

41. The City of Hagerstown shall have all the powers necessary to administer and serve the various issues of its bonded debt outstanding at the time of the adoption of this Charter, and the City shall have the further power to purchase retirement bonds of the City of Hagerstown at market value and for not more than fair value.

42. The City of Hagerstown shall operate a centralized purchasing system, headed by a City Purchasing Agent. Materials and supplies of every kind, character and description, including stationery and printed matter needed or used by the several departments, boards, commissions, officers or other agencies of the municipal government (hereinafter designated as using authorities) shall be purchased by said Central Purchasing Agent.

It shall be the duty of the Purchasing Agent, subject to the approval of the Council, to prescribe rules and regulations providing for the times when and the manner and form in which estimates of the needs of using authorities shall be submitted requisitions made and contracts entered into.

Whenever possible the Purchasing Agent shall formulate and make effective, subject to the approval of the Council, standards of materials and supplies used by the using authorities.

It shall also be the duty of the Purchasing Agent to formulate and make effective, plans under which materials and supplies shall be purchased in quantities sufficient for the needs and uses of all the using authorities. Whenever possible, estimates for materials and supplies furnished by the using authorities shall be combined, and contracts awarded under competitive bidding. It shall be the duty of the using authorities and the City Purchasing Agent to cooperate to the end that the municipal government may obtain the advantages offered by cash discounts.

Any other material, supply or thing costing more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), and for which there can be no competitive bidding, shall be purchased by the City Purchasing Agent as directed by the using authority, subject to the approval of the Council.

43. The City Purchasing Agent shall make an annual report to the Council, together with such recommendations as may seem advisable. The report shall give detailed information relating to the purchases made for the using authorities.