

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES  
OF THE  
SEVENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE

1905.

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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of  
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PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1905.

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When this act shall take effect.

Section 6. This act shall take effect when the Augusta Water District shall begin the construction of its works at said pond for the use of the water thereof as a water supply.

Approved March 22, 1905.

**Chapter 361.**

An Act to empower the county of Aroostook to Purchase and acquire Title to Lands adapted to Agricultural Purposes in said county.

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

County of Aroostook authorized to purchase agricultural lands.

--may issue bonds for purchase of.

This act shall be submitted to voters of Aroostook county.

--form of ballot.

--county commissioners shall appoint day of meeting.

--shall prepare forms for warrants and returns.

Meetings, how called.

-- when polls shall be opened and closed.

Method of balloting.

Section 1. The county of Aroostook is hereby authorized to purchase any township or tract of land in said county adapted to agricultural purposes and desirable for settlement, and for that purpose may issue bonds of said county to an amount equal to one per cent of the valuation of said county as established by the legislature or the state board of assessors in the year nineteen hundred and five.

Section 2. There shall be submitted to the voters of the several towns and organized plantations in said county, within ninety days after the approval of this act, the following proposition: "Shall the county of Aroostook purchase lands and open them up for settlement and for this purpose issue bonds of the county to an amount equal to one per cent of the valuation of the county?" And it is hereby made the duty of the county commissioners of said county to appoint a day within that time for meetings to vote thereon, and to notify the selectmen of the towns and assessors of plantations thereof, leaving sufficient time for calling said meetings in the usual form for town meetings. Said commissioners shall cause to be prepared printed forms for the warrants and returns of said meetings, and transmit them with their notifications to town and plantation officers as above prescribed.

Section 3. The selectmen of towns and the assessors of plantations in said county shall call meetings on the day appointed, by issuing and posting warrants therefor as for other town meetings. No such meeting shall be opened before ten o'clock in the forenoon or later than one o'clock in the afternoon, and the polls shall be kept open until five o'clock in the afternoon and then be closed.

Section 4. At said meetings the vote shall be taken by printed or written ballots, and those in favor of said proposition shall vote 'yes,' and those opposed shall vote 'no,' and the

ballots cast shall be sorted and counted and the vote declared in open meeting. The municipal officers shall preside as at state elections, and make returns thereof to the county commissioners by depositing in some post office in said county within twenty-four hours after the close of said poll, their return of the votes cast, post paid, directed to the clerk of courts at Houlton in said county, to be transmitted by mail, or personally delivered to said clerk within that time.

Section 5. The county commissioners of said county shall meet at the court house at Houlton ten days after said meeting and canvass the returns and declare the result, and the result shall be recorded by the clerk of courts, and be certified on the record by said commissioners and clerk, and said record shall be the only record required of the votes cast under this act, and in case a majority of the ballots cast and returned as aforesaid, are in favor of said proposition, said commissioners shall carry out the provisions of this act, as ratified by such vote in manner hereinafter provided. But if the majority of the ballots cast and returned as aforesaid are opposed to said proposition, then after the expiration of six months from the date of said first meeting, said commissioners upon the written application of one hundred or more legal voters residing in said county, shall appoint a second day for meeting to vote upon said proposition, in the same manner heretofore provided for, but no more than two votes shall be thus taken upon this proposition.

Section 6. In case said proposition is adopted as hereinbefore provided, the county commissioners of said county may purchase for the county any township or tract of land in said county that in their judgment is adapted to agricultural purposes and desirable for settlement, the deed to run to the inhabitants of said county.

Section 7. Whenever any land shall be purchased as authorized under this act, said board shall cause the same to be explored, roads located and built, build all bridges that may be required so as to best convene said lands, and cause the same to be surveyed into lots, and an accurate map or plan of all lands surveyed shall be returned to the state land office and entered upon the plan book within three months after the survey is completed, on which shall be laid down all lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, falls, mill sites and roads. The field notes of such surveys shall be deposited in the land office and shall contain a description of the growth, soil and general character of each lot, said plan and field notes shall be made in duplicate, one copy of which shall be kept at the land office in Augusta, and one copy in the office of the register of deeds for the district in which

Returns,  
when and  
where  
canvassed.

--how second  
meeting may  
be called,  
if at first  
meeting  
voters are  
opposed.

Proceedings  
if proposition  
is adopted.

Development  
of lands after  
purchase.

--surveys  
shall be  
returned  
to state land  
office.

--field notes  
shall be  
deposited.

--and  
registered  
in registry  
of deeds.

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the land is located, open for inspection at all times when the registry office is open, or when the land agent or his assistant is there, and the county commissioners shall furnish information about said land to all who seek for it at their office.

County commissioners may locate and build roads.

Section 8. When any township or tract of land has been purchased for settlement the county commissioners shall have authority to locate and build all roads that may be required across any adjoining towns, township or townships for the purpose of connecting with the roads or highways located to accommodate any lands purchased as authorized by this act. Roads so located shall be built under the direction of the county commissioners and at the expense of the county.

County commissioners may sell any surveyed lots.

Section 9. The county commissioners shall sell and convey any of the lots that have been surveyed, at a price fixed by them, at not less than the cost of said land together with the expense of building roads and making surveys, to actual settlers, and no more than two hundred acres shall be sold to any one person.

--payment for lots sold, requirements for.

The purchaser shall pay in cash at the time of the purchase not less than two dollars per acre for each acre purchased, and give his note or notes for the balance, payable in not more than six years, with interest annually, and shall establish his residence on his lot within two years from the date of the certificate, and within four years from such date shall clear on each lot not less than fifteen acres, ten at least of which shall be well laid down to grass, and build a comfortable dwelling on said lot, and the commissioners shall give him at the time of purchase a certificate stating that he has become a purchaser of the lot or lots therein described, and that he will be entitled to a deed thereof when he has complied with the requirements of the law.

--further requirements of purchaser.

Section 10. If the purchaser or his heirs or assigns fail to perform any of the duties required, and to pay his notes, the land may be forfeited to the county and said commissioners may dispose of it to another person.

Forfeiture of lands to follow failure on part of purchaser to perform required duties.

Section 11. Said commissioners may appoint some suitable person in the vicinity to superintend the location of settlers and the performance of their several duties.

Commissioners may appoint suitable person to superintend location of settlers, etc.

Commissioners authorized to convey by deed.

Section 12. Said commissioners are hereby authorized to convey by deed in the name of the inhabitants of said county to any purchaser of land as aforesaid. Before giving a deed to any purchaser of land, they shall ascertain whether the requirements of the law have been complied with by such purchaser, his heirs or assigns, and for that purpose the certificate of the person appointed by them to superintend the location of settlers under such regulations and modes of proof as they may prescribe shall be evidence, or they may make personal examination of the

land and when such conditions have been complied with, each purchaser, his heirs or assigns shall be entitled to an absolute deed of said land.

Section 13. Any lawful holder of the said commissioner's certificate of a lot of land purchased of the county under the provisions of this act, may commence and maintain in his own name any action relating to the same, against any party except the county or any person claiming under the county, by a subsequent title the same as if he held a deed conveying to him the county's title in the land described in the certificate at the date thereof.

Lawful holder of commissioner's certificate may maintain suits.

Section 14. The actual settler who has purchased land of the county under the provisions of this act, may cut thereon any timber he needs for building or fencing thereof, and the county commissioners may permit the purchaser to cut any timber or lumber on said lot by paying to the county the market price per thousand feet for the same, to be allowed in payment of the notes given in payment for said land, and said commissioners are authorized to issue permits for the cutting of timber or lumber upon lots that in their opinion are not suitable for settlement, or upon such lots as remain unsold.

Settlers may cut timber under certain restrictions and for certain purposes.

--permits for cutting timber on lands not suitable for settlement.

Section 15. Any purchaser of land under this act having a wife, shall not convey the same by deed unless his wife joins therein and acknowledges it to be her free act and deed before a proper magistrate.

Wife of settler shall join in deed for sale.

Section 16. If any part of a township or tract of land is purchased and is owned by the county in common and undivided with other owners or tenants, and when in the judgment of the county commissioners the whole cannot be purchased at a reasonable price, they may enter into an agreement with the other owners for a partition of the same, and they are authorized to make and execute all deeds in behalf of the inhabitants of said county that are necessary to carry out said agreement, or they may present a petition to the supreme judicial court held in said county, clearly describing this land, and stating whether it is in fee simple or for years, and the proportion claimed by said county, the names of the other owners or tenants in common, and their places of residence if known, and whether any or all of them are unknown, and the same proceedings shall be held as provided in chapter ninety of the revised statutes for the partition of real estate.

Partition of lands owned in common.

Section 17. In case such proposition is adopted and accepted as hereinbefore provided, then the treasurer of Aroostook county is hereby authorized to procure by loan on the faith and responsibility of said county, money for the use of said county

Loans authorized for purposes of this act.

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--limitation  
of amount  
of loans.

to carry into effect the provisions of this act, and for that purpose notes or obligations signed by said treasurer, and countersigned by the chairman of the board of county commissioners, shall be issued with interest bearing coupons attached for the payment thereof at such times as they, the said commissioners, shall deem expedient, but such loan shall not exceed one per cent of the valuation of the county as established by the legislature or state board of assessors in nineteen hundred and five, and the proceeds of said bonds together with all sums received from the sale of lands to settlers and receipts from the cutting of timber or lumber, collected by the commissioners, shall be held by said treasurer as a fund for carrying out the purposes of this act. And said commissioners are authorized to draw warrants on the treasurer of the county in such sums as may be required from time to time to be paid from said fund.

Section 18. This act shall take effect when approved.

Approved March 22, 1905.

### Chapter 362.

An Act to incorporate the Waterville Gas and Electric Company.

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

- \* Corporators. Section 1. William T. Haines, Luther H. Soper, and John E. Nelson, their associates, successors, and assigns, are hereby incorporated under the name of the Waterville Gas and Electric Company, for the purpose of manufacturing, generating, selling, distributing, and supplying gas and electricity for lighting, heating, traction, transportation, manufacturing, or mechanical purposes, in the city of Waterville and the towns of Fairfield and Winslow, or for any or either of such purposes, with all the rights, powers and privileges, and subject to all the restrictions and liabilities by law incident to similar corporations; also for the purpose of buying, leasing, and operating, the property, capital stock, bonds, rights, privileges, immunities, and franchises of any individuals, firms, or corporations doing a similar business in the city of Waterville and the towns of Oakland, Fairfield, Benton, and Winslow.
- corporate name.
- purposes.
- Capital stock. Section 2. The capital stock of said company shall not exceed one million dollars, divided into shares of one hundred dollars each. Said company may hold all real and personal estate necessary and convenient for the purposes aforesaid.