

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 366

H. P. 329

House of Representatives, February 7, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Local and County Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Morton of Farmington.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Dissolve the Proprietors of the Centre Meeting-House in Farmington.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. P&SL 1822, c. 129, as last amended by P&SL 1883, c. 277, is repealed.

Sec. 2. Transfer of property and funds. Immediately after this Act becomes effective, all rights, titles and interest in the following property of the proprietors of the Centre Meeting-House, in Farmington shall be vested in the inhabitants of the Town of Farmington in accordance with this Act.

Sec. 3. The inhabitants of the Town of Farmington authorized to accept and hold 2 parcels of land formerly owned and occupied by the Centre Meeting-House Society. The inhabitants of the Town of Farmington are hereby authorized and empowered to accept and hold the fee without restriction of grounds formerly owned and occupied by the proprietors of the Centre Meeting-House in Farmington bounded and described as follows:

Parcel #1. That area commonly known as the "common" bounded and described as follows: Commencing at the northeast corner of the parcel at the intersection of Main and Park Streets, thence westerly 166' more or less along the south side of Park Street to the intersection of Park Street and Pleasant Street, thence southerly 145' more or less along the east side of Pleasant Street to the intersection of Pleasant Street and Exchange Street, thence easterly 175' more or

less along the north side of Exchange Street to the intersection of Exchange Street and Main Street, thence northerly 150' more or less along the west side of Main Street to the point of beginning, being all the land enclosed by the above-mentioned streets and shown as parcel #81 on the Town of Farmington tax maps filed in the town office;

Parcel #2. That area commonly known as the "court house cemetery" bounded and described as follows: Commencing at the intersection of Cony and Anson Streets thence westerly 84' more or less along an ornamental iron picket fence on the south side of Anson Street to the property of the County of Franklin, thence southerly 175' more or less along a continuation of the above-mentioned iron fence on the east line of the county to the property of the County of Franklin, thence easterly 65' more or less along the north line of the county, thence southerly 62' more or less along the east line of the county to its intersection with Church Street, thence easterly 51' more or less along a steel mesh fence on the north side of Church Street to the intersection of Church Street and Cony Street, thence northerly and northwesterly 297' more or less along a steel mesh fence and the above-mentioned iron fence on the west side of Cony Street to the point of beginning, being shown as Parcel #106 on the Town of Farmington tax maps filed in the town office. Excepting from the above-described parcel of land a right-of-way 45' in width extending from Main Street to the cemetery which the inhabitants of the Town of Farmington agree to convey by quitclaim deed to the County of Franklin within 60 days after this Act becomes effective.

Sec. 4. The inhabitants of the Town of Farmington further authorized to accept, manage and expend trust funds formerly belonging to the Centre Meeting-House Society. The inhabitants of the Town of Farmington are further authorized and empowered to accept, hold, conduct, manage, maintain, administer and expend all trust funds being held on the effective date of this Act by financial institutions in the name of the proprietors of the Centre Meeting-House in Farmington according to the laws of the State of Maine.

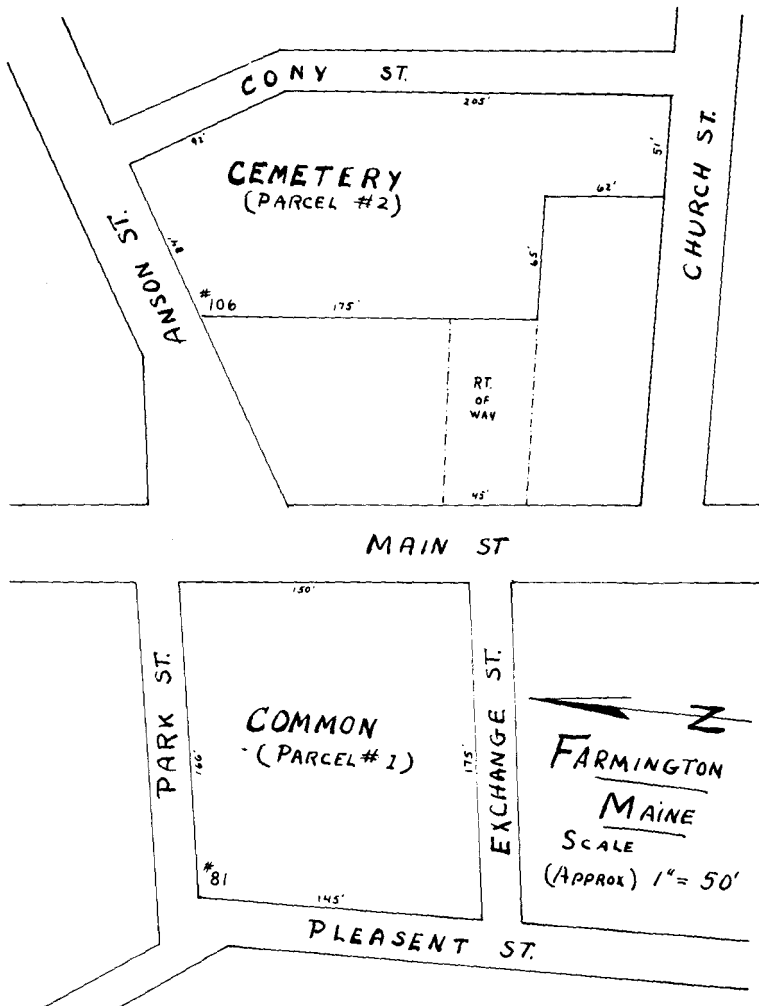
Sec. 5. Referendum; effective date. This Act shall be submitted to the legal voters of the Town of Farmington at the regular town meeting in 1979 or at a special town meeting to be called and held for the purpose within 90 days of the approval of this Act. That special meeting shall be called, advertised and conducted according to the law relating to municipal elections; provided, however, that the selectmen of the town shall not be required to prepare for posting, nor the town clerk to post, a new list of voters, and for the purpose of registration of voters the board of voter registration shall be in session on the secular day next preceding the special election. The town clerk of the town shall prepare the required ballots, on which he shall reduce the subject matter of this Act to the following question:

"Shall the proprietors of the Centre Meeting-House in Farmington be dissolved and its real and personal property transferred to the Town of Farmington?"

The voters shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed against the word "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same.

This Act shall take effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns provided it is accepted by a majority of the legal voters voting at the election; and further provided that the total number of votes cast for and against the acceptance of this Act equals or exceeds 10% of the total vote for all candidates for Governor cast in Farmington at the next previous gubernatorial election.

The result of the vote shall be declared by the municipal officers of the Town of Farmington and due certificate thereof shall be filed by the town clerk with the Secretary of State. If accepted by the inhabitants of the Town of Farmington, a copy of this Act shall be filed in the Franklin County registry of deeds by the Secretary of State on the date that it becomes effective.



STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to dissolve the Centre Meeting-House Society in Farmington, a body politic incorporated in 1822, and to transfer all real and personal property to the County of Franklin and the Town of Farmington.

This society, founded in 1822, has long since become inactive. Its real and personal property has been maintained by the town for many years.

This legislation authorizes the transfer of all the society's property, both real and personal, as follows: Parcel #81, which is the "common" or "park" and Parcel #106, which is the cemetery as described on the following map, transfers to the Town of Farmington, along with all trust funds held by the society. This Act is subject to a referendum of the inhabitants of the Town of Farmington.