

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 487

H. P. 875

House of Representatives, February 5, 1947

Referred to the Committee on Public Utilities, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Marsans of Monmouth.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Amend the Charter of Wjnthrop Water District.

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

Sec. 1. P. & S. L., 1923, c. 98, § 1, amended. Section 1 of chapter 98 of the private and special laws of 1923 is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

‘And said body shall be constituted also for the purpose of providing adequate sewage facilities for the collection, discharge and disposition of sewage as may be necessary for the convenience and health of the inhabitants of said district.

Provided, however, that the district shall not construct any system of sewage, without first having submitted its plans to the public utilities commission, and obtained its advice therefor in writing, under power vested in said commission by section 13 of chapter 40 of the revised statutes of 1944.’

Sec. 2. P. & S. L., 1923, c. 98, § 2, repealed and replaced. Section 2 of chapter 98 of the private and special laws of 1923 is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

‘Sec. 2. Powers of said Winthrop Water District. The said district, for the purpose of its incorporation, is hereby authorized to take, hold, divert,

use and distribute water from Narrows Pond, so-called, in said Winthrop, and from Lake Maranacook in the towns of Winthrop and Readfield, either or both, and from any surface or underground brooks and springs in said Winthrop, and to do any and all things necessary in providing a system of sewage for public purposes and for the health, comfort and convenience of the inhabitants of said district.'

Sec. 3. P. & S. L., 1923, c. 98, § 3, repealed and replaced. Section 3 of chapter 98 of the private and special laws of 1923 is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 3. May exercise eminent domain. The said district, for the purposes of its incorporation, is hereby authorized to take and hold as for public uses, real estate and personal property, and any interest therein necessary for such purposes, by purchase, lease or otherwise, and is hereby authorized to exercise the right of eminent domain as hereinafter provided, to acquire for such purposes any land, or interest therein, or water rights necessary for erecting and maintaining dams, plants and works, for flowage, for power, for pumping, for supplying water through its mains and for a sewage system, for reservoirs, for preserving the purity of the water and watershed, for laying and maintaining mains, aqueducts and other structures for taking and distributing water, for forming basins, reservoirs and outlets in a sewage system, for erection of buildings, for pumping works, for use therein, for laying pipes and sewers and maintaining the same, and for laying and maintaining conduits for carrying, collecting, discharging and disposing of sewage, for filtering, rectifying, treating and disposal plants, works and facilities, for such other objects necessary, convenient and proper for the purposes of its incorporation, and for rights of way or roadways to its sources of supply, dams, power stations, reservoirs, mains, aqueducts, structures, plants, works, facilities and lands.'

Sec. 4. P. & S. L., 1923, c. 98, § 5, repealed and replaced. Section 5 of chapter 98 of the private and special laws of 1923 is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 5. Authority as to dams, reservoirs, sewers. The said district is hereby authorized, for the purposes of its incorporation, to erect and maintain all dams, reservoirs and structures necessary and convenient for its corporate purposes; to take into, receive and convey through its sewer pipes, conduits and system, all sanitary sewage; to establish through and by its trustees regulations for the use of sewers and fix and collect the prices to be paid for entering the same, and also the annual rentals for the use thereof, to carry and lay conduits and pipes under any water course,

and cross any drain or sewer, or, if necessary, to change its direction in such a manner as not to obstruct the use thereof, and in general to do any other acts or things necessary, convenient and proper to be done for the purposes of its incorporation.'

Sec. 5. P. & S. L., 1923, c. 98, § 13, repealed and replaced. Section 13 of chapter 98 of the private and special laws of 1923 is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 13. District authorized to borrow money and issue notes; may issue bonds; district declared to be a quasi-municipal corporation. For accomplishing the purposes of this act, said water district, through its trustees, is authorized to borrow money temporarily and to issue therefor the interest-bearing negotiable notes of the district, and for the purpose of paying or refunding the indebtedness so created, of paying any necessary expenses or liabilities, incurred under the provisions of this act, including the expenses incurred in the creation of the district, in acquiring the plants, properties and franchises of said Hillside Water Company, of the Winthrop Water Company, of the Towle Packing Company and of said Carleton, by purchasé or otherwise or in the purchase or acquisition of the properties and franchises of said defendant companies and of said Carleton, of securing sources of supply, taking water and lands, paying damages, laying pipes, constructing, maintaining and operating a water plant and a sewage system and making renewals, extensions, additions and improvements to the same, the said water district, through its trustees, may from time to time issue bonds of the district to an amount or amounts necessary in the judgment of the trustees aforesaid. Said notes and bonds shall be legal obligations of the water district, which is hereby declared to be a quasi-municipal corporation within the meaning of sections 132 and 133 of chapter 49 of the revised statutes of 1944, and all the provisions of said sections shall be applicable thereto. The said notes and bonds shall be legal investments for savings banks.'

Sec. 6. P. & S. L., 1923, c. 98, § 15, repealed and replaced. Section 15 of chapter 98 of the private and special laws of 1923 is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 15. Rates; applications of revenues; sinking fund. All individuals, firms and corporations, whether private, public, or municipal, shall pay to the treasurer of said district the rates established by the board of trustees for the services used or available to them. The sewer rates may include rates for the district's readiness to serve charged against owners, or persons in possession, or against whom the taxes are assessed, of all buildings, or

premises, intended for human habitation, or occupancy, whether the same are occupied or not, which abut on a street, or location, through which said district has constructed a sewer line, or the property line of which is within one hundred feet of a sewer line constructed by said district, although said premises are not actually connected thereunto. Rates shall be uniform within the district, and the rates, rules and regulations of the district shall be subject to the approval of the public utilities commission. The water and sewer rates shall be so established as to provide revenue for the following purposes:

I. To pay the current expenses for operating and maintaining the water system and sewage system.

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

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

IV. If any surplus remains at the end of the year, it may be turned into the sinking fund.'

Sec. 7. Ratification. This act shall take effect when approved by a majority vote of the legal voters resident within said district, by ballot, at an election to be specially called by the selectmen of said town of Winthrop upon petition therefor signed by at least twenty legal voters resident within said district and held for that purpose. Such election shall be called, warned and conducted according to the law relating to municipal elections in said town, provided, however, that the selectmen of said town shall not be required to prepare for posting or the town clerk to post a new list of voters, and for the purpose of registration of voters said selectmen shall be in session the secular day next preceding such special election. The town clerk shall reduce the subject matter of this act to the following question, "Shall the act to amend the charter of Winthrop Water District be accepted?" and the voters shall indicate by a cross placed upon their ballots over the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same. The result shall be declared by the selectmen and due certificate thereof filed by the town clerk with the secretary of state. Failure of approval by the

necessary percentage of voters shall not prevent subsequent elections. Subject to the conditions, limitations and exceptions hereinbefore provided, this act shall take effect in ninety days after the final adjournment of the legislature so far as necessary to empower the calling and holding of the election authorized in this section.