5. If the Court be of opinion that the grounds set forth in the petition Court may proceed in a are sufficient in law to void the election, it shall order proof to be ad-summary duced, if proof be necessary, and the parties interested to be heard, on manner. the nearest day which it shall deem expedient, and shall proceed in a 5 summary manner to hear and decide the said contestation; the evidence Evidence. may be taken down in writing or given orally in whole or in part, as the Court shall order;

6. The Court may, on such contestation, confirm the election or de- What may be declared by clare the same to be null and void or declare another person to the judgment. 10 have been duly elected, and may, in either case award costs to or against either party, which costs shall be taxed and recovered in the same manner, and by the same means, as costs are taxed and recovered in actions of the first class, with right of appeal, brought in such Circuit Court; and the Court may order its judgment to be served 15 upon the Secretary-Treasurer of the Council, at the expense of the party condemned to payment of costs, as aforesaid;

7. If any defect or irregularity in the formalities prescribed for the As to defects said election be set forth in any such petition, as a ground of contesta-ties. tion, the Court may admit or reject the same, according as such defect 20 or irregularity may or may not have materially affected the election.

16. In case it shall at any time happen that an Annual Municipal Elec- In case any tion shall not be held, for any reason whatever, on the day when in pursu-shall not anne of this Act, it ought to have been held, the said Town Council held. shall not, for that cause be deemed to be dissolved, and it shall be the 25 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 30 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 Sheriff; And if it be the first election which has not taken place, then it shall be the If it be the duty of the Shariff to have it taken place within the shortest possible delay first election. 35 duty of the Sheriff to have it take place within the shortest possible delay.

17. The said Council shall have power to punish by imprisonment Power to not exceeding fifteen days, or by a fine which shall not exceed, but may Councilto impose penaltics be less than forty dollars, any Councillor who may be guilty of serious and imprisondisturbance or violence during its sittings, either by action, by word or ment. 40 in any other manner whatsoever.

18. All meetings of the said Council shall be public, excepting only Meetings to when the said Council shall inquire into the conduct of any members of be public. 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 45 shall determine the mode of their proceedings, and shall have power to Certain other cause order to be observed by persons present, during their sittings, and powers of Council. to punish by fine and imprisonment, or by one or the two, any contempt Contempts. committed by any such person present; Provided always, that no such Proviso; fines fine shall exceed the sum of twenty dollars, and that no such imprison-limited. 50 ment shall exceed the period of fifteen days.

19. The Sheriff and Gaoler of the District of Beauharnois, when there Duties of Sheshall be a Gaol in the latter District, shall be bound, and they are here-riff and Gaol-by authorized and required to receive and safely keep until duly discharged, all persons committed to their charge by the said Town Council, 55 or any member or officer thereof under the authority thereof.