

116C. If and when the Mayor and Council shall elect and determine to exercise the powers granted by Sections 116A to 116X, inclusive, of this sub-title, it shall first select some competent engineer approved by the Public Service Commission of Maryland and shall authorize and direct said engineer to make the necessary studies, surveys and investigations incident and appropriate to the construction and establishment of a municipal electric light and power system and to report the result of said investigations, studies and surveys to the Mayor and Council. If said Engineer shall find that the construction of said municipal electric light and power system is feasible, he shall so state, and thereafter the Mayor and Council shall direct him to prepare detailed plans and specifications for such construction. The Mayor and Council may authorize and direct said Engineer to employ additional engineering, drafting or architectural assistance as may be necessary to enable him properly to prepare said plans and specifications, the expense of such additional assistance to be treated as part of the cost of construction of said municipal electric light and power system as hereinabove provided. Upon the completion of said plans and specifications to the satisfaction of the Mayor and Council, said Mayor and Council shall call, by suitable advertisement, for competitive bids for the construction of said municipal electric light and power system, as a unit or in several parts, in accordance with said plans and specifications. If competitive bids for such construction shall be called for, as hereinabove provided, the notice calling for said bids shall be advertised at least once a week for three successive weeks in one newspaper published in Somerset County, Maryland, and in one newspaper published in the City of Baltimore, Maryland, and such notice shall give a brief description of the nature of the work for which said bids are solicited and of the time and place where the same will be received, and said Engineer of the Mayor and Council shall make available for distribution to all prospective bidders copies of the plans and specifications for said proposed construction. In calling for competitive bids for the construction of said municipal electric light and power system, the lowest bidder to have the sole right to construct said municipal electric light and power system, the Mayor and Council shall have the following powers:

(a) It may specify that said municipal electric light and power system will be paid for in cash immediately upon completion in accordance with the plans and specifications, and that the title to said system shall at all times be and remain in said Mayor and Council;

(b) It may likewise specify for payments in cash for said system in instalments as construction progresses;