

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

SIXTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1897

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PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE.

1897.

Chapter 533.

An Act to incorporate the Harpswell Village Corporation.

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

Village
corpora-
tion,
created.

—territory.

—corporate
name.

Powers.

May raise
money to
aid electric
railroad.

How as-
sessed.

—valua-
tion.

Sect. 1. The territory in the town of Harpswell known as Harpswell Neck, including all that part of Harpswell south of the Brunswick line and west of Merriconeag sound, and including the islands belonging to said town west of Mark island, and in the Middle bay, so called, with the inhabitants thereon, is hereby created a body politic by the name of the Harpswell Village Corporation, with all the rights and privileges granted by the laws of the state to corporations.

Sect. 2. Said corporation within its territorial limits, is hereby authorized and vested with power at any legal meeting called for the purpose, to raise money to defray the expense of a police and all other necessary regulations for the better security of property and the promotion of good order within its limits; for the purchase of apparatus for the extinguishment of fires; for the construction of reservoirs to supply water; and the maintenance of a fire department. Said corporation may receive, hold, and manage gifts and devises for the purpose of public improvements within said territory.

Sect. 3. Said corporation at a legal meeting duly notified and called for that purpose, may by a vote of two-thirds of the legal voters present and voting, raise by tax or loan such sum of money as said corporation shall deem expedient, not exceeding ten thousand dollars, and may appropriate the same in such manner and on such terms as said corporation may determine, to aid in the construction of a steam or electric railroad from Brunswick village to Potts' point in said Harpswell, provided that the sum so raised shall not exceed the limitation contained in article twenty-two of the constitution of this state.

Sect. 4. Money raised by said corporation for any lawful purpose, including that to pay any loan obtained by section three, shall be assessed upon the property and polls, within the territory aforesaid, by its assessors, in the same manner in which the town taxes are assessed. The assessors may copy the last valuations of said property made by the assessors of the town of Harpswell, and assess the tax thereon; or if the corporation shall so direct, may correct said valuations, or make a new valuation thereof according to the principles established by the last

state tax, and assess the tax on that valuation, and may make abatements on taxes assessed in the same manner as assessors of towns may do.

Sect. 5. Upon a certificate being filed with the assessors of the corporation by the clerk thereof, showing the amount of money lawfully raised at any meeting, they shall proceed as soon as may be to assess the same upon the polls and estates of the persons residing, or embraced within the limits of the territory aforesaid, and upon the estates located therein of non-resident proprietors, and the assessment so made, as well as the assessment of money to repay any loan of said corporation, with interest thereon, shall be certified and delivered to the collector of said corporation, who shall collect the same as town taxes are collected, and pay the same within such time as his warrant shall prescribe, to the corporation treasurer; and said collector shall have the same power and authority in collecting the taxes so assessed as a constable, or town collector, has by law for collecting town and county taxes, and shall enforce payment of the same in the same manner as a town constable, or town collector, is required to do by law, and the said corporation shall have the same powers to direct the mode of collecting taxes as towns have in the collection thereof.

Assessments, how made.

—collection of.

Sect. 6. All moneys received by said corporation from taxation, or loan, or from any other source, shall be paid to the treasurer, and he shall receive the same and pay it out on the orders of the assessors, for legitimate expenses of the corporation, and other purposes for which it may be obtained, and shall keep regular accounts of all his official transactions, and exhibit the same to the assessors when requested, and make report to each meeting of the corporation at which officers are chosen.

Treasurer shall receive and pay out all moneys.

Sect. 7. Said corporation may issue its bonds for money obtained under the provisions of the third section of this act, or may issue its notes therefor; such bonds or notes shall be signed by the assessors and treasurer, and shall be upon such time, and bear such rate of interest as said corporation may find expedient.

May issue bonds or notes.

—how signed.

Sect. 8. Said corporation at any legal meeting may adopt a code of by-laws, not repugnant to the laws of this state, nor to its charter, for the efficient management of its affairs.

By-laws.

Sect. 9. The officers of said corporation shall consist of a clerk, treasurer, collector, three assessors, and such other officers as its by-laws may provide for, and said officers shall hold

Officers.

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—tenure.

office for one year from the date of their election, and afterwards until their successors are chosen and qualified, and shall severally have all the powers and authority within the limits of said corporation that similar officers chosen by towns now have or may have; said officers shall be chosen by ballot at an annual meeting to be held in the month of April, at a place and time to be designated by the by-laws of said corporation.

—power.

Duties of the clerk.

Sect. 10. The clerk shall record all the doings and proceedings at the meetings of the corporation.

Collector and treasurer, shall give bond.

Sect. 11. The collector and treasurer shall each give bond with such sureties as the assessors of the corporation may approve of, in a sum not less than double the amount of the taxes raised as aforesaid, to the inhabitants of the corporation, for the faithful performance of their duties, and said bonds shall be approved in writing by the assessors, and thereafter deposited and retained by the clerk.

When charter may be accepted.

Sect. 12. This charter may be accepted at any time within three years from its approval by the governor, and its rejection in any calendar year shall not prevent its acceptance in any later calendar year during the time aforesaid. Thomas E. Skolfield or Jacob B. Pinkham, or either of them, may call all meetings of the inhabitants of said territory previous to the acceptance of this charter, by publishing the time, place, and objects of said meeting in a newspaper printed in Brunswick, fourteen days at least before the time of holding the meeting, and by posting a similar notice in at least three public and conspicuous places in said territory, at least seven days before the time of holding said meeting, and all subsequent meetings shall be called and notified by the assessors as town meetings are called and notified, unless said corporation shall otherwise define the manner of calling and notifying its meetings.

—meetings, how called.

Qualification of voters.

Sect. 13. Every person residing within the limits of said corporation, qualified to vote for governor, senators and representatives, shall be a legal voter at any meeting of said corporation.

Proceedings at any meeting, called to vote on question of acceptance.

Sect. 14. At any meeting prescribed in section twelve of this act the legal voters shall elect a moderator and clerk, both of whom shall be sworn by some justice of the peace, for the faithful discharge of their duties, and thereupon said meeting shall proceed by ballot to vote on the question of accepting this charter, and if two-thirds of all the legal voters present and voting at said meeting, shall vote in favor of its acceptance, then it shall take effect, and said corporation may immediately after

said vote is declared, proceed to the election of officers and the adoption of by-laws as provided by sections eight and nine of this act.

Sect. 15. This act shall not destroy or abridge any right, power, or duty of the town of Harpswell.

Sect. 16. This act shall take effect when approved by the governor, but shall not bind the inhabitants of the territory aforesaid until its acceptance by them as hereinbefore provided.

Approved March 26, 1897.

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Act shall not abridge rights of town.
When act shall take effect.

Chapter 534.

An Act additional to the act incorporating the Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

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

Sect. 1. The Mutual Fire Insurance Company, incorporated by act approved February twenty-three, eighteen hundred and twenty-seven, may become a stock fire insurance company, under such name as may be adopted, not previously in use by any existing company, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any legal meeting duly called for that purpose.

Company may become a stock company and change name.

Sect. 2. Notice of such meeting shall be published once a week for three successive weeks in some newspaper published in York county, the first publication to be made thirty days at least before the time named for said meeting, and by giving a written notice thereof to the members of said Mutual Fire Insurance Company at least fourteen days before the day of said meeting, by depositing the same in the post office, postage paid, directed to each member at his or her latest post office address.

Notice of meeting, how made.

Sect. 3. At such meeting it may, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, accept the provisions of this act; pass such new rules and by-laws, and take such further proceedings as shall make the corporation fully conform to the provisions of the general laws of this state regulating stock fire insurance companies.

At meeting, company may accept provisions of this act.

—make by-laws, etc.

Sect. 4. The capital stock of such corporation shall not be less than one hundred thousand dollars divided into shares of one hundred dollars each.

Capital stock.

Sect. 5. Directors and officers of said corporation shall hold their respective positions until the expiration of the terms for

Present officers shall hold, until