

the number of complaints, in which case the said roll shall not be declared closed until after all the complaints shall have been heard and decided ;
 Proviso. Provided always, that if after the said Assessment Roll shall have been declared closed as aforesaid, any property in the said City shall be considerably diminished in value, either by fire, the pulling down of buildings, accident, or any other reasonable cause, the said Council may, on petition from the owner, cause the valuation of such property to be reduced by the Assessors to its actual value:—Provided also, that if any omission has been made in the said Assessment Roll, the said Council may order the Assessors to value any property so omitted, for the purpose of adding it to the said roll; provided further, that the said Assessors shall be bound to value annually, by order of the said Council, the stocks in trade held in the said City.

Appointment and payment of Secretary-Treasurer and other Officers &c.

XLIX. The said Town Council may, from time to time, as occasion shall require, appoint a fit and proper person, who shall not be a Member of the Council, to be and to be called Secretary-Treasurer of the City of Saint Hyacinthe, and it shall have power to appoint, dismiss and replace, when it shall think fit so to do, all such officers, constables and policemen as may be required for the due enforcement of the by-laws which are in force, or which it may hereafter make; to prescribe and regulate the duties of all such officers respectively; to exact from all persons employed by it in any capacity whatsoever, such security as it may deem sufficient to insure the due performance of their duties; and to grant and allow to the officers to be appointed as aforesaid, such salary allowance or other compensation for their services as it may think fit; and the said Council may appoint an Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, whenever the said Secretary-Treasurer shall be unable to discharge the duties of his office by reason of absence or sickness, or from any other cause, and the said Assistant Secretary-Treasurer shall be invested with the same powers as the said Secretary-Treasurer during the time for which he shall be so appointed.

Duties of Secretary-Treasurer.

L. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the sole Collector and keeper of all sums due to the said Town Council, or which may be at its disposal in any way whatever, of which he shall make correct entries in the books which shall be kept for that purpose; he shall also enter therein the sums which he shall have paid for the said Council, and the said books shall be at all seasonable times open to the Members of the said Council and to the Auditors; and he shall prepare a statement of the said accounts, with the vouchers and papers relating to the same, for the year ending on the thirty-first of May in each year, in order to submit them to examination by the Auditors between the first and the fifteenth of June in each year; Provided always, that the said Secretary-Treasurer shall not make any payment from the funds of the said City, otherwise than upon the order of the said Council, or upon an order in writing, signed by the Mayor or a Member of the Finance Committee; provided that possession by the Secretary-Treasurer of such order shall be *prima facie* evidence of the amount therein mentioned having been paid.

Application of fines and penalties.

LI. All the fines and penalties imposed or recovered in virtue of this Act, or of any By-law made in virtue hereof, shall be recovered for the