

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTH REVISION.

THE  
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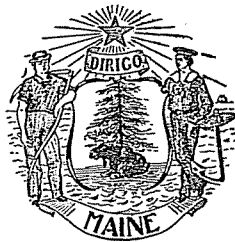
OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

PASSED SEPTEMBER 1, 1903, AND TAKING EFFECT JANUARY 1, 1904.

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BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATURE.



AUGUSTA :  
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT,  
1904.

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dollars. No town shall be entitled to the benefits of this provision, until its legal voters, at a regularly called town meeting, have raised and appropriated not less than one hundred dollars for the purchase of books, and have provided for the care, custody and distribution of its own books, and of those to be donated by the state.

SEC. 18. The librarian or trustees of any free public library may ask the governor and council for advice in regard to the selection of books, and may receive instruction at the state library in cataloguing, and any other matters pertaining to the maintenance or administration of the library.

SEC. 19. Any town, as such, may receive, hold and manage devises, bequests or gifts for the establishment, increase or maintenance of a public library therein; and may accept by vote of the legal voters thereof, any land or land and buildings thereon, to be used as a public library or art gallery, or both combined. When any plantation is incorporated into a town, such gifts and the proceeds thereof fully vest in such town.

Note. Wanton injury to a book, picture, statue or painting in any public library punished, c. 123, § 21.

—town not entitled to benefits, until it has raised one hundred dollars. 1893, c. 242, § 6.

Librarians may receive advice from governor and council. 1893, c. 242, § 7.

Towns may receive devises and gifts for public libraries. R. S., c. 55, § 10. —may accept land and buildings for public libraries and art galleries. 1887, c. 93. 90 Me., 414.

CHAPTER 58.

PROPRIETORS OF LANDS, WHARVES, AND OTHER REAL ESTATE, IN COMMON.

SEC. 1. When any five, or a majority, of the proprietors of lands or wharves, held in common, desire a meeting of the proprietors for the purpose of forming a corporation, or for any other purpose, they may make written application signed by them or their agents, to any justice of the peace residing in the county in which the lands or wharves are situated; said justice shall thereupon issue his warrant calling a meeting at the time and place, and for the purposes distinctly stated in the application, directed to one of the proprietors, requiring him to give notice thereof.

SEC. 2. If the lands lie in one or more incorporated towns, a notice in writing shall be posted in some public place in each, and published in the state paper, and in one of the newspapers printed in the county where any part of them lies, fourteen days before the meeting; but if not, in the state paper, and in one other newspaper, if any, in the county where any part of them lies, four weeks successively next before the meeting; or the meeting may be warned by posting written notifications, in some public place in each town where any proprietor resides, fourteen days before the time appointed therefor.

SEC. 3. At such meeting, such proprietors as assemble in person or by attorney may organize into a corporation if not already so organized, choose a moderator, clerk, treasurer, assessors, collector of taxes, committees and other needful officers; and may by vote decide upon the manner of calling and notifying future meetings. (a)

SEC. 4. The clerk, treasurer, assessors and collector, shall be sworn by the moderator or a justice of the peace, and the clerk shall record the votes passed at all meetings. (b)

SEC. 5. No business shall be acted upon at any meeting, unless distinctly expressed in the warrant therefor; the proprietors' votes shall be

Warrant for calling meetings, to whom directed. R. S., c. 56, § 1. 12 Me., 313, 400. 18 Me., 215. 26 Me., 549.

Modes of giving notice. R. S., c. 56, § 2.

Officers, and calling of future meetings. R. S., c. 56, § 3.

Officers to be sworn. R. S., c. 56, § 4.

No business to be transacted, unless

(a) 18 Me., 215; 26 Me., 549.

(b) 26 Me., 553; 53 Me., 233.

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specified in  
the warrant;  
how votes  
are to be  
counted.  
R. S., c. 56, § 5.

Prosecution  
and defense  
of actions.  
R. S., c. 56, § 6.  
37 Me., 44.

Raising and  
assessment  
of moneys;  
publication.  
R. S., c. 56, § 7.  
See § 2.

Payment may  
be enforced  
by sale.  
R. S., c. 56, § 8.  
4 Me., 248.  
5 Me., 348.  
7 Me., 408.

Right of  
redemption.  
R. S., c. 56, § 9.

Treasurer's  
powers and  
duties.  
R. S., c. 56, § 10.

Management  
of property.  
—proxies.  
R. S., c. 56, § 11.  
48 Me., 526.

Proprietors'  
records, how  
preserved.  
R. S., c. 56, § 12.  
53 Me., 233.

Certain cor-  
porate powers  
continued for  
ten years  
after final  
division.  
R. S., c. 56, § 13.

Money may  
be raised for  
highways.  
R. S., c. 56, § 14.  
See c. 23, § 43.

counted according to the interest of each in the common lands, if known, and in that way the moderator shall make certain all doubtful votes; and they may pass by-laws as to the management, improvement, division and disposal of their lands or wharves, subject to the approval of the county commissioners of the county where the lands lie, and may annex penalties to the breach of them, not exceeding three dollars for one offense, to be disposed of as they direct.

SEC. 6. The proprietors may prosecute and defend suits by their agent, and the certificate of the proprietors' clerk is evidence of such agency.

SEC. 7. At any legal meeting, they may raise money for bringing forward, completing the settlement of, managing or improving said lands, or for their common good, and assess the same according to their interests in the lands; and the treasurer, collector or committee shall publish such assessment in the same manner as a meeting of the proprietors is notified.

SEC. 8. If any proprietor neglects to pay his assessment to the treasurer, collector or committee, for six months, if he resides in the state, otherwise for twelve months, then the committee may, from time to time, sell at auction so much of his right in the common lands, as is sufficient to pay his tax and the reasonable charges of sale, after notice thereof, posted as aforesaid, and published in two of the newspapers before named five weeks successively next before the time of sale; and may give deeds thereof in fee to the purchaser.

SEC. 9. The proprietor of the right so sold may redeem it within a year, by paying to the committee the sum for which it was sold, with twelve dollars for each hundred produced by such sale, and in that proportion for a greater or less sum.

SEC. 10. The treasurer may sue for and collect all debts due to the proprietors, and shall render his account of all moneys received and paid; and he shall hold his office during their pleasure.

SEC. 11. A majority of proprietors present at any legal meeting, may order, manage, improve, divide or dispose of their lands as they choose; and may vote in person, or by attorney appointed in writing.

SEC. 12. After a final division of their common property, they shall cause their records to be deposited in the office of the clerk of the town in which some part of such lands lies; and he may record votes and certify copies of such records, as the proprietors' clerk might have done; and the last clerk chosen shall continue in office until the records are so deposited.

SEC. 13. Such a final division shall not dissolve the corporation until ten years thereafter; but the last proprietors in common and their heirs shall continue in their corporate capacity, for the collection and payment of all debts due to or owing by the corporation; and may call and hold meetings, and vote assessments to pay their debts and all other charges necessary for closing their business.

SEC. 14. The owners of an unincorporated township or tract may call meetings to raise money, for making and repairing highways lawfully laid out, and to choose officers to assess and collect it.