

if confirmed by the Common Council of Grand Rapids; that every year thereafter the mayor should appoint a member of the Board who should hold office for five years subject to confirmation by the Common Council; that vacancies should be filled by the Mayor's appointment in the same manner. No commissioner can hold any other elective or political office. The Board annually elects its President from its own number and a secretary must be an elector of the city. The Board has full and complete control of the police department of the city and can appoint as many policemen as it deems necessary not exceeding three for every two thousand inhabitants, and can appoint special police in times of emergency.

When the members of the board named in the act creating it came before the Common Council for confirmation Orville L. Howard declined the office and the Mayor named in his place George W. Gay who together with the others named in the act were confirmed. The Board organized on the evening of June 7th, 1881, at Police Headquarters. George G. Briggs was elected President and C. W. Calkins was elected Secretary. Mr. Calkins declined the office and Alpha Childs was elected and acted until the following August, when he resigned and Alfred A. Tracy was elected and acted as Secretary until April 27th, 1882, when he in turn resigned and Benjamin F. McReynolds was chosen and since that date has filled the office to the complete satisfaction of the Board and the public, being elected each year since without opposition and without question. The President of the Board almost without exception has been the member whose term of office soonest expired. The following list includes all members of the Board since its organization:

George G. Briggs.....	1881 to 1883
George W. Gay.....	1881 to 1883
Lewis H. Withey.....	1881 to 1889
Wm. H. Powers.....	1881 to 1890
Israel C. Smith.....	1881 to 1883
A. D. Rathbun.....	1883 to 1886
I. M. Weston.....	1883 to 1887
A. J. Rose.....	1883 to 1886
John Killean.....	1886 to 1888
L. E. Hawkins.....	1886 to 1891
I. S. Dygert.....	1886 to 1888
John E. More.....	1887 to 1892