

# 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

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 521**

S. P. 182

In Senate, February 5, 1947

Referred to Committee on Public Utilities. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Hopkins of Kennebec.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-SEVEN

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**AN ACT to Create the Waterville Sewerage District.**

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

**Sec. 1. Incorporation.** The territory and people constituting the city of Waterville shall constitute a body politic and incorporate under the name of the Waterville Sewerage District.

**Sec. 2. Purposes.** The purposes of said district shall be to take over, control, manage and operate the drains and sewers now owned by the city of Waterville, to extend, increase, enlarge and improve said drains and sewers, to extend the present system or build a new system or systems so as to furnish sewerage facilities to portions of the city not now served with such facilities, to provide for surface drainage as well as removal of sewage and to provide for disposal of sewage in whole or in part by other means than emptying it into rivers when, as and if such disposal becomes necessary.

**Sec. 3. Powers.** Said district is hereby authorized to exercise all the powers granted to towns and cities for construction of drains and sewers upon the same terms and conditions as towns and cities.

**Sec. 4. Transfer of Property.** Upon the acceptance of this act as hereinafter provided title to all the drains and sewers in the city of

Waterville and all the tools, equipment and other property belonging to that department of the city shall pass to and vest in said district.

**Sec. 5. Management.** All the affairs of said district shall be managed by a board of 3 commissioners chosen by the voters of the city of Waterville. As soon as convenient after the first members of said board have been chosen they shall hold a meeting at the city rooms in the city of Waterville and organize by the election of a chairman, clerk, treasurer, and such other officers and agents as they deem necessary. Later on if other officers or agents are found necessary or convenient they may be chosen. They shall also adopt a corporate seal. At said first meeting they shall choose by lot one of their numbers whose term shall expire at the time of the next city election, one whose term shall expire 2 years later, and one whose term shall expire 4 years later. After expiration of the term of the first chairman, the member whose term is next about to expire shall be chairman. At each subsequent city election one member of the board shall be chosen by the voters of Waterville for a term of 6 years. In case of vacancy arising from death or other cause the city council of Waterville may choose a member to fill out the unexpired term.

**Sec. 6. Rates.** Subject to the approval of the public utilities commission the commissioners of said Waterville Sewerage District shall establish rates for the use of the sewers, drains and disposal plants which shall be paid by all persons, firms or corporations making use of the same; and said rates may be changed as needed with approval of the public utilities commission. Such rates shall be designed to furnish revenue for ordinary expenses and normal extensions; such extensions not to exceed a cost of \$10,000 in any one year.

**Sec. 7. Legal status.** Said district is declared to be a quasi municipal corporation within the meaning of sections 132 and 133 of chapter 49 of the revised statutes and the provisions of said sections shall be applicable thereto.

**Sec. 8. Financing.** The district may make temporary loans of not more than \$10,000 payable within 1 year. For larger operations including extensions or new systems in parts of the city not now served or for construction of disposal plants the district may present its plans, including its plans for financing, to the public utilities commission which shall consider and act upon the same. If that commission approves the plan as presented or as modified to meet its approval, then the municipal officers of Waterville shall submit the same to a vote of the people either at a special meeting called and held for that purpose or at the next biennial

city election. If approved by the people then the district may proceed to carry out said plan and issue bonds therefor which shall be the legal obligations of the district.

**Sec. 9. Effective date.** This act shall take effect whenever approved by a majority vote of the city of Waterville at a legal meeting called under the provisions of the city charter. Commissioners may be voted for at the same meeting and if this act is approved the 3 having the largest numbers of votes shall constitute the first board.