

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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E I G H T Y - T H I R D L E G I S L A T U R E

House Document

No. 187

H. P. 875

House of Representatives, Feb. 17, 1927.

Tabled by Mr. Varnum of Westbrook for printing 1000 copies pending reference to a committee.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Varnum of Westbrook.

S T A T E O F M A I N E

**I N T H E Y E A R O F O U R L O R D O N E T H O U S A N D N I N E
H U N D R E D A N D T W E N T Y - S E V E N**

A N A C T t o A m e n d t h e C h a r t e r o f t h e C i t y o f W e s t b r o o k .

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

Section 1. Section two of chapter two hundred and fifty-
2 seven of the private and special laws of nineteen hundred
3 and seven entitled, "An Act to revise the charter of the
4 City of Westbrook is hereby amended so as to read as
5 follows:

'Sect. 2. The government of said city, with the adminis-
2 tration of all its fiscal, prudential and municipal affairs shall
3 be vested in one principal magistrate, to be called the mayor,
4 and in one council of five, to be called the city council, the
5 members whereof shall be called aldermen. The general

6 management and control of the public schools and of the
7 school property, including the school buildings and grounds,
8 shall be vested in a school committee of five members. The
9 members of said school committee shall continue to be
10 elected in the manner and for the terms provided for in
11 section two of chapter three hundred and forty-six of the
12 private and special laws of eighteen hundred and ninety-
13 seven, which is hereby kept in force for that purpose, except
14 that each member so elected shall hold office as set out in
15 section four of this amendment. All vacancies occurring
16 in the school committee by death, resignation or removal
17 from the city, shall be filled for the unexpired term by the
18 remaining members; and in case such vacancy is caused
19 by the death, resignation or removal from the city, of a
20 member elected, such vacancy shall be filled from the ward
21 where it occurs. Said school committee may effect such
22 insurance upon the school buildings and property as they
23 may deem expedient, and shall have charge of all repairs
24 on the same.

‘Any vacancy occurring in the city council by the death,
2 resignation or removal from the city of any member there-
3 of, shall be filled for the unexpired term by the remaining
4 members from the ward where it occurs, and for their
5 services they shall receive an annual salary of three hun-
6 dred dollars each, to be paid to them in monthly payments.
7 The mayor of said city shall be the chief executive officer
8 thereof, and for his services he shall receive an annual

9 salary of twelve hundred dollars to be paid to him in
10 monthly payments.

‘For the purposes of providing for the reduction and pay-
2 ment of the bonded indebtedness of the city, the mayor and
3 city council shall establish a sinking fund for the payment
4 of the city debt, and shall annually appropriate a sum not
5 less than one-tenth of one per cent of the total valuation of
6 the city for the preceding year for this purpose, and under
7 no circumstances shall this appropriation or any part thereof
8 be used for any other purpose other than the reduction and
9 payment of the debt of said city. They may, if deemed
10 advisable purchase the unexpired bonds of the city of West-
11 brook, and in such case the interest on such bond or bonds
12 for the unexpired term shall be appropriated and credited
13 to such fund and used for the purpose named herein. All
14 unused money standing to the credit of this fund shall be
15 deposited in some bank, and the interest on such deposits
16 shall be credited to said fund. The bonded debt of the city
17 for the purpose of this ordinance, shall include all notes
18 issued by said city for more than one year.’

Sect. 2. Section four of said chapter two hundred and
2 fifty-seven of the private and special laws of nineteen hun-
3 dred and seven, is hereby amended so that said section, as
4 amended, shall read as follows:

‘Sect. 4. The municipal election shall take place biennially
2 on the second Monday in December. The mayor and city
3 clerk shall be elected from the citizens at large, by the legal

4 voters of the city voting in their respective wards. They
5 shall hold offices for two years from the first Monday in
6 January, and until others shall be elected and qualified in
7 their places.

‘The first city election subsequent to the acceptance of the
2 within revision of the city charter, ward one will elect one
3 alderman, one member of the school committee, one warden,
4 one ward clerk and one constable for the term of one year.
5 In ward two, like officers shall be elected for two years, in
6 ward three, for three years, in ward four for four years
7 and in ward five for five years. Thereafter said officers
8 shall be elected for the term of five years as their terms
9 expire. All city and ward officers shall be held to discharge
10 the duties of their respective offices, notwithstanding their
11 removal after their election into other wards of the city,
12 but they shall not be so held after they have taken up their
13 permanent residence out of the city.’

Sect. 3. This act shall be submitted for approval or rejection
2 to the qualified voters of the city of Westbrook at an
3 election to be held on the sixth day of June A. D. one
4 thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven, and if rejected
5 it may be submitted to said voters again on any legal meet-
6 ing of said voters during the year one thousand nine hundred
7 and twenty-eight, and if adopted by a majority of said
8 voters, voting at said election, it shall take effect on the
9 first Monday in January after its adoption, but the municipal
10 election held on the second Monday of December, pre-

11 ceding said first Monday in January shall be conducted
12 under the provisions of and in accordance with this amend-
13 ment.

Warrants shall be issued for such election in the manner
2 now provided by law for holding municipal elections, and
3 the city clerk shall reduce the subject matter of this amend-
4 ment to the following question: "Shall the city charter be
5 amended as proposed," with ballots containing two squares
6 opposite each other, and over the one near the left hand
7 side of the ballot shall be written the word "Yes" and over
8 the one near the left hand side of the ballot shall be written
9 the word "No," and those in favor of adopting this act shall
10 make an "X" in the square under the word "Yes," and those
11 opposed to the adoption, shall make an "X" in the square
12 under the word "No."

All provisions of law relating to the preparation of ballots,
2 check lists, and posting of notices shall apply to such elec-
3 tion, and the results shall be determined in the manner now
4 provided by law for the determination of the election of
5 mayor. If a majority of the valid ballots deposited as afore-
6 said shall favor the adoption of this amendment then this
7 act shall take effect as herein provided and a true record
8 of the result of the election shall be recorded in the records
9 of the city council by the city clerk.

Sect. 4. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith
2 and all provisions of the charter and ordinances of said

3 city of Westbrook inconsistent with this act are hereby
4 modified so as to conform with the provisions of this act.