MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

PASSED BY THE

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

A. D. 1850.

Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820, February 26, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

Augusta:

WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1850.

ERRATA:

The following leaf is inserted because one or more pages in this chapter have errors noticed and corrected here.

Note.—The legislature of Maine convened on the thirteenth day of May, and adjourned on the twenty-ninth day of August, A. D. 1850.

STATE OF MAINE.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, AUGUSTA, January 14, 1851.

I hereby certify, that the acts and resolves contained in this pamphlet have been compared with the originals deposited in this office, and appear to be correctly printed, with the exceptions mentioned in the *errata* hereunto annexed.

JOHN G. SAWYER, Secretary of State.

ERRATA.

PUBLIC LAWS.

Chapter 196, section 2, line 8, read hereafter "sold or" granted.

PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS.

Chapter 344, section 2, line 6, read "erection" instead of action.

- " 347, section 4, line 7, read "obtained" instead of attained.
- " 355, section 1, line 3, read "west" line, instead of east line.
- " 389, section 4, line 12, read "April" instead of March.
- " 389, section 16, line 8, read "first" Monday of April instead of second.
- " 398, section 1, line 4, read "forty"-seven instead of fifty-seven.
- " 412, section 1, line 6, read "same" instead of sums.
- " 413, section 13, line 10, read "as" are instituted, &c.
- " 413, section 14, line 7, read fees pertaining, &c.
- " 413, section 16, line 8, read "first" Monday, instead of second Monday.

RESOLVES.

Chapter 303, Fayette, read "194,777" instead of 174,777.

- " Penobscot county, No. 2, R. 6, read, "500" instead of 5,000.
- " Piscataquis county, No. 1, R. 11, read "12,000" instead of 1,200.

Chapter 413.

An act to incorporate the city of Hallowell.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

Corporate name.

Powers and liabilities. SECT. 1. The inhabitants of the town of Hallowell, in the county of Kennebec, shall continue to be a body politic and corporate by the name of the city of Hallowell; and as such shall have, exercise, and enjoy all the rights, immunities, powers, privileges and franchises, and be subject to all the duties and obligations now appertaining to or incumbent upon said town as a municipal corporation or appertaining to or incumbent upon the inhabitants or selectmen thereof; and may ordain and publish such acts, laws and regulations, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of this state, as shall be needful to the good order of said body politic; and impose fines and penalties for the breach thereof, not exceeding twenty dollars for any one offense, which may be recovered to the use of said city, by action of debt, or on complaint before the police court of said city.

May ordain and publish laws, &c.

May impose fines, &c.

Government, how vested.

Mayor.

City council

Proviso,

Powers of city officers limited.

SECT. 2. The administration of all the fiscal, prudential and municipal affairs, of said city, with the government thereof, shall be vested in one principal magistrate, to be styled the mayor; and one council of five, to be denominated the board of aldermen; and one council of ten, to be denominated the common council, all of whom shall be inhabitants of said city; which boards shall constitute and be called the city council; all of whom shall be sworn to the faithful performance of the duties of their respective offices: provided, the city council shall not vote, assess or appropriate any money for any object or purpose for which the town of Hallowell is not authorized to vote, assess or appropriate money, except for such purposes as are authorized by this act. And provided, further, that neither the city council, nor any agent or officer of the city, shall borrow or hire any money for or on account of the city or inhabitants thereof, except for the purposes for which the town of Hallowell is now by law authorized to raise money; and all notes, bonds, obligations, scrip or orders given by the city council or any officer or agent thereof, for money or property obtained for any other purposes shall be void.

Duty and powers of mayor.

SECT. 3. The mayor of said city shall be chief executive magistrate thereof. It shall be his duty to be vigilant and active in causing the laws and regulations of the city to be executed and enforced, to exercise a general supervision over

the conduct of all subordinate officers, and to cause their violations or neglect of duty to be punished. He may call special meetings of the board of aldermen and common council, or either of them, when in his opinion the interests of the city require it, by a notice in one or more of the papers printed in the city, or by causing a summons or notification to be given in hand or left at the usual dwelling place of each member of the board or boards to be convened. He shall from time to time communicate to both of them such information, and recommend such measures as the business and interests of the city may in his opinion require. He shall preside in the board of aldermen and in the joint meetings of the two boards, but shall have only a casting vote. The salary and compensa- salary, tion of the mayor shall be two hundred dollars per year, which shall not be increased or diminished during his continuance in office, unless by the vote of the qualified electors in ward meetings called for the purpose. Nor shall he receive from the city any other compensation for any services by him rendered in any other capacity or agency; provided, however, Proviso. the city council may elect the mayor to any city office, and allow him a reasonable compensation for such services; but the aldermen and common councilmen shall receive no compensation for their services as such.

Powers vested in mayor and alder-

Powers vested in mayor, aldermen and common

City council, duty to appoint subordinate officers. &c.

The executive powers of said city generally, and the administration of police, with all the powers of the selectmen of the town of Hallowell, shall be vested in the mayor and aldermen as fully as if the same had been herein particularly enumerated; all other powers now vested in the inhabitants of said town, and all powers granted by this act, shall be vested in the mayor and aldermen and common council of said city, to be exercised by concurrent vote, each board to have a negative upon the other; but all other elections of officers by the city council, shall be by joint ballot of the two boards in convention. The city council shall, annually, on the second Monday of March, or as soon thereafter as conveniently may be, elect and appoint all the subordinate officers and agents for the city, for the ensuing year, including a chief engineer and other engineers of the fire department, (which chief engineer, or in his absence, any two other engineers, shall have all the power and authority that firewards now have;) shall define their duties and fix their compensation, in cases where such duties and compensation shall not be defined and fixed by the laws of this state; and may by concurrent vote remove officers, when

Term of office.

City council, duties and pow-

ers of.

in their opinion sufficient cause for removal exists. All officers shall be chosen and vacancies supplied for the current year, except as hereinafter otherwise directed. All the said subordinate officers and agents shall hold their offices during the ensuing year and until others shall be elected and qualified in their stead, unless sooner removed by the city council. All moneys received and collected for and on account of the city, by any officer or agent thereof, shall forthwith be paid into the city The city council shall take care that moneys shall not be paid from the treasury unless granted or appropriated; shall secure a prompt and just accountability, by requiring bonds with sufficient penalty and sureties from all persons trusted with the receipt, custody or disbursement of money; shall have the care and superintendence of city buildings and the custody and management of all city property, with power to let or sell what may be legally let or sold; and to purchase and take in the name of the city, such real or personal property, not exceeding the sum of fifteen thousand dollars, including the property now owned by the town, as they may think useful to the public interest. And the city council shall, as often as once a year, cause to be published for the information of the inhabitants, an account of receipts and expenditures and a schedule of the city property; and no money shall be paid from the treasury unless the same be appropriated by the city council, and upon a warrant signed by the mayor, which warrant shall state the appropriations under which the same is drawn.

Acts for the appropriation of money to be

presented to the

mayor for his signature.

Proceedings in case he disapprove.

SECT. 5. Every law, act, ordinance or bill appropriating money having passed both branches of the city council, shall be presented to the mayor of the city; and if he approve the same he shall sign it; if not, he shall return it, in seven days, with his objections, to that branch of the city council, in which it shall have originated, which branch shall enter the objections at large on its journals and proceed to reconsider said law, act, ordinance or bill. If upon such reconsideration a majority of the whole number of that branch shall agree to pass it, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other branch by which it shall be reconsidered, and if approved by a majority of the whole number of that branch, it shall have the same effect as if signed by the mayor.

Sect. 6. The city assessors, who shall be annually appointed by the city council, shall execute and be subject to the same powers, duties and liabilities that the assessors in the

City assessors, their appointment, powers, duties and liabilities.

several towns in this state may exercise and be subject to, Chap. 413. under existing laws: provided, however, that the city council may appoint one person in each ward, whose duty it shall be to furnish the assessors with all necessary information relative to persons and property, taxable in his ward, and who shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his duty. All taxes shall be assessed, apportioned and collected in the manner prescribed by the laws of this state relative to town taxes: provided, how-Proviso. ever, that it shall and may be lawful for the city council to establish further and additional provisions for the collection thereof.

Assessment and collection of

Sect. 7. The city council shall have exclusive authority and power to lay out any new street or public way, or widen or otherwise alter or discontinue any street or public way in said city, and to estimate the damages any person may sustain thereby, and shall in all other respects be governed by and subject to the same rules and restrictions as are by law provided in this state, for regulating the laying out of public highways and repairing streets. And any person aggrieved by the decis- Remedy of perion or judgment of said city council, may as far as relates to damages, have them assessed by a committee or jury as now by law provided; and the county commissioners for Kennebec county shall have power to lay out within said city, any part of any new county road, that shall by them be laid out in any adjoining town or towns, and shall pass thence into or through said city, according to the provisions of law; and any highway or townway, or bridge, which has been or may hereafter be located within said town or city, between high and low water mark, shall nevertheless, be deemed to be legally located and established.

Power of city council to lay out streets and estimate damages.

sons aggrieved.

Power of county commissioners to lay out roads within said city.

SECT. S. It shall be lawful for the city council, by a com- side walks. mittee by them appointed or by instructions to the commissioner of streets, to appropriate, set off and reserve as side walks, such part or portions of the several streets in said city, now or hereafter to be established, as to said council may appear necessary for the safety, convenience and accommodation of foot passengers. It shall be lawful for the city council to permit or direct posts of wood or stone, or trees to be placed along the edge of said side walk next to the traveled part of the street, in such number and manner as they may deem necessary to protect said side walks, and the persons traveling thereon from damage or inconvenience from teams or carriages. of the several streets in said city as shall be appropriated and

Posts or trees may be placed along the edge of said walks.

City not liable for damages, &c.

Chap. 413. reserved as side walks, agreeable to the provisions of this act, shall be taken and deemed to be reserved exclusively for the accommodation, convenience and use of persons traveling on foot; and said city shall not be liable for damages for any injury done or occasioned in consequence of any cart, carriage, wagon, truck or other vehicle or any team or animal striking against any of said side walks, or the posts or trees set or placed to defend the same. The several side walks on the streets in said city as at present established and used shall be taken and deemed to be the proper and lawful reservation for that purpose, until altered or otherwise established by the proper authority.

Materials may be left in the streets for certain purposes.

Proviso.

Not liable for any damages occa-sioned thereby.

Laws and regulations now in force to remain, &cc.

Police court established.

Judge, his appointment, pow-ers and duties.

The city council shall have power on such terms and conditions as they may think proper, to authorize and empower any person or corporation to place in any street, for such time as may be necessary, any materials for making or repairing any street, side walk, cross walk, bridge, water course or drain, or for erecting, repairing or finishing any building or fences; provided, that not more than one third of the width of the street shall be so occupied; and such materials so placed by virtue of any license obtained as aforesaid, shall not be considered an incumbrance or nuisance in such street, and the city or person or corporation so placing the same, shall not be liable for any damages occasioned by such materials.

Sect. 10. All the laws and regulations now in force in said town of Hallowell, shall, notwithstanding this act be and remain in force until they expire by their own limitations or be revised or repealed by the city council; and prosecutions and suits may be commenced and proceeded thereon in the name of the city, by officers or other persons thereby empowered or directed to prosecute and sue; and the fines and penalties shall go to the uses in such laws or regulations named according to law.

A police court shall be and hereby is established, in and for the city, to be denominated the municipal court of the city of Hallowell, to consist of one judge, who shall be appointed and commissioned in the manner provided by the constitution, who shall have concurrent jurisdiction with justices of the peace, in all matters, civil and criminal, under twenty dollars, within the county of Kennebec, and original and exclusive jurisdiction in all civil actions in which both parties interested, or in which the party, plaintiff, and the person or persons summoned as trustees shall be inhabitants of or residents of said city of Hallowell, excepting all actions in which said judge may be interested; and said court shall also have concurrent jurisdiction with justices of the peace and quorum in all cases of forcible entry and detainer, arising in said county, and original and exclusive jurisdiction in all such cases arising in the city, and shall also have original and exclusive jurisdiction of all violations of the by-laws of said city. And any person aggrieved by any judgment awarded by said court may appeal therefrom to the district court for said county, in like manner as if the same had been awarded by any justice of the peace, or justices of the peace and quorum.

SECT. 12. It shall be the duty of said court to make and keep its own records, which records shall be such as would be legal records in a court of a justice of the peace. And copies of the records of said court, duly certified, shall be evidence in the other courts of the state. Said court shall be holden on the first and third Monday of each month, at nine of the clock in the forenoon, at such place as the city shall provide for the purpose, for the transaction of civil business; and all civil process shall be made returnable accordingly. And the fees in Fees. all cases, civil and criminal, shall be the same as are now taxable by justices of the peace: provided, that the price of blank Provise. writs, signed by said judge, shall be one cent and no more. And all fines, penalties and costs, which may be awarded by said court, in the administration of its criminal jurisdiction, &c., how posed of, shall be accounted for and paid over by said judge, in the same manner as if the same had been awarded by the sentence of a justice of the peace.

In case of death, or sickness or other disability of the said judge, to attend at the time and place as provided in the preceding section for the transaction of civil business, the said court, shall stand adjourned until the next term of said court, and so from term to term, without costs to either party, until the judge is able to attend. And in case of disability as aforesaid, to perform the other duties of his office, the criminal jurisdiction of said court shall devolve upon the justices of the peace for the county of Kennebec, during the continuance of said disability, and until such proceedings are instituted during the continuance of said disability shall have received the final adjudication of said justices.

The city of Hallowell shall have the power, and it Power and duty shall be its duty to raise money to provide a suitable room in which to hold said court, and to furnish the same in an appropriate manner. The judge of the said municipal court shall receive salary of judge. from the said city of Hallowell in quarter yearly payments, an

Снар. 413.

Court to have concurrent jurisdiction with instices of the peace, &c.

Any person aggrieved by judgment of said court may appeal,

Duty of said court to keep its own records.

Time of holding said court.

Fines, penalties.

Proceedings in inability of said judge.

to raise money.

Judge, powers of,

annual salary of such amount as the city council shall vote and determine; which shall be in full for all fees and pertaining to said office. And the said judge shall not act as counsel or attorney, in any case within the jurisdiction of said court, nor in any suit, matter or thing which may depend on, or have relation to any case, matter or thing depending or cognizable in said court.

All matters, &c., pending before justices of the peace not affected by this act. SECT. 15. All actions, suits, matters and things which may be pending before justices of the peace in the town of Hallowell, and all writs, executions, warrants, recognizances and processes, returnable to said justices when this act takes effect, shall be returnable to them in like manner as if it had not taken effect; and said justices shall have full power and authority to grant execution and to carry into effect any judgment rendered by them, and to complete all processes commenced by or before them in the same manner as they might have done, had not this act been passed.

Wards, division and regulation of.

When to be reviewed and altered.

Warden and

Duties of

Duties of clerk.

Assistant wardens,

SECT. 16. For the purpose of holding elections, said city shall be divided into five wards, to contain as near as conveniently may be, an equal number of legal voters; and it shall be the duty of the city council once in ten years, and not oftener than five years to review, and if it be needful, to alter said wards, in such manner as to preserve as nearly as may be an equal number of legal voters in each. In each of said wards, there shall annually, on the second Monday of March, be chosen by ballot, a warden and clerk who shall hold their offices for one year and until others shall have been chosen and qualified in their places. Said warden and clerk shall be sworn to the faithful performance of their respective duties, by any justice of the peace of said city, or by the person presiding in said ward meeting, or by the clerk of said ward, and a certificate of such oaths having been administered, shall be entered by the clerk on the records of the ward. The wardens shall preside at all ward meetings, with the power of moderators of town meetings; and if at any meeting the warden should not be present, the clerk of such ward shall call the meeting to order and preside until a warden pro tem. shall be chosen. If neither of them should be present any legal voter in the ward, may preside until a clerk pro tem. shall be chosen and qualified. The clerk shall record all the proceedings and certify the votes given, and deliver over to his successor in office all such records and journals, together with all other documents and papers held by him in said capacity. The inhabitants of each ward

may choose two persons to assist the warden in receiving, Chap. 413. sorting and counting the votes. The list of the names of the voters, list of, legal voters in each ward shall be prepared by the assessors and board of aldermen assisted by the wardens, in the same manner and under the same restrictions as are imposed by the laws of this state on the assessors and selectmen of towns; and

mayor and aldermen in the manner prescribed by the laws of this state for notifying and calling town meetings by the selectmen of the several towns, excepting that ward meetings for the election of mayor after the second trial, may be called

all regular ward meetings shall be notified and called by the Ward meetings,

SECT. 17. The mayor shall be elected from the citizens at Mayor, aldermon large, by the inhabitants of the city, voting in their respective and councilmen, election of wards; one alderman and two common councilmen shall be elected by each ward, being residents in the wards where elected; all said officers shall be elected by ballot, by a majority of the votes given, and shall hold their offices one

year from the second Monday in March, and until others shall

within the time provided in such cases in this act.

be elected in their places.

SECT. 18. At the annual election holden for the choice of constable, elecmayor and aldermen, the qualified electors in each ward shall by ballot elect a constable, who shall be denominated city constable, with all the powers, duties and liabilities appertaining to the office of constable.

SECT. 19. On the first Monday of March, annually, immediately after a warden and clerk shall have been elected and sworn, the qualified electors of each ward shall ballot for a mayor, one alderman and two common councilmen; all the votes given for the said several officers respectively, shall be sorted, counted, declared and registered in open ward meeting, by causing the names of the persons voted for, and the number of votes given to each, to be written on the ward record at length. The ward clerk, within twenty-four hours after such election, shall deliver to the persons elected aldermen and common councilmen, certificates of their election, and shall forthwith deliver to the city clerk, a certified copy of the record of such election; provided, however, that if the choice of aldermen Provise, and common councilmen cannot conveniently be effected on that day, the meeting may be adjourned from day to day to complete such election. If on the second balloting for any alderman, common councilmen, constable, warden or clerk, a choice shall not be effected by a majority vote, then the per-

Officers, city, anuual election of.

Mayor to be notified of his election.

Proceedings in case of no election, &c.

Proceedings in case of vacancy by death, resignation, &c.

Oaths, how administered.

-when administered,

City clerk, further duties of. sons receiving the highest number of votes for any of those offices at the subsequent trial, shall be declared elected; if no one shall then have such highest number, the balloting shall be continued from day to day until a choice is thus effected. The board of aldermen shall as soon as conveniently may be. examine the copies of the records of the several wards certified as aforesaid, and shall cause the person who shall have been elected mayor, by a majority of votes given in all the wards, to be notified in writing of his election; but if it shall appear that no person shall have been elected, or if the person elected shall refuse to accept the office, the said board shall issue their warrants for one other election; and in case the citizens should fail on a second ballot to elect a mayor, the said board shall again issue their warrants for a third election to be held not less than three nor more than four days thereafter; at which election the candidate having the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected and notified as aforesaid; if no one shall then have such number, further elections shall in the same manner be ordered, till a choice shall be made, by some one having the highest number of votes; and in case of a vacancy in the office of mayor by death, resignation or otherwise, it shall be filled for the remainder of the term by a new election, in the manner hereinbefore provided for the choice of said officer; and in the mean time the president pro tempore of the board of aldermen shall perform the duties of mayor. oath prescribed by this act shall be administered to the mayor by the city clerk, or any justice of the peace in said city. aldermen and common councilmen, elect, shall on the second Monday of March, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, meet in convention, when the oath required by the second section of this act, shall be administered to the members of the two boards present, by the mayor or any justice of the peace, and thereupon the two boards shall separate, and the board of common council shall be organized by the election of a president and clerk.

Sect. 20. The city clerk shall be the clerk of the board of aldermen; he shall perform such duties as shall be prescribed by the board of aldermen or common council; and shall perform all duties, and exercise all the powers by law incumbent upon, or vested in, the town clerk of the town of Hallowell; he shall give notice in one or two of the papers printed in said city of the time and place of regular ward meetings; but the place of regular ward meetings, and also the day and hour, when not fixed by law, shall be determined by the board of

The board of aldermen may, in the absence of the mayor, choose a president pro tempore, who shall preside at joint meetings of the two boards. Each board shall keep a record of its proceedings, and judge of the election of its own members; and in case of failure of election, or vacancy by death, resignation or otherwise, may order new elections. A quorum for the transaction of business, shall in each board, consist of a majority of the members thereof; all meetings of the aldermen and common council, and all meetings of the two boards in convention, shall be open and public, and the presiding officer of each of them, shall have the power of moderators of town At either of said meetings, when any two members shall request it, the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays, which shall be recorded by the clerk.

Mayor, absence Records, how

Снар. 413.

Quorum to transact business.

Meetings of the board to be public.

Vote may be taken by yeas and nays.

Meetings, general, may be held.

General meetings of the citizens, qualified to vote in city affairs, may, from time to time, be held to consult upon the public good; to instruct their representatives, and to take all lawful measures to obtain redress of any grievances, according to the right secured to the people by the constitution of this state; and such meetings may, and shall be duly warned by the mayor and aldermen, upon the requisition of thirty qualified voters of said city.

Wards, city divided into.

It shall be the duty of the selectmen of the town of Hallowell, as soon as may be, after this act shall have been accepted, as hereinafter provided, to cause a division of said town to be made into five wards, in such manner as to include, as nearly as conveniently may be, consistently with well defined limits to each ward, an equal number of voters in each ward.

> Organization of city government,

For the purpose of organizing the system of government hereby established, and putting the same in operation in the first instance, the selectmen of the town for the time being, shall seasonably, before the first Monday of March, next after the acceptance of this charter, issue their warrants for calling meetings of the said citizens, at such place and hour upon said day as they shall think expedient, for the purpose of choosing a warden and clerk for each ward, and also to give their votes for a mayor to be taken from the city at large, and one alderman and two common councilmen, and one constable, for each ward; the transcript of the records of each ward, specifying the votes given for mayor, one alderman and two common councilmen, and one constable, certified by the warden and clerk of said ward, shall at said first election be returned to the said selectmen of the said town of Hallowell,

Votes, at the first meeting for city officers, to be returned to the selectmen of Hallowell.

In case of no election, how to proceed.

First meeting, how organized, &c.

Voters, lists of to be prepared.

City clerk, &c., how elected.

Act when to take

Proviso,

Vote on the acceptance of city charter, how taken.

Vote, record of to be filed with the city clerk, &c.

Inconsistent acts

whose duty it shall be to examine and compare the same; and in case such elections shall not be completed at the first election, then to issue a new warrant until such elections shall be completed according to the provisions of this act; and to give notice thereof in the manner hereinbefore directed, to the several persons elected. And at said first meeting, any inhabitant of said ward, being a legal voter, may call the citizens to order and preside until a warden shall have been chosen; and at said first meeting, a list of voters in each ward, prepared and corrected by the selectmen of the town of Hallowell, for the time being, shall be delivered to the clerk of each ward when elected, to be used as provided by the law in town meetings; and it shall be the duty of the city council in convention. immediately after their first organization, to elect by ballot, a city clerk, and all other necessary city officers, who shall hold their offices respectively, until others are chosen and qualified in their places.

SECT. 24. This act shall take effect and be in full force, when the same shall have been accepted by the inhabitants of said town qualified to vote in town affairs, at a legal town meeting called for that purpose: provided, it shall be accepted within five years from the passage of this act, but not more than one meeting, for that purpose, shall be called in the same And at such meeting the inhabitants of said town shall vote by a written ballot, those in favor of accepting this act having on the ballot the word "yes," and those opposed having on the ballot the word "no"; and if a majority of all the ballots received, are in favor of accepting the same, it shall then become a law and take effect. And it shall be the duty of the clerk of said town to file a copy of the record of the vote of said town accepting the same, with the clerk of the city of Hallowell, when elected, who shall transcribe such copy into the records of the city, and such record shall be conclusive evidence that this act has been accepted.

SECT. 25. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed, from and after the time when this act shall have been accepted as aforesaid, and the new system of government organized, as herein provided.

[Approved August 29, 1850.]