

costs to date, together with all taxes, general or special, which may have become due thereon after the date of the sale, with interest at fifteen (15) per centum per annum, the treasurer shall give to such person a certificate similar to the certificate given to a purchaser at the tax sale, which shall entitle him to the same rights and privileges as if he had purchased the property at the tax sale. (f) If any person claiming title under a tax deed made as hereinbefore provided shall be defeated in any suit or proceeding by or against him for the recovery of the land purporting to be conveyed by such tax deed, the successful claimant shall be adjudged to pay him the full amount paid by the purchaser at the tax sale, with interest at the rate of fifteen (15) per centum per annum on the total amount thus made, also the amount of all taxes, State, county and municipal, general or special, paid by the purchaser, his heirs or assigns, after the date of the certificate of purchase, and interest thereon at six (6) per centum per annum; this judgment shall be a lien on the land in controversy.

19. The failure of the Council or any person designated by them, or of any official herein charged with any duties in relation to the assessment, levy or collection of taxes to perform the acts required of them at within the time specified, shall not affect the validity of such Act, or any proceedings based thereon, if done within a reasonable time thereafter.

Validity of
act not
affected.

20. The bailiff shall attend the meetings of the Council and perform such duties as it shall direct; he shall preserve the peace, prevent disorderly or irregular meetings of persons, and he shall enforce all ordinances that may be enacted by the Council; he shall serve all notices and process required by this charter, or any ordinance passed by virtue hereof, and his return duly endorsed thereon, shall be evidence of the facts therein stated.

Duties of
bailiff.

21. The Mayor shall have all the powers of a justice of the peace in criminal cases where the town of Gaithersburg is a party; he shall have power to administer oaths of office to members of Council and appointed or elected officers of the town; he shall receive the same fees as justices of the peace are allowed for similar service; and an appeal from his judgment may be taken to the Circuit Court of Montgomery county, which court shall hear and determine the matter as upon appeal from a justice of the peace; provided, however, that the justice of the peace residing in said town shall have the same power to hear, try and determine all criminal cases where the town of Gaithersburg is a party as they have in cases where the State of Maryland is a party.

Powers of a
justice of
the peace.