

1. Two or more municipalities may jointly purchase and operate fire apparatus.
2. In as much as Sections 4221 and 4371 require competitive bidding upon contracts involving the expenditure of \$500.00, or more, if the total amount which all municipalities participating are required to pay exceeds such sum, competitive bidding is required.
3. In the event that each municipality's share of the cost of purchasing fire apparatus exceeds \$500.00, bids must be advertised for by such municipalities jointly, unless in the contract of agreement it has been otherwise specifically agreed as to the manner in which such power shall be exercised. That is to say, it is probably within the powers of said municipalities in determining to make such purchase, to stipulate by agreement that one municipality may proceed to make the purchase for and on behalf of the other, as well as itself. Under such circumstances, however, competitive bids must be taken.

Respectfully,
GILBERT BETTMAN,
Attorney General.

220.

APPROVAL, ABSTRACT OF TITLE TO LAND OF FOREST E. ROBERTS,
IN BENTON TOWNSHIP, PIKE COUNTY, OHIO.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, March 20, 1929.

HON. CARL E. STEEB, *Secretary, Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Columbus, Ohio.*

DEAR SIR:—This is to acknowledge receipt of your communication of recent date submitting for my examination and approval a corrected abstract relating to two tracts of land in Benton Township, Pike County, Ohio, owned by Forest E. Roberts of said county.

The tracts of land above referred to are more particularly described in former Opinion No. 36 of this department directed to you under date of January 30, 1929.

The corrected abstract, in my opinion, quite effectually corrects the objections which were noted as exceptions to the title of Mr. Roberts in said former opinion. These exceptions, which were three in number, were first, that it was not shown by the abstract then submitted that any patent had ever been issued on the surveys of which the tracts here in question are a part. This exception has been corrected by the production of an exemplified copy of a patent issued on said surveys, which copy has been made a part of the corrected abstract.

The second objection noted in said former opinion was that the abstract then submitted did not show the history of the title to the second tract of land here in question prior to the conveyance thereof by one Andrew L. Speakman to Samuel Griffith under date of January 6, 1883. This objection has been corrected by an abstract of former deeds showing the history of this tract of land back to E. P. Kendrick for whom the original surveys were made and entered.

The third objection before noted was that the abstract did not show that the taxes for the last half of the year 1928 were paid. This has been corrected by a certificate signed by the abstracter showing that the whole of the taxes for the year 1928 have been paid.

I am therefore of the opinion that Forest E. Roberts has a good and merchantable fee simple title to the two tracts of land here in question, free and clear of all en-

cumbrances whatsoever, and that a proper warranty deed executed and acknowledged by himself and wife will convey a good and merchantable title to the State of Ohio, which will likewise be free and clear of all encumbrances.

Inasmuch as the former opinion of this department above referred to disapproved the title of Forest E. Roberts on the abstract then submitted, I did not express any opinion upon the warranty deed, encumbrance estimate, and Controlling Board certificate, all of which were returned to you with said abstract. It is suggested that before the transaction relating to the purchase of this property is closed the said warranty deed, encumbrance estimate and Controlling Board certificate be forwarded to this department for examination and approval.

I am herewith returning the corrected abstract of title.

Respectfully,
GILBERT BETTMAN,
Attorney General.

221.

APPROVAL, ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE AMERICAN INSURANCE UNION, INC.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, March 21, 1929.

HON. CLARENCE J. BROWN, *Secretary of State, Columbus, Ohio.*

DEAR SIR :—I am returning to you herewith the articles of incorporation of American Insurance Union, Inc., with my approval endorsed thereon.

Respectfully,
GILBERT BETTMAN,
Attorney General.

222.

APPROVAL, BONDS OF MORROW COUNTY, OHIO—\$26,950.67.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, March 21, 1929.

Industrial Commission of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

223.

APPROVAL, FINAL RESOLUTIONS ON ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN JEFFERSON COUNTY.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, March 21, 1929.

HON. ROBERT N. WAID, *Director of Highways, Columbus, Ohio.*