

ificate of their qualifications, which may be ratified, or rejected, or altered and amended, in whole or in part, by said Mayor and Council; provided, that the Mayor and Council shall give ten days' notice, at least, by publication in one of the newspapers published in said city, or by ten days' notice, at least, in writing to each property owner so interested, of the time set for final action on return of said examiner, and said Mayor and Council 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 Mayor and Council shall pay or tender to the person, his agent, guardian or representative the amount of damages so awarded; and if anyone should feel aggrieved by the decision of the Mayor and Council in any matter affected by their decision, he may appeal to the Circuit Court of Wicomico county by giving written notice within twenty days from said decision filed with the clerk of the Council 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 appeal from judgments of justices of the peace; provided, nevertheless, that the Mayor and Council may decline to open, lay out, extend, widen, grade or straighten any street, alley or highway or any square, waterway or drain, notwithstanding the decision of 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 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 a commission appointed under the provisions of this section, the clerk to the City Council shall at once record in a book kept for that purpose the said return, plat and all proceedings connected therewith. And if for any reason the person to whom damages are awarded refuse 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 Salisbury paying interest on deposits, if any, to the credit of the person entitled to such damages, and thereupon the