

the purpose set forth in the petition; and if said Board of Road Directors shall judge that the public interest will be promoted thereby, they may direct the expenditure of an amount not exceeding three hundred dollars per mile for such improvements, but the petitioner shall first pay into the treasury of the county an amount not less than equal to that appropriated by the Road Directors. All of said money to be then expended for said improvements under the direction of said Road Directors.

216H. Whenever any owner of any property in Allegany County shall have paved, laid out or graded any avenue or road for the public convenience and is willing to dedicate the same to public uses by good and sufficient deed, duly recorded, the Board of Road Directors is authorized to accept the same, if in the opinion of said Board the same be convenient for public use, and upon acceptance, the said avenue or road so dedicated shall be kept in good order and repair by said Road Directors; provided, however, that previous to such acceptance, said road shall be not less than thirty feet in width and duly and properly graded in the judgment of the Roads Engineer. All such deeds shall grant such avenues or roads to the Road Directors of Allegany County, and shall be recorded among the Land Records of said county.

Dedicating
Roads for
public use.

216I. Whenever any road shall have been in public use for twenty years, though the same may not have been condemned or granted as a public highway, the Road Directors, if they deem public convenience so requires, may declare said road to be a public highway, and shall have full power to relocate and straighten the same, in their discretion, and shall publish notices to that effect once a week in one or more newspapers published in Allegany County; provided that said road shall not be less than thirty feet in width, and such road so declared to be a public highway shall be kept in good order and repaid as other public roads.

Public high-
ways.

216J. Whenever any doubt exists as to the proper location or width of a road, the Road Directors may cause the same to be surveyed and make such alterations as the public convenience may require, subject to the rights of any person under the provisions contained in this Act for the opening of new roads.

Proper location

216K. All applications for opening, altering or closing roads shall be by petition to the Road Directors, and whenever any person or persons shall intend to petition said directors for opening, altering or closing any road, he or they shall give twenty days' notice thereof in one or more newspapers published in Allegany County, setting forth as near as may be the length and

Opening and
closing roads.