

File No. 5747 Continued.

CORRESPONDENCE.

1907, copies of what appear to be parts of it applicable to the Commission being enclosed.

Section 1 appropriates the sum of \$18,962 to pay salaries.

Section 2 gives an increase of \$62.40 for the engineer of Bath No. 1, and \$52.00 for the engineer of Bath No. 2, or a total for these employees of \$114.40.

The Commission asked for an appropriation of \$18,962, which is just sufficient to cover the salaries heretofore paid and the increase of other employees in salaries, set out in section 2, except that allowed to the engineers, as above mentioned. Under these circumstances, can the Commission pay the increase in salaries of these engineers?

The Commission desires also to know whether it is obliged to pay all of the increases mentioned in section 2, or whether, under section 3 of the ordinance approved May 9th, 1900, defining the powers conferred on the Commission, it has the right to withhold all of the increases or pay a portion of them, in its discretion.

Section 3 of the ordinance mentioned reads as follows:

And be it further ordained that the said "Free Public Bath Commission" shall have the power to superintend, direct, maintain and operate all the free public baths now established or to be hereafter established in the City of Baltimore and owned by the said City of Baltimore, under such rules and regulations as the Commission may deem best suited for carrying out the objects of the said free baths.

If you desire further information, please let me know. If convenient, I should like to have the enclosures returned.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Morris A. Soper.

File No. 5747.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

OPINION.

Baltimore, January 17, 1907.

Hon. W. Cabell Bruce,  
City Solicitor,  
City.

Dear Sir:-

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I reply as follows to the inquiries contained in the letter of Mr. Morris A. Soper of the 14th inst., relative to the control of the Free Public Bath Commission over the salaries of its employees and also over the increases authorized by the Ordinance of Estimates for the year 1907.