

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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CHAPTER 227

MUNICIPAL FORESTS

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§ 3751. Lands for forestry purposes; seedlings

Cities and towns may acquire by purchase, gift or bequest lands for the purpose of forestation and may reclaim and plant such lands. The Forest Commissioner shall, upon application in such form as he may prescribe, furnish said cities and towns, at cost, with seedlings or transplants for the planting of town forest lands and shall be ready to offer advice as to the planting, management and protection of said forest lands.

R.S.1954, c. 96, § 23.

§ 3752. Vote to purchase land; purposes of forest

A town, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote at any annual town meeting, or a city, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the city government, may determine to purchase lands which shall be known as the town or city forest and may appropriate money and accept gifts of money and land therefor. Such forest shall be devoted to the culture of forest trees or to the preservation of the water supply of such city or town.

R.S.1954, c. 96, § 24.

§ 3753. Forester; duties

In each city or town which has a town or city forest, the town or city manager in such towns or cities as are under the manager system, or elsewhere the mayor or selectmen, may appoint a forester whose duty it shall be to make and enforce all necessary regulations and to perform such labor therein as may be necessary for the proper care and maintenance of such land as a forest producing area. Said forester need not be a resident of the town

or city in which he is appointed, but he and such deputies as he may appoint shall have the powers of constables and police officers while in said forest.

R.S.1954, c. 96, § 25.

§ 3754. Lease or erection of buildings

Any city or town owning such city or town forest area may lease any building thereon and may erect thereon any building for public instruction and recreation.

R.S.1954, c. 96, § 26.

§ 3755. Payment of bills; disposition of revenue

No expenditures shall be made or bills incurred under this chapter, above the amounts appropriated for said specific items, and all expenditures must have the approval of city or town officers appointing said forester. All receipts from said forest or buildings thereon shall go into the general revenue of the town or city owning said forest.

R.S.1954, c. 96, § 27.

§ 3756. Acquisition, sale or exchange of lands; location of highways

Whenever it shall be deemed of advantage to a city or town to sell or exchange city or town forest lands or any part thereof, or to locate thereon any public highway or footpath, such city by vote of its city government and such town by vote of its inhabitants at town meeting, after due notice given, may authorize such sale or exchange or the location of such way or path and may execute any conveyances or take any other steps necessary to carry the same into effect. The power of sale or exchange herein granted shall not apply to lands held in trust by such city or town unless in accordance with the terms of such trust.

R.S.1954, c. 96, § 28.

§ 3757. National forest funds; use for schools and roads

All sums received by this State from the United States on account of the national forests in this State established under the "Weeks Law," so called, being an Act of Congress approved March 1, 1911, and amendments thereto, shall be distributed as provided.

Said funds shall first be apportioned by the Treasurer of State among the several organized towns and unorganized places in which such national forest is or may be situated, in proportion to the area of such national forest in each, as determined by the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The several sums so apportioned to each organized town shall be paid over by the Treasurer of State, within 60 days after receipt thereof, to the treasurer of such town and shall be expended for the benefit of the public schools and public roads of such town, in addition to the sums required by law to be raised for such purposes, in such manner as may be determined by appropriations duly made by town meetings in such town.

All sums so apportioned to unorganized places shall be expended for the benefit of public schools and public roads in the counties in which such places are located, in such manner as the Governor and Council may from time to time determine.

R.S.1954, c. 96, § 1.

§ 3758. Profits from state-owned land

In towns where the State owns land as the result of acquisition of such land through the use of federal aid funds under the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid to Wildlife Act and upon which natural products are sold or leased, 50% of the net profits received by the State from the sale or lease of such natural products shall be paid by the State to the town wherein such land is located.

1955, c. 405, § 43.