

same time he submits the above statement he shall also submit a proposed budget for the approval of the County Commissioners for the succeeding calendar year; for the purpose of giving the Commissioners the necessary information to enable them to estimate the County levy for roads and bridges for the succeeding calendar year. The County Commissioners shall publish this statement and budget, or as much thereof as may be necessary to apprise the residents of the County of the contents thereof, in one or more County papers published in Harford County. He shall in no calendar year expend a greater amount of money than has been appropriated for the construction, reconstruction or repair of roads or for the purchase of materials or machinery without first obtaining a written order from the said Commissioners so to do.

The said Roads Engineer shall examine and certify to the correctness of all bills and accounts for work and materials furnished for any of the roads and bridges, or for any other construction or repair work done by the County under his supervision; also all expenditures for or in connection with the purchase, repair, maintenance or operation of any of the aforementioned machinery or equipment; also for all supplies purchased for any of the above mentioned purposes. He shall have the power to purchase materials necessary for the proper performance of his duties where the amount of such purchase does not exceed Two Hundred and Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars, but he must submit the vouchers for the same to the County Commissioners for their approval before the said bills are paid. If the amount or estimated amount of said purchase is in excess of Two Hundred and Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars he must first secure the approval of the said County Commissioners, 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 labor and materials of which are estimated to cost One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars or less, 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, unless in the opinion of the County Commissioners and the Roads Engineer the interests of the County will be better served by the Commissioners doing the work under the supervision and direction of the said Engineer.