

and franchises of every kind belonging to or in the possession of the City (by whatever prior name known) at the time this Charter becomes effective are vested in the City subject to the terms and conditions thereof.

76. The City shall have the power to condemn property of any kind, or interest therein or franchise connected therewith, in fee or as an easement, within the corporate limits of the City for any public purpose. Any activity, project, or improvement authorized by the provisions of this Charter or any other State law applicable to the City shall be deemed to be a public purpose. The manner of procedure in case of any condemnation proceeding shall be that established in Article 33A of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland (1957 Edition, as amended).

77. The City shall have the power to do whatever may be necessary to protect City property and to keep all City property in good condition.

78. a. Before entering upon the duties of their offices, the Mayor, the Councilmen, the City Manager, and the members of the Board of Supervisors of Elections, the Planning Commission and the Board of Appeals shall take and subscribe to the following oath or affirmation: "I, ....., do swear (or affirm as the case may be), that I will support the Constitution of the United States; and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland, and support the Constitution of the United States; and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland, and support the Constitution and Laws thereof; and that, I will, to the best of my skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the office of ....., according to the Constitution and Laws of this State."

b. The Mayor shall take and subscribe this oath or affirmation before the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the County or before one of the sworn deputies of the Clerk. All other persons taking and subscribing the oath shall do so before the Mayor.

79. All right, title, and interest held by the City or any other person or corporation at the time this Charter is adopted in and to any lien acquired under any prior Charter of the City are hereby preserved for the holder in all respects as if this Charter had not been adopted, together with all rights and remedies in relation thereto. This Charter shall not discharge, impair, or release any contract, obligation, duty, liability, or penalty whatever existing at the time this Charter becomes effective. All suits and actions, both civil and criminal, pending, or which may hereafter be instituted for causes of action now existing or offenses already committed against any law or ordinance repealed by this Charter, shall be instituted, proceeded with, and prosecuted to final determination and judgment as if this Charter had not become effective.

80. Whenever, by this Charter or any ordinance or other regulation of the City there is imposed upon any property owner a duty to take certain action with reference to his property and upon his failure to do so the City is authorized to take such action and charge the cost thereof to said property owner, said cost shall become a lien upon said property and may be collected by the City in the same manner as delinquent *ad valorem* taxes.

81. Every act or omission which, by ordinance, is made a misdemeanor under the authority of this Charter, unless otherwise provided shall be punishable, upon conviction, by a fine not exceeding Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment for ninety days in the County jail, or both, in the discretion of the court. The party aggrieved shall have the