

only to prior State and county taxes. If any property is sold for State and/or county taxes, or both, by the Treasurer of the County, and if after sale there is a surplus after all costs and expenses incident to such sale shall have been paid, the Commission upon proper petition to the Circuit Court shall be allowed any balance from the surplus, and shall be a preferred lienor to the extent of its lien; and for the purpose of giving notice to the general public as to existing liens and charges against any property within the sanitary district abutting upon any water or sewer main, or connected thereto the Commission shall keep a public record of all names of owners of property, locations of said property, lot numbers when of record, and the amount of such benefit assessments, water service charges, or such other charges that may become liens from time to time. Such records shall be kept in the office of the Harford County Metropolitan Commission as a public record, and when so kept shall be legal notice of all existing liens within the sanitary district. The Commission shall request the County Treasurer to print a notice on the State and County Tax Bills that benefit assessments and other charges for water and sewer services must be paid in the office of the Metropolitan Commission or elsewhere as the Commission may designate.

422. Connection charges.

For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this subtitle the Commission may make a charge for every sewer and water connection. The funds derived from such charges may be used for payment of principal and interest on bonds, accumulating funds for capital improvements, for acquisition and construction of water sewerage and drainage systems and the operation and maintenance thereof and for the purchase of equipment and supplies necessary to the operation of the Commission. Connection charges shall be established from time to time by the Commission subject to the approval of the County Commissioners. Such charges may be based upon such reasonable classifications as the Commissioners may determine and such classifications may vary within any water, sewer, or drainage system and among any such systems depending on any special circumstances which the Commission finds exist. The charges herein provided shall not be limited to the costs to the Commission for making such connections. The Commission is empowered to determine the manner in which such charges shall be payable.

423. Service charges and upkeep charges.

For the purpose of providing funds for maintaining, repairing, and operating its water supply, sewerage, or drainage systems, and for its operation and other expenses, including proper depreciation allowances, and for interest on and the retirements of bonds as specified in this subtitle, the Commission may make the following charges:

(1) A water and sewer service charge. The rates for water and sewer service shall consist of a minimum or ready-to-serve charge which shall be based upon the size of the meter on the water connection leading to the property, and of a charge for water used, which shall be based upon the amount of water passing through the meter during the period between the last two readings. The meter shall