

or the work of any sub-department under this Department. It shall perform such other duties as may be required of it by ordinances not inconsistent with this Charter.

1898, ch. 123.

85. When any ordinance for a public improvement, not included in the Ordinance of Estimates furnished by the Board of Estimates under the provisions of this Charter, exceeding in cost the sum of two thousand dollars has passed its first reading in the City Council, it shall be referred to the Board of Public Improvements for an opinion, in writing, as to its advisability and whether the wants of the city actually require such an improvement, and by the last-named Board with such opinion attached to said ordinance it shall be sent to the Board of Estimates for its opinion, in writing, as to the probable cost of the same and whether the financial condition of the city will justify such an expenditure. No further action with regard to said ordinance shall be taken by the City Council until such reports have been made and submitted to the City Council and read and entered on the journal of said Council. It shall be the duty of both of the said Boards to promptly make the said reports and the Board of Estimates shall return the same attached to said ordinance to the City Council.

Baltimore City v. Gorter, 93 Md. 13. *Patterson v. Balto.*, 130 Md. 654.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.*

85A.

PART I.

The Department of Public Works of Baltimore City is hereby created. It shall have and exercise the rights, powers, duties, obligations and functions, as provided herein, subject to the limitations herein set forth. The head of said department shall be the Chief Engineer of Baltimore, who shall be appointed by the Mayor with the consent of the City Council, as provided in Section 25 of the Charter of Baltimore City, and hold his office as therein provided.

The Chief Engineer shall have general educational equipment at least equal to that of graduates of high schools. The Mayor, when appointing a Chief Engineer, shall give first consideration to the qualifications of those who are graduates in Engineering from a recognized college or technical school of collegiate grade. The Chief Engineer shall be a person of broad experience and high standing in his profession, and shall have had responsible charge of engineering works over a period of at least ten years. If the person appointed as Chief Engineer is not a graduate in engineering from a recognized college or technical school of collegiate grade, he shall have had not less than fifteen years' experience in engineering, during ten years of which he shall have been in responsible charge

*Sec. 85A was proposed as an amendment to the City Charter by Resolution No. 7 of the Mayor and City Council, approved Sept. 7, 1926, and ratified by the voters at the November election, 1926.