

his or her office or position and be subject to a fine not to exceed one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars or imprisonment in the Maryland House of Correction for a term not to exceed one year. Provided, however, that the provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to any contract or other transaction involving the purchase of land or the deposit of county funds in any authorized State or Federal banking institution.

Where the amount involved in any contract for work to be done or purchase of supplies to which the Board of County Commissioners or the County Board of Education of said county is a party exceeds the sum of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars, the said Board, as the case may be, shall advertise for bids in one or more newspapers published in said county, the publication thereof to appear at least one week prior to the date on which bids are to be opened, and the contract or purchase shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, but the said Board, as the case may be, shall have the right to reject any and all bids.

In every case where the said County Commissioners or the County Board of Education desire to purchase land, said Board as the case may be, shall advertise once a week for two weeks in one or more newspapers published in said county a statement setting forth the option and price of any land proposed to be purchased by said Board, the location, purpose, and owner. This advertisement shall also include description and price of at least two additional sites regarded by said Board as also available for the purpose in question, or a statement by said Board that no such additional sites are available. When the land in question is to be purchased by any organization or agency representing either a public library to be supported in part by Montgomery County tax funds, or a fire department to be supported in part by Montgomery County tax funds, the library or fire department board in question shall furnish the information required incident to the proposed purchase of land to the Board of County Commissioners who shall advertise same as prescribed herein.

Failure to comply with the requirements of this section after its enactment shall thereafter prohibit any library or fire department from receiving Montgomery County tax funds for its support.

The County Board of Education, when it is the desire to purchase the land for educational purposes, and the Board of County Commissioners, when it is the desire to purchase the land for any other public or semi-public purpose described herein shall promptly arrange and advertise a public hearing on the said proposed purchase if any taxpayers or voters of Montgomery County protest to said Board said proposal to purchase within two weeks after notice of such proposed pur-