

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

112

PASSED BY THE

FORTIETH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1861.

Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 23, 1820,
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1861.

PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1861.

SECT. 5. This act shall take effect from and after its approval by the governor.

[Approved February 18, 1861.]

Chapter 34.

An act to unite the towns of Skowhegan and Bloomfield.

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

SECT. 1. The towns of Skowhegan and Bloomfield, in the county of Somerset, are hereby united, and shall constitute one town, by the name of Skowhegan, with all the powers and privileges and subject to all the duties of other towns.

Skowhegan and Bloomfield united. Powers, privileges, &c.

SECT. 2. The several collectors for the town of Skowhegan and the town of Bloomfield, are hereby authorized and empowered to collect and pay all taxes to them committed agreeably to their several warrants, and also all taxes which have been legally assessed and which may be hereafter committed to said collectors.

Taxes, collection of.

SECT. 3. All debts due from the towns of Skowhegan and Bloomfield, at the time this act shall take effect, shall be paid by said towns respectively, and all taxes and debts due to said towns respectively shall be paid to said towns ; and said towns are authorized to use the same processes and proceedings for the recovery of the same, and to be subject to the same processes and proceedings touching the debts due from said towns as though this act had not been passed.

Debts, how paid and collected.

SECT. 4. Whenever it shall appear that the debts of either of the present towns of Skowhegan or Bloomfield, exceed the corporate assets of such town, the assessors for the time being, of the town of Skowhegan, hereby incorporated, are authorized to assess upon the polls and estates within the present limits of such town, a sum sufficient to pay such deficiency in connection with their other annual assessments placing the same in separate and distinct columns, and the sum so assessed shall be collected and appropriated to the payment of such deficiency.

Debts exceeding corporate assets, assessments how made, &c.

SECT. 5. The real estate of said towns of Skowhegan and Bloomfield, and the stock on the town farm of Skowhegan, excepting the town-house owned by the town of Skowhegan, from and after the passage of this act, shall belong to the town of Skowhegan, as composed of said two towns.

Real estate of towns, &c.

SECT. 6. Whenever the new town of Skowhegan shall vote to build a town-house, it shall be located on Skowhegan Island, unless a majority of each town as now constituted, shall otherwise decide ;

Town-house, where to be located.

CHAP. 34.

—meetings,
where to be
held.

and the town meetings of the new town shall be held at the town-house in Skowhegan, until such new town-house shall be built, when said old town-house shall belong to the old town of Skowhegan.

Representative
districts, relat-
ing to.

SECT. 7. Until the next general apportionment, such persons now or hereafter within the limits of the present town of Showhegan, and within the present limits of Bloomfield, as may be entitled to vote for a representative to the legislature and a representative to congress, shall remain united to their respective districts for the election of such representatives, and it shall be the duty of the selectmen of Skowhegan, at the election of such representatives, to provide separate check lists and separate ballot boxes, and to make separate returns of the votes cast for such representatives by the legal voters residing within the present limits of Skowhegan and Bloomfield, respectively.

Selectmen of
Skowhegan to
provide sepa-
rate check lists,
&c.

State and co.
taxes, how
assessed.

SECT. 8. Until a new state valuation shall be completed, all state and county taxes shall be assessed upon the town of Skowhegan hereby incorporated, which would otherwise be assessed upon the two towns of Skowhegan and Bloomfield.

Congregational
ministerial
fund, relating
to.

SECT. 9. Nothing in this act shall affect the ministerial fund and the congregational ministerial fund as now invested in said town of Bloomfield, or divert the same from the uses for which they are now intended and appropriated.

First meeting,
how called.

SECT. 10. The first meeting for the choice of town officers for the town of Skowhegan hereby created, and for the transaction of town business, shall be held on the third Monday of March next, at the town-house in Skowhegan. Any justice of the peace for the county of Somerset, may issue his warrant to any inhabitant of Skowhegan or Bloomfield, directing him to notify the first meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Skowhegan as hereby created, to be held at the place and on the day in this section specified, and a copy of said warrant attested by such inhabitant being posted in two public and conspicuous places within the said town of Skowhegan, and also within the said town of Bloomfield, at least seven days before said meeting, shall be deemed legal and sufficient notice of said meeting.

Inconsistent
acts repealed.

SECT. 11. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed, and this act shall take effect and be in force when it shall have been accepted by a vote of the inhabitants of each town hereby united, at a legal meeting thereof, which meeting shall be held in each town on the first Monday of March next; and it shall be the duty of the selectmen of the two towns hereby united to meet on the day next after said meeting, and compare the votes, and if it shall appear that a majority of the votes of each town are in favor of uniting, they shall immediately

Act, acceptance
of.

petition some justice of the peace to call the first meeting, as provided in section ten.

[Approved February 19, 1861.]

Chapter 35.

An act concerning the Proprietors of the Upper Bridge on Eastern river.

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

SECT. 1. The Proprietors of the Upper Bridge on the Eastern river are hereby authorized to re-construct their bridge over the said river, on the site now occupied by them, of good and sufficient material, not less than twenty-two feet wide, with a sufficient railing on each side for the safety of passengers, and in re-constructing the said bridge, instead of conforming to the existing provisions respecting the navigation of said river, and in lieu thereof, it shall be their duty to leave over the channel of the said river, the width of twenty-eight feet free from piers, or any other obstruction, except a convenient and suitable draw, which shall be attended at all hours of the day by some suitable person, at the expense of the proprietors.

Authorized to re-construct bridge.

—how constructed.

SECT. 2. The duration of the charter of the said proprietors is hereby extended thirty years, and at the end of the said term, all interest in the corporate property, both real and personal, shall continue to rest in the said proprietors, with power to dispose thereof, and the proceeds shall be divisible among them, ratably, in proportion to their shares, *provided however*, that when satisfactory proof shall be given to the supreme judicial court at any time after the expiration of five years from the date of this act, that funds sufficient for the purchase of said bridge and franchise at their fair value, to be determined by three disinterested persons to be appointed by said court on notice and hearing of parties, have been raised upon the payment of the amount of the appraisal to the treasurer of the corporation by any individual, town or towns, or association, said bridge shall be free.

Charter extended.

Corporate property, how vested, &c.

Proviso.

[Approved February 20, 1861.]