

and said Commissioners of Ridgely shall act on said return within twenty days after the expiration of said notice, and may issue a new commission as in their judgment may seem proper, and before actually proceeding to open, widen, extend, straighten or close any such street or alley the Commissioners of Ridgely shall pay or tender to the person, his agent, guardian or representative the amount of damages so awarded; and if any one shall feel aggrieved by the decision of the Commissioners of Ridgely, in any matter affected by their decision, he may appeal to the Circuit Court for Caroline County, by giving written notice within twenty days from said decision, filed with the Clerk of Ridgely, of his desire to appeal; and on the filing of the said notice it shall be the duty of the said Clerk to deliver the papers connected therewith to the Clerk of said Court, and the same proceedings shall be had on appeal as in the case of appeals from judgments of Justices of the Peace; provided, nevertheless, that the Commissioners of Ridgely may decline to open, lay out, extend, widen, grade or straighten any street, alley, or highway, or any square, park, play ground, waterway, sewer or drain, notwithstanding the decision of the said Court; but in case of refusal so to do they shall be liable for all costs incurred, and shall pay the same, all benefits assessed by virtue of the above provisions shall be liens on the respective lots or parcels of ground on which they are assessed from the time of the final ratification of the aforesaid return, and shall be collected as taxes are collected, or may be collected by action at law. On appeal the Court or the Jury may alter the award so returned, whether of damages or benefits, and award costs in its discretion. On final ratification of any report of the assessors appointed under the provisions of this section, the Clerk of Ridgely shall at once record in a book kept for that purpose the said turn, plat and all proceedings connected therewith. And if, for any reason, the person to whom damages are awarded refused to receive the damages assessed, or from infancy or any other cause are prevented from receiving and receipting for same, the damages so assessed shall be deposited in some bank of Caroline County, paying interest on deposits, if any, to the credit of the person entitled to such damages, and thereupon the Commissioners of Ridgely may proceed in the same way as if said damages had been paid to the person or persons themselves.

SEC. 35. The Commissioners of Ridgely may acquire by condemnation proceedings as prescribed by Sections 331 to 337, inclusive, of Article 23 of the Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland, any private road or roads whatsoever, or rights of drainage or sewerage or any private prop-