

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

SEVENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 744

House of Representatives, March 23, 1911.

Reported by Mr. Hersey from Committee on Judiciary and ordered printed under joint rules.

C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND ELEVEN.

AN ACT to incorporate the Rumford and Mexico Water
District.

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

Section 1. The following territory and the people within
2 the same, namely, that part of the town of Rumford de-
3 scribed and known as the Rumford Falls Village Corpora-
4 tion and such additions as may be made to it from time to
5 time, and that part of the town of Mexico herein designated,
6 to wit, commencing at a point on the Androscoggin river
7 where Swift river empties into the same on the dividing
8 line between Rumford and Mexico; thence up the river by
9 the dividing line between Rumford and Mexico on the west-
10 erly bank of Swift river on the Mexico side to a point on

11 the westerly bank of Swift river directly opposite the north-
12 erly line of land formerly owned by H. W. Park and now
13 owned by Frank Beaudett; thence at about right angles by
14 said northerly line of said land formerly owned by said
15 Park and now owned by said Beaudett and Roxbury road,
16 so called, to the westerly limits of the Thompson Hill road,
17 so called; thence up the hill by the northerly limits of said
18 Thompson Hill road to a point within twenty feet of the
19 place where the pipe line of the Mexico Water Company
20 crosses this Thompson Hill road; thence up the hill in a line
21 twenty feet northerly of said pipe line to a point on the
22 westerly side of said Thompson Hill road directly opposite
23 the northerly or easterly end of the dam of the Mexico
24 Water Company which forms its first reservoir; thence up
25 the hill by the northerly or westerly limits of the Thompson
26 Hill road to the turn in the road by the Frazier farm, so
27 called; thence by the northerly or westerly limits of said
28 Thompson Hill road up the hill to the Ladd farm, so
29 called; thence in an easterly course to the old Joel Babb
30 dwelling house; thence in a direct course in an easterly or
31 southerly direction to the easterly line of the Haines farm,
32 so called, formerly the Daniel Austin farm; thence by the
33 easterly side line of the highway that leads from the afore-
34 said Lyman Haines farm to the southerly side of the river
35 road leading from Mexico to Dixfield at a point nearly oppo-
36 site the George Welch residence; thence southerly by the
37 southerly side line of said Mexico and Dixfield highway

38 to the bank of the Androscoggin river; thence up said river
39 by the bank of the same, via the toll bridge and Mexico
40 Corner, so called, to the point begun at, also including that
41 part of the Frazier farm now owned by the Mexico Water
42 Company, together with all other land owned by said com-
43 pany, for the purpose of protecting its water shed and pre-
44 serving the purity of its water supply, shall constitute a pub-
45 lic municipal corporation under the name of the Rumford
46 and Mexico Water District, for the purpose of supplying
47 the inhabitants of said district and also to the several towns
48 of Rumford, Mexico and Hanover or any portion of either
49 of said towns, with pure water for domestic, sanitary and
50 municipal purposes, subject, however, to the provisions of
51 section eighteen herein.

Sect. 2. The said district, for the purpose of its incorpo-
2 ration, is hereby authorized to take, hold, divert, use and
3 distribute water from Roxbury pond, so called, in the towns
4 of Roxbury and Byron.

Sect. 3. The said district, for the purposes of its incor-
2 poration, is hereby authorized to take and hold, as for pub-
3 lic uses, by purchase or otherwise, any land or interest there-
4 in or water rights necessary for erecting and maintaining
5 dams, for flowage, for power for pumping its water supply
6 through its mains, for reservoirs, for preserving the purity
7 of the water and water shed, for laying and maintaining
8 aqueducts and other structures for taking, distributing, dis-
9 charging and disposing of water and for rights of way or

10 roadways to its sources of supply, dams, power stations,
11 reservoirs, mains, aqueducts, structures and lands.

Sect. 4. The said district is hereby authorized to lay in
2 and through the streets, roads, ways and highways of the
3 towns named in section one, and in addition thereto the
4 town of Andover and across private lands therein, and to
5 maintain, repair and replace all such pipes, aqueducts and
6 fixtures as may be necessary and convenient for its corpo-
7 rate purposes, and whenever said district shall lay any pipes
8 or aqueducts in any street, roadway or highway it shall
9 cause the same to be done with as little obstruction as prac-
10 ticable to the public travel, and shall at its own expense,
11 without unnecessary delay, cause the earth and pavement
12 removed by it to be replaced in proper condition.

Sect. 5. The said district is hereby authorized, for the
2 purposes of its incorporation, to erect and maintain all dams,
3 reservoirs and structures necessary and convenient for its
4 corporate purposes.

Sect. 6. In exercising any right of eminent domain con-
2 ferred upon it by law, from time to time, or any right of
3 eminent domain through or under the franchise of the water
4 companies by it acquired, the said district shall file in the
5 office of the county commissioners of the county where such
6 lands or water rights are situated and record in the registry
7 of deeds in said county, plans of the location of all lands
8 or interest therein or water rights, to be taken, with an
9 appropriate description and the names of the owner there-

10 of, if known. When for any reason the district fails to
11 acquire the property authorized to be taken, and which is
12 described in such location, or the location recorded is de-
13 fective or uncertain, it may, at any time, correct and perfect
14 such location and file a new description thereof, and in such
15 case the district is liable in damages only for property for
16 which the owner had not previously been paid, to be as-
17 sessed as of the time of the original taking, and the district
18 shall not be liable for any acts which would have been justi-
19 fied if the original taking had been lawful. No entry shall
20 be made on any private lands, except to make surveys, until
21 the expiration of ten days from such filing, whereon pos-
22 session may be had of all said lands or interests therein or
23 water rights so taken, but title thereto shall not vest in said
24 district until payment therefor.

Sect. 7. If any person sustaining damages by any taking
2 as aforesaid, shall not agree with said district upon the sum
3 to be paid therefor, either party, upon petition to the county
4 commissioners of the county where said lands or water
5 rights are situated, may have said damages assessed by
6 them; the procedure and all subsequent proceedings and
7 right of appeal thereon shall be had under the same restric-
8 tion, conditions and limitations as are or may be by law
9 prescribed in the case of damages by the laying out of high-
10 ways.

Sect. 8. In case of any crossing of a railroad, unless con-
2 sent is given by the company owning or operating such rail-

3 road as to place, manner and conditions of the crossing,
4 within thirty days after such consent is requested by said
5 district, the railroad commissioners shall determine the place,
6 manner and condition of such crossing; and all work within
7 the limits of such railroad location shall be done under the
8 supervision and to the satisfaction of such railroad com-
9 pany, but at the expense of the district.

Sect. 9. All the affairs of said water district shall be man-
2 aged by a board of trustees composed of three members,
3 two to be chosen by the municipal officers of Rumford; and
4 one by the municipal officers of Mexico. As soon as con-
5 venient after the members of said board have been chosen,
6 said trustees shall hold a meeting and organize by the elec-
7 tion of a president and clerk, adopt a corporate seal and
8 when necessary may choose a treasurer and all other need-
9 ful officers and agents for the proper conduct and manage-
10 ment of the affairs of said district. At said first meeting
11 they shall determine by lot the term of office of each trustee
12 so that one shall serve for one year, one for two years and
13 one for three years, and whenever the term of office of a
14 trustee expires, the body which appointed said trustee shall
15 appoint a successor to serve the full term of three years,
16 and in case any other vacancy arises it shall be filled in like
17 manner for the unexpired term. They may also ordain and
18 establish such by-laws as are necessary for their own con-
19 venience and the proper management of the affairs of the
20 district. The term of office of said trustees first chosen

21 shall be considered to date from the first Monday of April,
22 A. D. 1911. Said trustees may procure an office and incur
23 such expenses as may be necessary. Each member shall
24 receive in full compensation for his services an allowance
25 of one hundred dollars per annum. At the close of each
26 fiscal year the trustees shall make a detailed report of their
27 doings, of the receipts and expenditures of said water dis-
28 trict, of its financial and physical condition, and of such
29 other matters and things pertaining to said district as shall
30 show the inhabitants of said district how said trustees are
31 fulfilling the duties and obligations of their trust, such re-
32 ports to be made and filed with the municipal officers of the
33 towns of Rumford and Mexico.

Sect. 10. Said water district is hereby authorized and em-
2 powered to acquire by purchase or by the exercise of the
3 right of eminent domain, which right is hereby expressly
4 delegated to said water district for said purposes, the entire
5 plant, property, franchises, rights, and privileges now held
6 by the Union Construction Company, the Virginia Spring
7 Water Company, Rumford Falls Light & Water Company
8 and the Mexico Water Company and intended, used and
9 provided by each of said companies for the purposes of sup-
10 plying water for domestic or municipal purposes or both,
11 including all lands, waters, water rights, dams, reservoirs,
12 pipes, machinery, fixtures, hydrants, tools and all apparatus
13 and appliances owned by said companies, and used or usable
14 in supplying water in said district or in the town of Rum-

15 ford or adjoining towns, together with all real estate so
16 used or usable. So much of the plant of the Rumford Falls
17 Light & Water Company as is intended, used and provided
18 by said company for the use and development of electricity
19 power and lighting, and so much of the plants of any of the
20 companies above named as may not be intended, provided
21 and used for the purposes of general water supply, and also
22 the cash assets of each of said companies are hereby ex-
23 pressly and specifically exempted from the operation of this
24 section. The said water companies are hereby authorized
25 to sell and transfer their franchises and property to said
26 water district.

Sect. 11. In case the said trustees fail to agree with the
2 aforesaid companies upon terms of purchase, on or before
3 September fifteenth, nineteen hundred and eleven, then said
4 water district, through its trustees, is hereby authorized to
5 take the plant, property and franchises of the aforesaid com-
6 panies as authorized in section ten as for public uses, by
7 petition therefor in the manner provided wherein such com-
8 panies and their mortgagees shall be the parties defendant.
9 And said water district, through its trustees, is hereby au-
10 thorized on or before November first, nineteen hundred and
11 eleven, to file a petition in the clerk's office of the supreme
12 judicial court, for the county of Oxford, in term time or in
13 vacation, addressed to any justice thereof, who, after notice
14 to said defendant companies and their mortgagees, shall
15 after hearing and within thirty days after the filing of said

16 petition appoint three disinterested appraisers, none of whom
17 shall be residents of the county of Oxford, one at least of
18 whom shall be learned in the law, for the purpose of fixing
19 the valuation of the plant, property and franchises of said
20 defendant companies as described in section ten. Said peti-
21 tion shall not be dismissed after filing but may and shall be
22 amended in any manner required to enable the court to make
23 all necessary decrees thereon. At the hearing aforesaid,
24 such justice, upon motion of the petitioner, may order the
25 production and filing in court, for the inspection of the peti-
26 tioner, of all books and papers pertinent to the issue to be
27 heard by said appraisers, the terms and conditions of so
28 producing and filing such books and papers to be deter-
29 mined by said justice in his order therefor and to be en-
30 forced from time to time as any justice of said supreme
31 judicial court in term time or in vacation, upon motion of
32 either party, may deem reasonable and proper in the pre-
33 mises. At such hearing, such justice, upon motion of the
34 petitioner, may fix a time at which the said defendant com-
35 panies shall file in the clerk's office of the supreme judicial
36 court for the county of Oxford, for the inspection of the
37 petitioner, the following: First, schedules showing the
38 names, residence, street number if any and water service of
39 each customer on September fifteenth, in the year of our
40 Lord one thousand nine hundred and eleven, with rate
41 charged therefor; second, copies of all contracts in force
42 on said September fifteenth; third, an itemized statement

43 of the gross income earned during its last complete fiscal
44 year and all operating expenses and fixed charges paid or
45 incurred during such year and properly chargeable thereto;
46 fourth, a memorandum of all real estate, or interest therein,
47 owned or controlled on said September fifteenth, with such
48 brief description thereof as will reasonably identify the
49 same; fifth, a memorandum of all water rights used or
50 owned on said September fifteenth with a brief description
51 thereof and a concise statement of the method of acquiring
52 the same; sixth, duplicate plans of all structures owned in
53 whole or in part on said September fifteenth, with specifi-
54 cations thereof; seventh, descriptions and specifications of
55 all reservoirs and stand pipes owned on said September fif-
56 teenth; eighth, a description of all pipes, service pipes, hy-
57 drants, gates, gate boxes, shut-off boxes, fixtures and ma-
58 chinery, and all the physical elements in such water system,
59 giving in detail all quantities, sizes, lengths, specifying the
60 streets, roads or ways where situated; ninth, an itemized
61 list of all tools, apparatus and appliances used or usable in
62 supplying water on said September fifteenth. Such orders
63 may be enforced from time to time by any justice of said
64 supreme judicial court in term time or in vacation, upon
65 motion of either party, as such justice may deem reasonable
66 and proper in the premises. At such hearing the justice
67 then sitting may, upon motion of the petitioner, make all
68 such decrees as he deems reasonable and proper to enable
69 the petitioner, through its servants and employees, to ascer-

70 tain the condition of the mains and pipes of the defendant
71 companies, externally and internally, all work connected
72 therewith to be in the presence of the agents of the afore-
73 said companies, but wholly at the expense of said water
74 district, said decree to fix the number of such examinations
75 and to impose such conditions as may to the court seem
76 just and proper in the premises. The said appraisers shall
77 have the power of compelling attendance of witnesses and
78 the production of books and papers pertinent to the issue
79 and may administer oaths; and any witness or person in
80 charge of such books or papers refusing to attend or to
81 produce the same shall be subject to the same penalties and
82 proceedings, so far as applicable, as witnesses summoned to
83 attend the supreme judicial court. Depositions may be taken
84 as in civil actions. The said appraisers may appoint a suffi-
85 cient number of stenographers to enable a full report of the
86 proceedings of each day to be in readiness for use the fol-
87 lowing day, each of said appraisers to so have one copy
88 thereof, and the parties to receive such number of copies
89 as the appraisers may deem necessary. The compensation
90 and expenses of said stenographers shall be taxed and al-
91 lowed by the appraisers and be paid and borne as herein-
92 after provided. Their reports, certified by said appraisers
93 as correct, shall be filed with the award to be made by said
94 appraisers and shall be legal evidence of all proceedings so
95 reported. They shall make full report as required in trials
96 had in the supreme judicial court. The appraisers so ap-

97 pointed shall, after due notice and hearing, fix the valuation
98 of the plant, property and franchises of said defendant com-
99 panies at what they are fairly and equitably worth, so that
100 said defendant companies shall receive just compensation
101 for all the same. The first day of November, nineteen
102 hundred and eleven, shall be the date as of which the valu-
103 ation aforesaid shall be fixed, from which date interest on
104 said award at the rate of six per cent per annum shall run
105 and all net rents and profits accruing thereafter shall be-
106 long to said water district. The report of said appraisers
107 or of a majority of them shall be filed in said clerk's office
108 within six months after their appointment, but, if at the
109 expiration of said six months the hearing before said ap-
110 praisers should then be in progress and unfinished, their
111 report may be so filed within thirty days after close of said
112 hearing. After said report is filed, such single justice, so
113 appointing said appraisers, or in case of his inability to
114 act, then any justice designated for the purpose by the
115 chief justice, may, after notice and hearing, confirm or
116 reject the same or recommit, if justice so requires, and
117 in case of such rejection or recommittal such justice may
118 fix the times for new hearings and new report thereon.
119 The award of the appraisers shall be conclusive as to valu-
120 ations. Upon confirmation of their report, the court so
121 sitting, in term time or in vacation, shall thereupon, after
122 hearing, make final decree upon the whole matter, includ-
123 ing the transfer of the properties and franchises, jurisd-

124 diction over which is hereby conferred with the same power
125 to enforce said decree as in equity cases. All the costs
126 and expenses arising under such petition and appraisal
127 shall be paid and borne as directed by the court in said
128 final decree. The findings of such justice as to such costs
129 and expenses and their apportionment shall be final. In
130 all other matters the justice so making such final decree
131 shall, upon request of any of the parties, make separate
132 findings of law and fact. All such findings of fact shall
133 be final, but any party aggrieved may take exceptions to
134 any rulings of law so made, the same to be accompanied
135 by only such parts of the case as are necessary to a clear
136 understanding of the questions raised thereby. Such ex-
137 ceptions shall be claimed on the docket within ten days
138 after such final decree is signed, entered and filed, and
139 notice thereof has been given by the clerk to the parties
140 or their counsel, and said exceptions so claimed shall be
141 made up, allowed and filed within said time unless further
142 time is granted by the court or by agreement of the par-
143 ties. They shall be entered at the next term of the law
144 court to be held after the filing of such exceptions and
145 there heard unless otherwise agreed, or the law court shall
146 for good cause order a further time for hearing thereon.
147 Upon such hearing the law court may confirm, reverse or
148 modify the decree of the court below or remand the cause
149 for further proceedings, as it seems proper. During the
150 pendency of such exceptions the cause shall remain on the

151 docket of the court below, marked "law," and decree shall
152 be entered thereon by a single justice, in term time or in
153 vacation, in accordance with the certificate and opinion of
154 the law court. Before the aforesaid plant, property and
155 franchises are transferred in accordance with such final
156 decree, and before the payment therefor, the court sitting
157 in said county of Oxford, by a single justice thereof, as
158 hereinbefore provided, shall, upon motion of any party,
159 after notice and hearing, take account of all receipts and
160 expenditures properly had and incurred by said water com-
161 panies belonging to the period from and after November
162 first, nineteen hundred and eleven, and all net rents and
163 profits accruing thereafter, and shall order the net balance
164 due to any party to be added to or deducted from the
165 amount to be paid under such final decree, as the case
166 may be. All findings of law or fact by such single jus-
167 tice at such hearings shall be final. The amount to be
168 paid for the plant of each of the aforesaid water com-
169 panies shall be paid to the trustee of the mortgage of each
170 respective company and by such trustee distributed pro
171 rata upon the outstanding bonds secured by such mort-
172 gage, until the principal of said bonds with all earned in-
173 terest thereon shall have been paid in full and any balance
174 of said amount shall be paid by said trustee to its respect-
175 ive water company. On payment or tender by said water
176 district of the amount so fixed and the performance of all
177 other terms and conditions so imposed by the court, the

178 entire plants, properties and franchises of said defendant
179 companies as described in section ten shall become vested
180 in said water district and be free from all liens, mortgages
181 and incumbrances theretofore created by the Rumford
182 Falls Light & Water Company, Union Construction Com-
183 pany, the Virginia Spring Water Company or Mexico
184 Water Company. After the filing of said petition it shall
185 not be discontinued or withdrawn by said water district,
186 and the said water companies may thereafterwards cause
187 said valuation to be made as herein provided, and shall be
188 entitled to appropriate process to compel said water dis-
189 trict to perform the terms of the final decree and to pay
190 for said plants, properties and franchises in accordance
191 therewith. If a vacancy occurs at any time in said board
192 of appraisers, from any cause, any justice of the supreme
193 judicial court, sitting in said county of Oxford, may, in
194 term time or in vacation, after notice and hearing, appoint
195 a new appraiser or appraisers, and make all such orders
196 for hearing said cause by the appraisers anew or for any
197 extension of time for making their award, or otherwise,
198 as the circumstances of the case may require.

Sect. 12. All valid contracts, made in good faith, now
2 existing between said defendant companies and any person
3 or corporation for supplying water within the towns named
4 in section one, shall be assumed and carried out by said
5 Rumford and Mexico Water District.

Sect. 13. For accomplishing the purposes of this act, said

2 water district, through its trustees, is authorized to borrow
3 money temporarily and to issue therefor the interest-bearing
4 negotiable notes of the district, and for the purpose of pay-
5 ing or refunding the indebtedness so created, of paying any
6 necessary expenses and liabilities, incurred under the pro-
7 visions of this act, including the expenses incurred in the
8 creation of the district, in acquiring the property and fran-
9 chises of the Rumford Falls Light & Water Company, Union
10 Construction Company, the Virginia Spring Water Com-
11 pany and Mexico Water Company, by purchase or other-
12 wise, or in the purchase or acquisition of the property and
13 franchises of said defendant companies, of securing sources
14 of supply, taking water and lands, paying damages, laying
15 pipes, constructing, maintaining and operating a water plant,
16 and making renewals, extensions, additions and improve-
17 ments to the same, the said water district, through its trus-
18 tees, may from time to time issue bonds of the district to
19 an amount or amounts necessary in the judgment of the
20 trustees therefor. Said notes and bonds shall be legal obli-
21 gations of the water district, which is hereby declared to
22 be a quasi municipal corporation within the meaning of sec-
23 tion ninety-six, chapter forty-seven of the Revised Statutes,
24 and all the provisions of said section shall be applicable
25 thereto. The said notes and bonds shall be legal invest-
26 ments for savings banks.

Sect. 14. The property of said district shall be exempt

2 from all taxation in the town or towns where said water
3 district is located.

Sect. 15. All individuals, firms and corporations, whether
2 private, public or municipal, shall pay to the treasurer of
3 said district the rates established by said board of trustees
4 for the water used by them, and said rates shall be uniform
5 within the territory supplied by the district. Said rates
6 shall be so established as to provide revenue for the follow-
7 ing purposes:

I. To pay the current expenses for operating and main-
9 taining the water system.

II. To provide for the payment of the interest on the
11 indebtedness created by the district.

III. To provide each year a sum equal to not less than
13 one-half of one per cent nor more than five per cent of the
14 entire indebtedness created by the district, which sum shall
15 be turned into a sinking fund and there kept to provide for
16 the extinguishment of said indebtedness. The money set
17 aside for the sinking fund shall be devoted to the retire-
18 ment of the obligations of the district or invested in such
19 securities as savings banks are allowed to hold.

Sect. 16. All incidental powers, rights and privileges nec-
2 essary to the accomplishment of the main object herein set
3 forth are granted to the public municipal corporation hereby
4 created.

Sect. 17. This act shall take effect when approved by a
2 majority vote of the legal voters of that portion of said

3 water district comprised by the Rumford Falls Village Cor-
4 poration, and by a majority vote of the legal voters of that
5 portion of said Water District comprised by that part of
6 the town of Mexico designated in section one, at special
7 meetings respectively in the Mexico section and in the Rum-
8 ford Falls village section of said water district, to be held
9 on the third Monday of August, A. D. 1911, unless at a
10 prior meeting of said legal voters of said Rumford Falls
11 Village Corporation, a proposition of the said Rumford
12 Falls Light & Power Company to perfect its water system
13 so that it can in a reasonable manner perform all the duties
14 imposed upon it under its charter, is accepted by a majority
15 vote of said voters present and voting at said meeting. Said
16 special meetings shall be called respectively by the select-
17 men of the town of Mexico and the assessors of the Rum-
18 ford Falls Village Corporation, and shall be called, warned
19 and conducted according to the law relating to municipal
20 elections, provided, however, that the assessors of said Rum-
21 ford Falls Village Corporation shall not be required to pre-
22 pare for posting and the clerk of said town of Mexico and
23 the clerk of said Rumford Falls Village Corporation shall
24 not be required to post new lists of voters, but the select-
25 men of the town of Mexico shall prepare a list of the legal
26 voters residing within the limits of that part of Mexico,
27 included within said water district and described in section
28 one. For the purpose of registration of voters, said board
29 of assessors of the Rumford Falls Village Corporation and

30 the selectmen of the town of Mexico shall be in session at
31 their respective offices the secular day next preceding said
32 special election. The clerk of the Rumford Falls Village
33 Corporation and the clerk of the town of Mexico shall re-
34 duce the subject matter of this act to the following ques-
35 tions: "Shall the Act to incorporate the Rumford and Mex-
36 ico Water District be accepted?" and the voters shall indi-
37 cate by a cross placed over the words "yes" or "no" their
38 opinion of the same. The result of the balloting in each
39 case shall be respectively declared by the assessors of said
40 Rumford Falls Village Corporation and the selectmen of
41 the town of Mexico, and certificates thereof shall be filed
42 by the clerk of said Rumford Falls Village Corporation
43 and the clerk of said town of Mexico with the secretary of
44 state.

Sect. 18. Should the legal voters of the Mexico section
2 of said water district at such special election refuse to ap-
3 prove the act incorporating said water district, then that
4 portion of said town of Mexico described in section one,
5 together with the inhabitants thereof shall not become a
6 portion of said water district, but if the Rumford Falls
7 Village Corporation section of said water district, shall ap-
8 prove said act to incorporate said water district by a major-
9 ity of the legal voters at said special election, then the terri-
10 tory within said Rumford Falls Village Corporation and the
11 people within the same shall constitute the water district
12 hereby created, and shall be empowered with all the rights,

13 privileges and franchises conferred by this act, and shall
14 be authorized to proceed in all acts, matters and things nec-
15 essary to carry out the purposes of this act, as if it applied
16 from its inception only to that part of the town of Rumford
17 known as the Rumford Falls Village Corporation together
18 with the people within the same, and the refusal to approve
19 this act upon the part of the Mexico section aforesaid, shall
20 in no sense defeat the purposes of this act. As early as
21 may be after said special election, the municipal officers of
22 said towns of Mexico and Rumford, if said act has been
23 approved by both the Mexico section and the Rumford Falls
24 village section of said water district, shall respectively meet
25 and choose their respective members of the board of trus-
26 tees for said water district as provided in section nine, but
27 if said act shall not be approved by the Mexico section of
28 said water district and shall be approved by the Rumford
29 Falls village section, then the municipal officers of said town
30 of Rumford shall as soon as may be thereafter meet and
31 choose three members, who shall constitute the board of
32 trustees for said water district.

Sect. 19. Sections two, three, four, five, six, seven and
2 eight shall be inoperative, null and void unless the said
3 water ditsrict shall first acquire by purchase or by the ex-
4 ercise of the right of eminent domain as in this act pro-
5 vided, the plant, property and franchises, rights and privi-
6 leges of the Rumford Falls Light & Water Company, Union

7 Construction Company, Virginia Spring Water Company,
8 and in case the legal voters of the Mexico section of said
9 water district shall vote to accept this act, of the Mexico
10 Water Company.

Sect. 20. This act shall take effect in ninety days after
2 the final adjournment of the Legislature, so far as neces-
3 sary to empower the calling and holding of the elections au-
4 thorized in section seventeen herein provided for.