

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE
AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 3, 1980 to June 19, 1981

AND AT THE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
August 3, 1981

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**PRIVATE AND
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The results shall be declared by the municipal officers of each town and due certificates thereof filed by the clerks with the Secretary of State.

In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect for all the purposes thereof immediately upon its acceptance by a majority of the legal voters within the district voting at the special election held in each municipality and plantation. But failure of approval by the necessary majority of voters at any such election shall not prevent a subsequent election or elections to be held for that purpose within the time limitation of section 12.

Effective pending referendum

CHAPTER 58

H. P. 712 — L. D. 837

AN ACT to Amend the Charter of the Gardiner Water District.

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

P&SL 1903, c. 82, § 5, as amended by P&SL 1979, c. 40, §§ 2-4, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

Section 5. All the affairs of the water district shall be managed by a board of trustees composed of 3 members to be chosen by the municipal officers of the City of Gardiner, but no member of the city council shall, during the term for which he is elected, be chosen one of the board of trustees. As soon as convenient after the members of the board have been chosen, the trustees shall hold a meeting at the city rooms in the City of Gardiner and organize, by the election of a president and clerk, adopt a corporate seal and, when necessary, may choose a treasurer and all other needful officers and agents, for the proper conduct and management of the affairs of the district. At the first meeting they shall determine, by lot, the term of office of each trustee so that one shall serve for one year, one for 2 years and one for 3 years; and whenever the term of office of a trustee expires, the municipal officers of the City of Gardiner shall appoint a successor to serve the full term of 3 years; and in case any other vacancy arises it shall be filled in like manner for the unexpired term. They may also ordain and establish such bylaws as are necessary for their own convenience and the proper management of the affairs of the district. The term of office of trustees shall begin on the first Monday of April. The trustees may procure an office and incur such expenses as may be necessary. Each member shall receive, in full compensation for his services, \$25 for each meeting attended and reimbursement for travel expenses, the total not to exceed \$500 each year.

The trustees shall, on or before the deadline set by the Public Utilities Commission for the filing of the district's annual report to the Public Utilities

Commission, make and file with the municipal officers of the City of Gardiner a report of their doings as trustees of the water district and a statement of the receipts and disbursements of the water district during the year ending December 31st next preceding, and this shall be deemed the fiscal year of the water district.

Effective September 18, 1981

CHAPTER 59

H. P. 1549 — L. D. 1665

AN ACT to Amend the Charter of the Bethel Water District.

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

Sec. 1. P&SL 1967, c. 48, § 9, first ¶ is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

All affairs of the district shall be managed by a board of trustees composed of 5 members, elected by the voters of the Town of Bethel. In order to provide for continuity, the terms of the present 3 appointed trustees shall be extended from their present December 31st expiration date until the date of the first municipal election of selectmen in Bethel thereafter. At the same time as the 1982 municipal election of selectmen, the voters shall elect 2 new trustees in addition to a successor to the existing trustee whose term expires on that date. Of the 3 trustees elected in 1982, one shall be elected for a one-year term, one for a 2-year term and one for a 3-year term. Thereafter, trustees shall be elected for a full 3-year term, except for the election of a trustee to fill an interim vacancy, in which case the election shall be for the remainder of the term. The board of selectmen may appoint an acting trustee to fill an interim vacancy until the next March election. Trustees shall be nominated and elected in the same manner as the selectmen are nominated and elected. Trustees shall be residents of the Town of Bethel and any trustee who ceases to be a resident of the Town of Bethel vacates the office of trustee.

As soon as convenient after the annual election, the trustees shall hold a meeting and organize by the election of a president, clerk and treasurer, and, when necessary, other officers and agents. The treasurer shall be bonded in such sum and with such sureties as the trustees may approve.

The trustees shall operate as policymakers for the water district and make such bylaws as are necessary for their own convenience and for the proper management of the affairs of the district. They shall hire a professionally qualified person to manage and to carry out the daily operations of the water district.