

File No. 27617

Baltimore, January 27, 1920.

Honorable Board of Estimates
of Baltimore City.

Gentlemen:

13488

I have before me your letter of the 23rd instant, giving extracts of the minutes of January 21st, with reference to the bids received by Mr. Mohr for 500 plain iron gas posts and inquiring whether or not the excess over and above the appropriation of \$7,500 can be taken from the gas lighting and maintenance account or the electric lighting and maintenance account.

If your Board can conclude that by reason of the past system of accounting in the office of the Superintendent of Lamps and Lighting, the installation of additional posts was considered a part of the gas lighting and maintenance account, or if as a matter of fact any of these posts are to be used in the territory now covered to replace existing posts, the account can be charged to the gas lighting and maintenance account, otherwise it seems to me it cannot, under Section 36 of the Charter, reading as follows:-

"When said proposed ordinance, embracing said estimates, shall have been duly passed by both branches of the City Council and approved by the Mayor, it shall be known as the 'Ordinance of Estimates for the year---', and said several sums shall be and become appropriated, after the beginning of the next ensuing fiscal year, for the several purposes therein named, to be used by the City Council, departments, sub-departments, municipal officers not embraced in a department, and special commissions or boards therein named, and for no other purposes or uses whatever."

Respectfully yours,
(Signed) Roland R. Marchant,
City Solicitor.

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