

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

ENACTED BY THE

Seventy-Seventh Legislature

1915

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PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Seventy-Seventh  
Legislature

1915

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## CHAP. 175

—reduction  
of tolls.

'Section 4. When said corporation shall have received from tolls the value of said dams and improvements and its outlay for repairs made up to that time with six per cent interest thereon, then the tolls herein provided shall be reduced to a sum sufficient to keep said dams and other improvements in repair.'

Ch. 70, P. &  
S. Laws  
1887,  
amended.

Section 3. Said chapter seventy of the Private and Special Laws of eighteen hundred eighty-seven is hereby further amended by adding thereto the following sections:

—record of  
resources  
and liabilities  
shall  
be kept.

'Section 5. Said corporation shall keep in a proper book or books an accurate account of the cost of such improvements and repairs, and of all tolls, which book or books shall be open to the inspection of all persons interested therein.

—shall ap-  
point au-  
ditor.

Section 6. Some suitable person shall be appointed by said corporation an auditor to audit the account, and determine the cost of improvements and repairs.

—in case  
of dissats-  
faction.

Section 7. In case of any dissatisfaction with the auditor's decision as to the allowance of said account, or the cost of improvements and repairs, the same shall be forthwith determined by referees agreed upon by the parties, or by the county commissioners of Somerset county, if the parties cannot agree.'

Approved March 31, 1915.

### Chapter 175.

An Act to Amend the Charter of the City of South Portland Thereby Providing for the Election of Assessors by the Citizens.

*Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:*

Ch. 242, Sec.  
5, P. & S.  
Laws 1895,  
amended.

Section 1. Section five of chapter two hundred forty-two of the Private and Special Laws of eighteen hundred ninety-five shall be amended by inserting in the first line thereof, after the word "mayor" the words 'and assessors;' by inserting in the third line thereof after the word "wards" the following: 'The first election for assessors under this act shall be at the first regular municipal election after it shall have been adopted, at which time three assessors shall be elected, one of whom shall be elected for one year, one for two years and one for three years, and at each subsequent election one assessor shall be elected for three years, each of whom shall continue in office until some other person shall have been elected and qualified in his place,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

Election of  
mayor and  
assessors.

'Section 5. The mayor and assessors shall be elected from the citizens at large, by the legal voters of the city voting in their respective wards. The first election for assessors under this

CHAP. 175

act shall be at the first regular municipal election after it shall have been adopted, at which time three assessors shall be elected, one of whom shall be elected for one year, one for two years, and one for three years, and at each subsequent election one assessor shall be elected for three years, each of whom shall continue in office until some other person shall have been elected and qualified in his place. One alderman, a member of the school committee, a warden, a ward clerk and one constable, shall be elected by each ward, being residents in the ward where elected. All of said officers shall be elected by ballot as herein-after provided.

—ward elections.

Section 2. Section nine of said chapter two hundred forty-two shall be amended by striking out the word "assessors," being the second word in said section; also by striking out the following words: "At the first election thereof under this act, three persons shall be elected assessors, one of whom shall be elected for one year, one for two years and one for three years, and at each subsequent election one assessor shall be elected for three years, each of whom shall continue in office until some other person shall have been elected and qualified in his place. Three overseers of the poor shall be elected in the same manner as are the assessors, and shall hold office the same time, and all subsequent elections of these officers shall be in the same manner as all subsequent elections for assessors," and inserting in place thereof the following: "There shall be three overseers of the poor to hold office for the period of three years to be elected as their terms expire, each of whom shall continue until some other person shall have been elected and qualified in his place," so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

Ch. 242, Sec. 9, P. & S. Laws 1885, amended.

—stricken out.

—inserted in place of.

'Section 9. The overseers of the poor and health officers shall be elected by the city council on the second Monday in March, or as soon thereafter as may be. There shall be three overseers of the poor to hold office for the period of three years to be elected as their terms expire, each of whom shall continue until some other person shall have been elected and qualified in his place. The city council may elect an assistant assessor 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. He shall be sworn or affirmed, 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, except as herein modified, and

Election of overseers of poor and board of health.

City council may elect assistant assessor.

—assessing and collecting of taxes.

CHAP. 175 the city council may establish further or additional provisions for the collection thereof, and of interest thereon. The city council shall also elect a city solicitor and determine his salary.'

Ch. 242, Sec.  
16 P. & S.  
Laws 1895,  
amended.

—inserted.

Section 3. Section sixteen of said chapter two hundred forty-two shall be amended by inserting after the word "mayor" in the seventh line thereof, the following: "Three assessors at the first regular municipal election after this act shall have been adopted, and one at each election thereafter except in case of vacancies, when there shall be sufficient to fill said vacancies;" also by inserting after the word "mayor" in the twenty-eighth line thereof the following: 'and assessors,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

City charter granted to South Portland.

—first city election.

'Section 16. 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 shall at least seven days before the first Monday of March after the acceptance of this charter, issue their warrant for calling a meeting of the legal voters at such place and hour of the day as they shall choose, for the purpose of choosing a mayor, three assessors at the first regular municipal election after this act shall have been adopted, and one at each election thereafter except in case of vacancies, when there shall be sufficient to fill said vacancies, seven aldermen, a school committee of seven, and seven constables to be taken from the city at large; said officers shall be elected by a plurality vote. The town clerk shall notify the several officers-elect of their election, in writing, within twenty-four hours. Their powers and duties shall be as herein provided. After the city has been divided into wards, ward meetings of the legal voters thereof shall be called, which meetings shall be presided over by some person appointed by the city council, and the records of said first meetings in the several wards shall be made by some person designated by the city council, and at said first meetings lists of voters, corrected by the aldermen, shall be delivered to the persons designated to act as recording officers in the several wards to be used as provided by law, in town meetings. Said recording officers shall perform the duties of ward clerks, as before herein provided, relative to making a record of the election and returning a copy of the records of the city council. On the first Monday in March, annually thereafter, the qualified voters of each ward shall vote on one ballot for city and ward officers, as hereafter provided for all of which officers except the mayor and assessors shall be residents of the ward or district where elected. And all officers shall be elected by ballot, by a plurality of the votes given, and shall hold their offices one year from the sec-

—ward divisions.

—recording officers.

—ward meetings.

—election of ward officers.

ond Monday in March, except members of the school committee who shall be chosen for three years after the first election under this charter, and until others shall be elected and qualified in their places; all city and ward officers shall be held to discharge the duties of the offices to which they have been respectively elected, notwithstanding the removal after their election, out of their respective wards, into any other ward in the city; the ward clerk within twenty-four hours after such election shall deliver to the ward officers elected, certificates of their election, and shall forthwith deliver to the clerk a certified copy of the record of such election, a plain and intelligible abstract of which shall be entered by the city clerk upon the city records. If the person elected shall refuse to accept the offices, the said board shall issue their warrants for another election; 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, to be called as herein provided, and held within twenty days after the vacancy occurs. The oath or affirmation prescribed by this act shall be administered to the mayor by the city clerk, or any justice of the peace. The aldermen elect shall meet on the second Monday of March at seven o'clock in the evening, when the oath or affirmation, required by the second section of this act shall be administered to the members present by the mayor, or any justice of the peace. The city council shall by ordinance, determine the times of holding stated or regular meetings of the board, and shall also in like manner determine the manner of calling special meetings and the persons by whom the same shall be called, but until otherwise provided by ordinance, special meetings shall be called by the mayor by causing a notification to be given in hand or left at the usual residence of each member.'

--oath of office.

--meetings of city council.

Section 4. Section twenty-one of said chapter two hundred forty-two shall be amended by inserting in the fourth line thereof after the word "officers," the following: 'except assessors,' so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

Ch. 242, Sec. 21, P. & S. Laws 1895, amended.

'Section 21. All officers of the police department shall be appointed by nomination by the mayor and confirmed by the city council, and may be removed by them for good cause. All other subordinate officers except assessors shall be elected by the city council, and may be removed by them for cause. Except as otherwise especially provided in this act, all subordinate officers shall be elected annually on the second Monday of March, or as soon thereafter as may be, and their term of office shall be for one year, and until others are qualified in their place.'

Appointment of police officers.

--subordinate officers, how appointed.

## CHAP. 176

—expira-  
tion of as-  
sessor's  
term of  
office.

Act, when  
to take  
effect.

Section 5. The term of office of any assessor of the city of South Portland shall expire immediately on the election and qualification of assessors under the city charter of South Portland as amended by this act.

Section 6. This act shall take effect when approved by a majority vote of the legal voters of South Portland, and shall be submitted to the legal voters at the next annual election to be held on the first Monday of March, nineteen hundred sixteen, and if it fails of passage at that election, may be submitted to the people at any future election by a majority vote of the municipal officers. The city clerk shall reduce the subject matter of this act to the following question: "Shall the act providing for the election of assessors by the people be accepted?" and the voters shall indicate by a cross placed over the words "yes" or "no" their opinion of the same. The result shall be declared by the municipal officers and due certificate thereof filed by the city clerk with the Secretary of State.'

—question  
to be vot-  
ed upon.

Approved March 31, 1915.

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## Chapter 176.

An Act Relating to the Vinalhaven Lighting Co.

*Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:*

May sell  
property,  
rights and  
franchises.

Section 1. The Vinalhaven Lighting Co., a corporation organized under the general law, shall have full power and authority to sell and convey to any corporation authorized to do a lighting business in said Vinalhaven, all its property, rights and franchises, together with its license, permission and right to occupy the streets and ways in said town, with poles, wires and pipes for the distribution of electricity, light and power; and any such company is authorized to purchase the same.

—rights  
and powers  
of grantee.

Section 2. When the conveyance provided for in section one hereof shall be made, the grantee shall succeed to all the rights and powers of said Vinalhaven Lighting Co., and the right to occupy the streets, so conveyed, is hereby declared to be legal and valid, and confirmed in such grantee, together with all powers incidental to the supplying, furnishing and distributing of electricity for heat, light and other purposes within such territory as said grantee may be authorized under its charter to distribute the same.