

such manner as shall be provided by ordinance and to purchase, contract to purchase, lay or contract to lay water mains and trunk and lateral sewers in said town and to pay the costs of all such work and assess said cost, or any part thereof, against the abutting property as hereinafter provided in this section. For the purposes of this Act the term "water mains" shall include fire hydrants, meters, valves and connections and all other service equipment. The foregoing action may be initiated by the Council on its own motion without the filing of a petition by abutting property owners hereinafter provided for.

Whenever a petition in writing, duly signed by the owners of at least twenty per cent of the front footage of all the property abutting upon any such proposed public improvement, shall be filed with the Council praying for the construction of any public improvement herein mentioned, the Council shall, after having given the notice prescribed in the following section, hold a public hearing upon the matter of such petition, and shall as soon thereafter as may be convenient, render its decision thereon granting or denying the said application, as in its judgment the public health, safety or comfort may require; provided, however, that in case the Council shall grant such petition, it shall thereupon proceed in all respects in the manner and in the form hereinafter provided in this section.

(G) To carry out the provisions of this section the said Council is hereby given power and authority, to borrow such sums from time to time as may be needed to make such improvements, including the proportionate share thereof, if any, to be assessed against the town in accordance with this section, and to issue certificates of indebtedness as evidence thereof. All sums so borrowed shall be kept in a separate account to be known as the "Special Improvement Fund" and shall be borrowed for no longer period than shall be sufficient to collect the special assessments provided for; said certificates of indebtedness shall be full and complete general obligations of the Town of Rockville and shall be payable first from the special assessments levied under the provisions of this section; and in the event of any deficiency occurring in the amount received from said special assessment, the Council shall and it is hereby directed to make up such deficiency from the proceeds of *ad valorem* taxes which the Mayor and Council of Rockville is hereby authorized and empowered to levy upon all property within the present or future corporate limits of the Town subject to assessment for full municipal taxation, which taxes said Town is authorized and empowered to levy in an amount sufficient to meet