

172. The Commissioners for Opening Streets shall be the second sub-department of review and assessment, and the head of this sub-department shall be a board composed of three persons, appointed by the Mayor in the manner prescribed in section 25 of this article, and removable as therein provided. One of their number shall be president, and shall be so designated when appointed by the Mayor. Their term of office shall be for three years, one commissioner to retire every year; except that the commissioners first appointed shall determine by lot their terms of office, so as to provide for the termination of the term of one commissioner each at the end of the first and second years. The said commissioners shall receive a salary of one thousand, eight hundred dollars each per annum, payable monthly. The said commissioners shall be charged with the duty of opening, extending, widening, straightening, and, if the ordinance so provides, grading or closing any street, lane, alley or part thereof, situated in Baltimore City whenever the same shall have been directed by ordinance to be done, and shall perform such other duties as the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore may, by ordinance prescribe. The said commissioners shall appoint a clerk, who shall be paid a salary of one thousand five hundred dollars per annum, payable monthly, and shall perform such duties as the commissioners may prescribe. The said commissioners may also appoint such other employees as the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore by ordinance may direct, and fix their compensation, not to exceed in the aggregate the amount appropriated by ordinance.

174. When the said commissioners shall assess a sum of money to be paid by any person or persons, for benefits derived by such person or persons from opening, extending, widening, straightening, grading, curbing or closing any street, lane or alley, or part thereof, and shall assess a sum of money to be paid to the same person or persons for damages sustained by said opening, extending, widening, straightening or closing, it shall and may be lawful, upon a certificate of title from the city solicitor, for the City register or city collector to receive from such person or persons an assignment for the sum or sums so assessed as damages aforesaid.

175. Whenever the Mayor and City Council shall hereafter by ordinance direct the Commissioners for Opening Streets to lay out, open, extend, widen, straighten, grade or close up, in whole or in part, any street, square, lane or alley, within the bounds of this city, the said commissioners, having given the notice required by law of their first meeting to execute the