

Sec. 3. - Mayor, vice mayor, and vice mayor pro tem.

The mayor shall be elected as provided in this article, and the city commission shall elect from among its members a vice mayor, and a vice mayor pro tem to serve at the pleasure of the city commission. Election of the vice mayor and vice mayor pro tem shall be done annually at the first regular city commission meeting after the general election. The mayor shall preside at meetings of the commission, shall be recognized as head of city government for all ceremonial purposes, by the governor for purposes of military law, for civil emergencies, for service of process, execution of contracts, deeds and other documents, and as the city official designated to represent the city in all agreements with other governmental entities or certifications to other governmental entities, but shall have no administrative duties except as required to carry out the responsibilities herein. The vice mayor shall act as mayor in the absence or disability of the mayor. The vice mayor pro tem shall act as mayor in the absence or disability of the mayor and vice mayor. In addition to other duties, the mayor shall have a voice and a vote in all commission proceedings, but shall have no veto power.

Sec. 4. - Compensation.

The city commission may determine the annual compensation of commissioners by ordinance, but no increase in compensation shall be adopted more frequently than every two (2) years.

Sec. 5. - Vacancies; forfeiture of office; filling of vacancies.

- (a) *Vacancies.* The office of the mayor or of a commissioner shall become vacant upon the death, resignation, removal from office in any manner authorized by law, or forfeiture of such office by a member; such vacancy to be declared by the remaining members of the commission.
- (b) *Forfeiture of office or candidacy.* The mayor or a commissioner shall forfeit such office or candidacy if lacking at any time during a term of office or candidacy any qualification for the office prescribed by this charter or by law.
- (c) *Filling of vacancies.* A vacancy of the city commission shall be filled in one of the following ways:
  - (1) If there are less than six (6) months remaining in the unexpired term or if there are less than six (6) months before the next regular city election, the city commission by a majority vote of the remaining members shall choose and appoint a successor to serve until a newly elected commissioner or mayor is qualified.
  - (2) If there are more than six (6) months remaining in the unexpired term and no general city election is scheduled within six (6) months, the city commission shall fill the vacancy by a special election to be held no more than sixty (60) days following the occurrence of the vacancy. If a run-off election is necessary, it shall be scheduled two (2) weeks after the special election.
- (d) *Extraordinary vacancies.* In the event that three (3) or more members of the city commission are removed by death, disability, the law, or forfeiture of office, the governor shall appoint an interim commission that shall call a special election as provided in (c)(2) above and such election shall be held in the same manner as the first election under this charter.

Sec. 6. - Prohibitions.