

nevertheless, that the owner or owners of property shall be responsible for said tax in case the same cannot be collected from the occupants thereof; and the council may pass suitable ordinances to enable said scavenger to remove all filth from the town, and may require of said scavenger a bond for the faithful performance of his duties; provided, however, that said special tax shall not exceed one dollar per month on any one house, to be paid by the owner or occupant thereof, as aforesaid.

Annual statement.

30. The council shall keep and annually publish a tabular statement of the receipt and expenditures of the funds of the corporation and such other matters connected with the government and regulations of the town affairs as they may deem necessary and proper.

Taking private property for public use.

31. (a.) Whenever the council shall, by ordinance, provide for establishing any public park, or for establishing, opening, widening, extending or altering any street, avenue, alley, route for sewer or water pipes, for constructing water works or for carrying out any other powers granted by its charter, and it becomes necessary to take private property for such public use, just compensation shall be paid to the owner or owners thereof, which shall be ascertained and assessed by six disinterested commissioners, who shall be qualified voters of the town, and who shall be selected by the Mayor; such proceedings shall be conducted by the Mayor, or in his absence or inability to act, or in case he be interested, then by some disinterested member of the council designated by him; and while in the discharge of such duty the person conducting the same shall have and exercise the powers of the circuit court for the preservation of order and enforcing process issued in the course of the proceedings, and may summon and compel the attendance of witnesses and jurors, preside at the investigation, pass on the competency of evidence, and instruct the commissioners as to the law. (b.) When any ordinance shall provide for taking private property for any public use, it shall describe said property and prescribe the limits within which private property shall be deemed benefited by the proposed improvement and be assessed and charged to pay the compensation therefor, with a description of the property benefited. The Mayor or member of the council designated, as above provided, shall thereupon appoint a day and place for impaneling the commissioners to ascertain the compensation for the property to be taken, and to make assessments to pay for the same. The town clerk shall then issue a