

missioners, and if it is in excess of Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars the same must be submitted to competitive bidding under specifications prepared by said Engineer, approved by said County Commissioners, and the contract awarded to the lowest responsible bidder.

Whenever, in the judgment of the County Commissioners and the Roads Engineer, it shall be deemed advantageous to award a contract to an independent contractor for the construction, reconstruction or repair of any road or bridge in Harford County, the plans and specifications therefor shall be prepared by the said Engineer, approved by the County Commissioners, and advertised in one or more of the County newspapers for at least two successive weeks and such contract awarded to the lowest responsible bidder.

447. The County Commissioners are authorized and empowered to purchase the ground necessary therefor and to erect one or more buildings in Harford County for the purpose of housing and repairing the machinery owned by the County, or to purchase land with buildings already thereon. In erecting or acquiring these buildings the said Commissioners shall not consider district lines but shall locate them so as best to serve the needs of the County as a whole.

448. The said Roads Engineer shall immediately upon assuming the duties of his office, make an inventory of all of the machinery and equipment belonging to the County used for road or bridge work, and recommend to the County Commissioners which part of it should be retained and which disposed of, and he shall also recommend to the said Commissioners what, if any, additional machinery and equipment should be acquired for the purpose of profitably and economically carrying out the purposes of this Act; and the County Commissioners shall accept and approve the recommendations of the said Engineer, except for good cause shown in writing by them, to be spread upon the minutes of the said Commissioners.

The said Roads Engineer shall also immediately make arrangements for the purchase, at wholesale, whenever feasible, all materials, equipment and supplies of every kind, including that used for the operation and maintenance of all machinery, necessary to be used by the County under the provisions of this Act, and plans and specifications for the purchase thereof shall be prepared and bids submitted in the same manner as is provided in the preceding section.