

may fix the dimensions thereof which in their judgment the public welfare or convenience may require; to provide for ascertaining whether any, and if so, what amount in damage will be caused thereby for which the owner or possessor of any property through or over which such street or alley may pass or square or park may lie, ought to be compensated and paid; and for assessing and laying either generally on the whole assessable property within the city or specially on the property of persons specially benefited by such improvement, the whole or any part of the damages and expenses which may be incurred in laying out, opening, extending, straightening or widening such street, lane or alley, square or park; to provide (in case they shall determine to levy and assess the whole or any part of said damages and expenses upon the owners of the property in the city specially benefited by such improvement) for the appointment amongst them of the amount of such damage and expenses so determined, to be levied upon them in due proportion to the amount of benefits by them, respectively, received; to provide for the appointment of commissioners to assess said damages and benefits and perscribe their duties and compensation; to provide for the condemnation of all land and property so taken for public use in opening, extending, straightening or widening, in whole or in part, any street, lane or alley as aforesaid, and for the notice to be given in relation thereto; to provide for the payment of the damages so awarded, and for the mode of payment, and collection of the benefits so determined to be assessed; and to pass all ordinances necessary and proper to the exercise and enforcement of the powers granted in this section; provided, however, that no land or property shall be taken under the powers given in this section without just compensation being first paid or tendered to the party entitled to such compensation, as agreed on with the owners of such property or awarded by a jury summoned for the purpose by the sheriff of Carroll county, in the mode and at the time prescribed by said Mayor and Common Council; and provided further, that provision is made in all such ordinances for reasonable notice to the person whose land is to be condemned or against whom benefits are to be assessed, with the right of appeal to the Circuit Court for Carroll County by any and all persons interested, including the Mayor and Common Council, from the decision of the jury of condemnation, or persons appointed or authorized to assess such damages or benefits.

#### STREETS AND SIDEWALKS.

SEC. 231. The Mayor and Common Council of Westminster shall have the power to provide by ordinance for the grading,