

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Acts and Resolves

As Passed by the

Seventy-Eighth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1917

Including Acts and Resolves of the Special Session of the
Seventy-Seventh Legislature held in 1916.

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Private and Special Laws

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

As Passed by the Seventy-Eighth
Legislature

1917

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Sec. 11. Capital stock. The capital stock of the said corporation shall be fifty thousand dollars and said stock shall be divided into shares of twenty-five dollars each.

Sec. 12. Real and personal estate, limited. The said corporation, for all of its said purposes, may hold real and personal estate necessary and convenient therefor, not exceeding fifty thousand dollars.

Sec. 13.—May issue bonds. The said corporation may issue its bonds, for the construction of its works, of any and all kinds upon such rates and time as it may be expedient, to the amount not exceeding its capital stock, and to secure the same by mortgage of its franchise and property.

Sec. 14. First meeting, how called. The first meeting of said corporation may be called by written notice therefor, signed by two of the incorporators herein named, served upon each of the incorporators by giving him the same in hand or by leaving the same at his last and usual place of abode, seven days at least before said meeting.

Sec. 15. Existing statutes continued in force. Nothing herein contained is intended to repeal or shall be construed as repealing the whole or any part of any existing statute. And all the rights and duties herein mentioned shall be exercised and performed in accordance with all the applicable provisions of chapter fifty-five of the revised statutes.

Approved March 31, 1917.

Chapter 143.

An Act to Amend the Charter of the City of Augusta, Relative to Police.

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

Sec. 1. P. & S. L., 1915, c. 205, s. 4, amended. Section four of chapter two hundred and five of the private laws of nineteen hundred and fifteen hereby is amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 4. Organization of police department, tenure of office, eligibility, etc.; board of police examiners created; appointment, duties, tenure, removal of police officers, proceedings. Status of present police force unaffected. The mayor shall appoint all city officers except those that are required by law to be elected by the qualified electors of said city or of the several wards in said city. The appointments shall be made and take effect as soon as convenient after the beginning of the mayor's term of office, and the officers appointed shall hold their offices during the term for which the mayor was elected; except that the commissioner of streets and the overseer of the poor shall be appointed triennially to hold office for the term of three years, and one assessor shall be appointed each year to hold office for the term of three years. Appointed city officers may be removed from office by the mayor for cause, otherwise they shall serve through their respective terms aforesaid and until their successors are appointed and qualified in their places. The mayor shall exercise the same power of ap-

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pointment to fill a vacancy in any appointive city office, but the person appointed to fill a vacancy due to any cause other than expiration of the term of office shall hold office during the unexpired term of his predecessor.

The police force shall consist of one chief, to be styled the city marshal, and one deputy marshal, and as many police officers as the city council may from time to time adjudge necessary; such police officers, except marshal and deputy marshal and policemen who may be appointed for special occasions, to hold office until reaching the age of sixty years or during good behavior, to be designated as regular police, and to be appointed by the mayor upon recommendation of a committee or board of three to be known as the board of police examiners, and said committee or board shall be appointed by the mayor and shall serve without pay. One member at least of said committee or board shall be a physician. The duty of this committee shall be to examine all applicants for the position of regular police and the applicant who has passed the highest examination during the preceding three years shall be the eligible candidate to be appointed by the mayor. If for any reason, a candidate passing the highest examination is not appointed by the mayor, or withdraws, then the candidates shall be presented for appointment by the mayor in the order of their standing when passing the examination.

The tenure of office of the members of this committee or board shall be three years, one member to be appointed each year, except that the members appointed upon this committee or board during the year nineteen hundred and eighteen shall by lot decide the tenure of their office, one retiring each year; the said committee or board to have power to make suitable rules for its own government.

If, for any just cause the mayor deems any officer appointed under this act unsatisfactory or incompetent, he may order him to appear before said examining board, and shall prefer written charges against him, which charges shall be heard by said board; at said hearing any citizen of Augusta may appear and be heard, and said board shall decide whether said charges have been sustained or not, and if sustained the mayor may remove such officer, and appoint another in his stead under the provisions of this act.

At least twenty-four hours before any such hearing the committee shall cause the officer against whom charges have been filed to be notified of the time and place of hearing upon same, by causing a copy of said written charges to be served upon said officer and said officer may appear and be heard in person, or by counsel. Said board or any member thereof shall have the power to summon witnesses and administer oaths in any matter pending before said board.

This act shall in no wise be held to affect the status of the present members of the police force of the city of Augusta, and shall in no wise affect the length of their terms of service.'

Sec. 2. How act shall become effective. This act to take effect January first, nineteen hundred and eighteen, if accepted by a majority vote of the citizens of the city of Augusta, voting at any regular or special election before January first, nineteen hundred and eighteen.