

1916, ch. 680, sec. 86.

97. The male citizens residing within the corporate limits of the said town of Bel Air, above the age of twenty-one years, who are assessed with at least One Hundred Dollars' worth of real or personal property on the tax books of said town, shall hold an election on the first Monday of May in each and every year for five commissioners, who shall hold their office for one year, or until their successors are elected and qualified, and shall have the management of said town, and no one shall be eligible to hold the office of Town Commissioner who is not a qualified voter at said election, and said commissioners shall have full power and authority to enact and pass all ordinances, to preserve the health of the town, to promote cleanliness and good order, to regulate the keeping and running at large of cattle, swine, goats, dogs, fowls and other animals, to preserve and promote the peace, order and good government of said town, to regulate the police and provide for the payment of the same, to impose and appropriate taxes, fines, penalties and forfeitures for the breach of their ordinances, and for the purpose of providing for the extinguishment of fires, and to protect the property in said town, and for the lighting of the streets thereof, to contract with corporations, individuals or firms, for a period longer than one year; provided, that no such contract shall be made to bind the corporations for a longer period than fifteen years; to establish new avenues, streets, alleys and sidewalks; to open, widen, narrow, repair, pave, pike, straighten, extend, stop up or discontinue avenues, streets, alleys and sidewalks now or hereafter to be laid out or used, and such as may hereafter be lawfully established; to levy and collect taxes for establishing, opening, narrowing, closing, paving, piking, straightening, repairing and keeping in order said avenues, streets, alleys and sidewalks, and the roads leading from and to said town; provided, that when any avenue, street, alley or sidewalk shall be opened, widened, straightened or closed, the full value of all property taken and used for such avenue, street, alley or sidewalk or damages to be sustained in closing the same, in whole or in part, shall be assessed by the commissioners, and the said full value so assessed shall be paid or offered to be paid to the proprietors of said property before the said avenue, street, alley or sidewalk is opened, widened, straightened or closed, and any proprietor who may feel aggrieved by such action of the commissioners, shall be entitled to an appeal at any time within thirty days of such offer of payment, to the Circuit Court for said County, and such appeal shall be heard and determined as appeals from justices of the peace are now heard; and the commissioners, in assessing the damages to said land taken, shall take into consideration the benefits and advantages derived by the proprietors thereby.

*Hanna v. Young*, 84 Md. 179.

1916, ch. 680, sec. 87.

98. The said commissioners shall have authority to elect a chairman, secretary, and treasurer, from among their own number; and all ordinances passed by them shall be signed by the chairman and attested by the secretary, and no compensation shall be made to them for any service