

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

SIXTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1895.

Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,
February 18, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

AUGUSTA:
BURLEIGH & FLYNT, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
1895.

PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE.

1895.

Chapter 54.

An Act creating the Rumford Falls Village Corporation.

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

SECT. 1. The land in the towns of Rumford and Peru embraced within the following limits; Commencing in the town of Rumford at the north east corner of the old Joshua Hall farm now owned by F. A. Porter on the westerly bank of Swift river, thence westerly by the said Porter's north line to the easterly line of second division of lot number ten in Rumford; thence southerly by the east line of said lot number ten to the south east corner thereof, thence westerly by the north line of the old Seth P. Abbott farm now owned by Waldo Pettengill to the north west corner thereof; thence southerly and easterly by the boundaries of said Abbot farm to the north-westerly corner of the old Nathan Knapp farm, thence southerly by the west line of said farm to the north-west corner of the old Rufus Virgin farm, thence easterly and southerly by the westerly line of said farm to the Androscoggin river, above the Falls, thence across said river to the easterly bank thereof and thence southerly by said easterly bank to the north line of Elisha D. Fuller's farm; thence easterly by said Fuller's north line to the easterly line of the town of Rumford; thence northerly by the town line between Rumford and Peru to the northwest corner of C. F. Smith's farm in the town of Peru; thence easterly by said Smith's north line to the Androscoggin river; thence northerly and westerly by the Androscoggin river to the mouth of Swift river; thence northerly by Swift river to the bound begun at, together with the inhabitants thereon be and the same is hereby created a body politic and corporate by the name of the Rumford Falls Village Corporation.

Limits of corporation.

Corporate name.

SECT. 2. Said corporation is hereby authorized and vested with the power, at any legal meeting called for the purpose, to raise money for the following purposes: to create and maintain a fire department, with all necessary engines, equipments, appliances and apparatus for the prevention and extinguishment of fires; to light its streets, and to procure water for fire and municipal purposes, and said corporation is hereby authorized and empowered to contract with any

Authorized to raise money.

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individual, firm or corporation to furnish lights and water, either or both, for the purposes aforesaid; to maintain a suitable and sufficient police force and night watch; to increase the efficiency of the town board of health within the limits of said village corporation, and to build, repair and maintain suitable and adequate sewers, also for the support and maintenance of schools, and may receive, hold and manage devises, bequests or gifts for any of the above purposes.

How money shall be raised and assessed.

SECT. 3. All moneys which shall be raised for the purposes aforesaid, or for any other purposes for which the corporation may lawfully raise money, shall be assessed upon the taxable polls and estates embraced within the limits of the corporation by the assessors thereof, in the same manner as is provided by law for the assessment of town and county taxes, and said assessors may copy and adopt the last valuation of the property within said corporation as made by the assessors of said towns of Peru and Rumford respectively, and assess the tax thereon, or they may correct said valuation, or may make a new one thereof, and assess the tax on that valuation, and may make abatements of taxes in the same manner as assessors of towns may do, but the tax on polls shall not exceed one dollar, at any one assessment, to any one person, in any one year. The whole tax assessed on the property for all purposes in any one year shall not exceed one per cent of the last valuation as made or adopted by the assessors of said corporation, provided, however, said corporation shall have the right to raise money by loan for the purposes aforesaid at a legal meeting called therefor, but the total indebtedness incurred thereby, shall at no time exceed two per cent of the valuation aforesaid.

Valuation, how fixed.

—rate of taxation.

Indebtedness, limit-d.

Officers, and how chosen.

By-laws.

—officers shall be sworn.

SECT. 4. The officers of said corporation shall be a clerk, treasurer, three assessors, collector and three fire wardens, who shall be chosen by ballot, and such other officers as the by-laws of said corporation may require. Said corporation is empowered to adopt, at any legal meeting, called for that purpose, a code of by-laws for the government of the same, and for the management of its fire department aforesaid, and for the proper management of its prudential affairs and other purposes connected therewith, provided, said by-laws are not repugnant to the laws of the state. The officers aforesaid shall be sworn before the clerk or a justice of the peace, and

the collector and treasurer shall each give bond to the inhabitants of said corporation, in such sum as the assessors may direct, which bond shall be approved by the assessors and clerk.

SECT. 5. Said assessors shall be the general municipal officers of said corporation and shall have general charge of its affairs and of the expenditure of all money therein, except so far as the same may be committed to other officers or persons.

Assessors shall have general charge of affairs.

SECT. 6. The fire wardens shall have exclusively all the power and authority within the limits of said corporation that fire wardens have, or may have, chosen by towns in town meeting. The compensation of all the officers herein provided for shall be fixed by the corporation.

Powers of fire wardens.

SECT. 7. Upon a certificate being filed with the assessors of said corporation, by the clerk thereof, of the amount of money voted to be raised by taxation, at any meeting, for any of the purposes aforesaid, it shall be the duty of said assessors, as soon as may be, to assess said amount upon the polls and estates of persons residing within said corporation, and upon the estates of non-resident proprietors thereof, and to certify and deliver the lists of the assessments so made to the collector, whose duty it shall be to collect the same in like manner as county and town taxes are by law collected by collectors for towns. And said collector shall pay over all moneys collected by him to the treasurer of said corporation, whenever the assessors shall so direct. It shall be the duty of the treasurer of said corporation to receive all money belonging to the corporation, and to pay it out only upon the written order or direction of the assessors, and to keep a regular account of all moneys received and paid out, and to exhibit the same to the assessors whenever requested. And said corporation shall have the same power to direct the mode of collecting said taxes as towns have in the collection of town taxes. And said collector shall have the same rights and powers to recover any taxes committed to him, by suit, that town collectors have by law to recover any taxes committed to them, and the corporation shall have the same rights that towns have by law to recover taxes by suit.

Assessors shall make assessments, and deliver lists to collector.

Duties of treasurer.

—power of corporation to collect taxes.

—power to recover taxes by suit.

SECT. 8. All persons residing within the limits of said corporation, who would be legal voters in either of the towns of Rumford or Peru, shall be legal voters at any meeting of said corporation.

Qualification of voters.

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—First
meeting, how
called.

SECT. 9. C. N. Waite, A. E. Morrison or Waldo Pettengill, or either of them, are hereby authorized to call the first meeting of said corporation, and to notify the legal voters thereof to meet at some suitable time and place within the limits aforesaid, by posting up notices in two public and conspicuous places within said limits, also by publishing a copy of said notice in the Rumford Falls Times, seven days at least before the time of said meeting, and either of said persons are authorized to preside at said meeting until after its organization, and until after a moderator shall have been chosen by ballot and sworn, and at all meetings of the said corporation a moderator shall be chosen in the manner and with the same powers as in town meetings.

Subsequent
meetings, how
called.

SECT. 10. The assessors shall call all subsequent meetings of the corporation by posting up notices thereof at two public and conspicuous places within the limits of said corporation, and causing a copy of said notice to be published in some newspaper published within the limits of said corporation, if any, stating the time, place and object of each meeting, seven days at least before the time appointed for the meeting. The annual meetings for the election of officers of said corporation, after the first, shall be held in the month of March in each year. In case the assessors of said corporation unreasonably refuse to call a meeting, any justice of the peace may call a meeting of the corporation, on petition of ten legal voters, by posting and publishing notice in the manner hereinbefore provided.

When annual
meetings shall
be held.

Charter, how
accepted.

SECT. 11. At any first meeting of said corporation, called agreeable to section nine of this act, at any time prior to the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, the legal voters within said territory shall by ballot, vote on the question of accepting this charter, and if a majority of the voters present and voting at said meeting, shall vote in favor of its acceptance, then this act shall take effect, and the corporation shall then proceed to organize and choose its officers.

When act shall
take complete
effect.

SECT. 12. This act shall take effect from and after its approval by the governor, so far as to empower the calling of said first meeting, and if its charter shall be accepted, as provided in section eleven of this act, then the same shall take and have complete effect in all its parts.