

by law for the collection of city taxes from real and personal property by the Commissioners of Cambridge, who shall prescribe the time and place for the payment of any such assessment for any such improvement, and in addition to the means already provided by law for the collection of city taxes the said assessments may be collected by a suit at law, either before a justice of the peace, if within such jurisdiction, or in the Circuit Court for Dorchester County, if the amount is within the jurisdiction of said court, and any judgment rendered in any suit, upon being recorded in the clerk's office of Dorchester County, shall be a first lien in priority, and take precedence over any existing lien of any kind or character, and if necessary to enforce the said lien by *fiere facias*, and sale thereunder, then the land and property so sold shall be free and clear of any other liens or encumbrances, except any other public taxes that may be due and owing, and out of the proceeds of sale, such other taxes shall be paid, if the proceeds of sale shall be sufficient therefor, after paying the costs and the amount of the said assessment, and interest, if any.

The said improvement or improvements may be made either in the discretion of the Commissioners of Cambridge, or upon petition by the owners of property on any street or streets, or part of any street or streets, that is, it may be made, if in the discretion of the Commissioners of Cambridge, such improvement is believed to be necessary, without any petition or application by owners of property, or it may be made on application by property owners, or it may be made both upon the discretion of the Commissioners of Cambridge, and also petition from property owners.

If the Commissioners of Cambridge, in its discretion shall deem it necessary to so improve any street or streets, or part of any street or streets, it shall pass a resolution declaring what improvement is to be made, giving a reasonable notice of such resolution, the said resolution to provide what part of any street or streets is to be improved, and how improved, and the estimated cost thereof, showing how much of said costs will be paid by the city and how much will be paid by the property on said street, and after the publication of the said resolution or notice thereof, the Commissioners of Cambridge shall, by ordinance appropriate the amount to be paid by the city, and assess upon the said property, the amount to be paid by the property owner, on the property on said street, giving the time when such money shall be due and payable, and said ordinance also to contain a provision that unless cause to the contrary is shown, on or before some day therein named, that the said assessment shall, after said date, become final, and if no cause or insufficient cause is shown by said date, then the Commissioners shall pass an ordinance making the said assessment final, and shall proceed to make the said improvement.

Such improvements may be made if the owners, or a majority of the owners, of more than one-half of the real estate in front feet, fronting or binding on each of such public highways, or thoroughfares, sought to be improved as aforesaid, shall sign and file with the "Commissioners of Cambridge," a petition for such improvement to be made, and therein agreeing that the "Commissioners of Cambridge" shall assess the said