

ordinary proceeds of municipal taxation; provided, however, that the provisions of said act of 1906 shall be obligatory upon, and not discretionary with, the mayor and city council of Baltimore and the board of estimates, and the price to be charged for new rights, franchises and easements similar to those condemned, shall be the same as the amount of the condemnation award.

17 (b) The said board members, in the performance of their duties, shall be under the jurisdiction of the said courts and shall be considered as officers of said courts. It shall be the duty of the local governing bodies to provide suitable space for the boards to meet, and the clerks of the several courts shall, whenever possible, provide suitable clerical assistance. If, from time to time, such assistance is not available the Commission shall, upon request of the board, provide such assistance. Each board so appointed shall select its own chairman and make its own rules not inconsistent herewith *or with the Maryland Rules.*

17(c) It shall be the power and duty of said board to promptly hear all cases certified to it by the Commission and determine the amount of the award to be paid by the Commission and it shall also have the authority to determine what portion of said award, if any, shall be paid to any tenant, lessee, mortgagee, or other person having any interest therein. [The board shall hear representatives of the Commission and representatives of the property owner and the owner if said owner desires to be heard. Each side shall have the right to be represented by legal counsel and each side shall have the right of cross-examination. After hearing the witnesses and counsel and reviewing the exhibits offered the board shall then view the property affected and promptly place a value upon the taking. Strict rules of evidence need not be adhered to in the hearings before the board; however, legal counsel for either side or the property owner or a representative of the Commission may make an oral statement to the board at the conclusion of the view and before the board reaches its findings.]

17(f). [All cases certified to said board shall be disposed of and terminated not more than five (5) months after being certified to said board unless a longer period be agreed to in writing by both parties and approved by the chairman of said board, and in such cases t] The value of the property shall be determined as of the date of the filing of the plats and maps as aforesaid.

18.

In the event either the Commission or the property owner shall be dissatisfied with the findings and award of the board of property review either shall have the right [, within thirty (30) days therefrom,] of appeal to the circuit court for the county or the Superior Court for Baltimore City, as the case may be, in whichever jurisdiction the property is situated. Upon appeal the case shall be heard and determined under the procedure set forth in this article and Article 33A of the Annotated Code of Maryland. [In cases where the appeal is sought by the property owner he shall so notify the Commission in writing and it shall be the duty of the Commission to prepare and file the condemnation case in the proper court, as aforesaid, and the case shall be heard de novo and as if there had been no hearing before the board of property review.] If the Com-