

urer of the Council, at the expense of the party condemned to payment of costs, as aforesaid;

If any defects or irregularity in the formalities prescribed for the said election to be set forth in any such petition, as a ground of contestation, the Court may admit or reject, according as such defect or irregularity may or may not have materially affected the election.

With respect to defects or irregularities.

XXVI. In case it shall at any time happen that an Annual Municipal Election shall not be held, for any reason whatever, on the day when in pursuance of this Act, it ought to have been held, the said Town Council shall not for that cause be deemed to be dissolved, and it shall be the duty of such members of the said Council as shall not have retired from office to meet again, for the purpose of fixing as early as possible a day for the holding of such Annual Municipal Election; and in such case, the notices and publications required by this Act shall be published and posted up not less than one clear day before the election; and if within fifteen days after the day on which such election ought to have been held, the members of the said Council shall have neglected to appoint a day for such election, they shall be liable to a fine of twenty dollars each, and such election shall then be held by the Registrar; And if it be the first election which has not taken place, then it shall be the duty of the Registrar to have it take place within the shortest possible delay.

In case any annual municipal election shall not be held.

XXVII. The said Council shall have power to punish by imprisonment not exceeding fifteen days, or by a fine which shall not exceed, but may be less than forty dollars currency, any Councillor who may be guilty of serious disturbance or violence during its sittings, either by action, by word or in any other manner whatsoever.

Power to Council to impose penalties and imprisonment.

XXVIII. All meetings of the said Council shall be public, excepting only when the said Council shall inquire into the conduct of any members of their own body, for any causes whatsoever, in which case it shall be lawful for the said Council to sit with closed doors; And the said Council shall determine the mode of their proceedings, and shall have power to cause order to be observed by persons present during their sittings, and to punish by fine and imprisonment, or by one or the two, any contempt committed by any such persons present; Provided always that no such fine shall exceed the sum of twenty dollars currency, and that no such imprisonment shall exceed the period of fifteen days.

Meetings to be public.

Certain other powers of Council.

Contempts.

Proviso:

Fines limited.

XXIX. The Sheriff and Gaoler of the District of Quebec shall be bound, and they are hereby authorised and required to receive and safely keep until duly discharged, all persons committed to their charge by the said Town Council, or any member or officer thereof under the authority thereof.

Duties of Sheriff and Gaoler.

XXX. The Mayor of said Town, if he is present, shall preside at the meetings of the Council, shall maintain order thereat, and shall have a right to express his opinion, but not to vote, on all questions which shall be brought before the said Council; Provided always, that when the said Councillors, after having voted on any question, shall be found to be equally divided, then, and in that case only, the Mayor shall decide the question by his vote, giving his reasons for it if he thinks proper;

Mayor to preside at Council meetings, and to have casting vote, but neither he nor the Councillors to have any pay as such.