

be prescribed by ordinance; but no fine shall exceed five hundred dollars, nor imprisonment exceed twelve months for any offense.

*Franchises.*

7. The title of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, in and to its water front, wharf property, land under water, public landings, wharves, docks, highways, avenues, streets, lanes, alleys and parks, is hereby declared to be inalienable.

8. The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore may grant for a limited time, and subject to the limitations and conditions contained in this Article, specific franchises or rights in or relating to any of the public property or places mentioned in the preceding section; *provided*, that such grant is in compliance with the requirements of this Article and that the terms and conditions of the grant shall have first been authorized and set forth in an ordinance duly passed by the City. Every such grant shall specifically set forth and define the nature, extent and duration of the franchise or right thereby granted, and no franchise or right shall pass by implication under any such grant; and notwithstanding any such grant the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore shall at all times have and retain the power and right to reasonably regulate in the public interest the exercise of the franchise or right so granted; and the said Mayor and City Council of Baltimore shall not have power by grant or ordinance to divest itself of the right or power to so regulate the exercise of such franchise or right.

9. No franchise or right in relation to any highway, avenue, street, lane or alley, either on, above or below the surface of the same, shall be granted by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to any person or corporation for a longer period than twenty-five years, but such grant may, at the option of the City, provide for giving to the grantee the right, on a fair re-valuation, including in such re-valuation the value derived from the said franchise or right, to renewals not exceeding in the aggregate twenty-five years. Such grant may provide that upon the termination of the said franchise or right granted by the City, the plant, as well as the prop-