

File No. 12667

Baltimore, April 20, 1911.

Alfred M. Quick, Esq.,
Water Engineer.

Dear Sir:

9-28 Mr. Jacob I. Cohen has returned to us his bill, in the sum of two hundred and seventy-five dollars (\$275.00), for services rendered for examining the title to the tract of land purchased by the Water Board from the Estate of Thomas J. Mann, deceased.

Mr. Cohen states that he was requested to make his bill out against the Water Board instead of against Edgar Allan Poe, City Solicitor.

The Bill, as made out and forwarded to you by the City Solicitor, is in proper form, and the City Solicitor instructs me to call your attention to the last sentence of Section 62 of the City Charter, which reads as follows:

"In addition to such other duties as the City Solicitor may assign to him, one of the Assistant City Solicitors shall have charge, subject to the direction and control of the City Solicitor, of the examination of all titles on behalf of the City, and in doing such work shall be aided by such persons as the City Solicitor shall employ for the purpose out of the funds appropriated by the annual ordinance of estimates to his department for general expenses, or out of the proceeds of loans or other sums appropriated by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to defray the cost of public improvements or work involving the examination of titles on behalf of the City."

You will notice, from the language quoted, that the City Solicitor employs the title searchers but that they are paid out of the appropriations contained in the annual ordinance of estimates to his department for general expenses, or out of the proceeds of loans or other sums appropriated by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to defray the cost of public improvements. Therefore it is that the City Solicitor simply O. K.'s these bills and forwards them to the particular department having the supervision of the work and the control of the fund appropriated for the purpose.

Will you kindly, therefore, request the Water Board to pass the bill in its present form?

Truly yours,

(Signed) Henry W. Weeks,

Clerk to City Solicitor.