of the said City, or to be Mayor, refuse after due notice as aforesaid, to take the oath of office required by the preceding section before the first meeting of the Council after any Municipal Election (provided always that such person be not sick or absent from the City during that time, or disqualified), such person shall incur by such refusal a penalty of five pounds currency, which shall be recovered by the Secretary-Treasurer; provided always, that no person who shall, during the four years next preceding such election, have discharged the duties of Mayor or of Councillor of the said City, or paid the fine for having refused to fill the said offices, shall be subject to the penalty hereinbefore imposed for refusing to act. 25 30

proviso

Case of failure of Annual Municipal Election on day appointed provided for.

XXVII. In case it shall happen that any annual Municipal Election shall not have taken place, for any cause whatsoever, on the day on which, in pursuance of this Act, it ought to have been held, the said Town Council shall not on that account be deemed to be dissolved; and it shall be lawful for those of the Members of the said Council who shall not have gone out of office to hold a meeting, presided over by the Mayor if he have remained in office, or by the Councillor who shall have been appointed to preside at the election, if there be no Mayor, for the purpose of fixing as early a day as possible for holding such election; and in this case the notices and proclamations required by this Act shall be posted up read and published during eight days only, instead of fifteen. 35 40