

CHAPTER XXXVII.

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF ST. PAUL, APPROVED MARCH SIXTH, ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHT.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota :

SECTION 1. That section one, chapter seven, of the charter of the city of St. Paul, approved March six, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, is hereby amended by adding the following to said section :

If holes, ditches, excavations, embankments, or other obstacles are made or placed in any street, lane, alley, public grounds, or public places by the "St. Paul Water Company," or "St. Paul Gaslight Company," in repairing or laying pipes, mains or other fixtures in their business of supplying water or gas to the city or to citizens, or other corporations, either while so acting with or without the consent of the corporation of St. Paul, they the said "St. Paul Water Company," or the St. Paul Gaslight Company," respectively, shall be held jointly liable with the city of St. Paul to persons for damage to person or property for omitting to keep the same well guarded by day and night. *Provided*, That no execution shall issue against said city on any judgment so obtained, until after execution issued against said companies respectively upon such judgment shall have been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part. The city corporation shall be exempt from all liability for damages caused by railroads, either to persons or property, when said railroads, or engines or cars are passing along, across, under, over or upon any street, lane, alley, or other public way within the limits of the city of St. Paul.

SEC. 2. That chapter three, section two, shall be amended by striking out the following words : "And any public officer or watchman appointed by the mayor as aforesaid, may be discharged from office by him whenever in his opinion the welfare of the city may demand it, or a reduction of their number is necessary."

SEC. 3. Chapter three, section seven, shall be amended so as to read as follows :

Sec. 7. The regular police force of the city of St. Paul shall consist of a chief of police, a captain of police, and a sergeant of police, and as many police patrolmen and police officers as may be authorized by the common council of said city, and each officer aforesaid so appointed

shall hold office during good behavior, unless he shall become permanently disabled from discharging his duties, and except as hereinafter provided; *Provided*, That any policeman (except the chief, sergeant, and captain of police) hereafter appointed shall be considered on probation for six months from the time of his appointment, and may be removed by and at the pleasure of the mayor at any time during the said probative period of six months. In case of any vacancy in the office of captain of police, the sergeant of police may be promoted and appointed by the mayor to fill the same. The sergeant of police may be appointed by the mayor from the number of policemen who have served at least one year as a policeman aforesaid. No person shall hereafter be appointed to or hold office as a policeman aforesaid, or as chief of police, captain of police, or sergeant of police aforesaid, or in any manner be a member of said police force who is not a citizen of the United States, or who shall not have resided within the state of Minnesota, two years next preceding his appointment. The chief of police, captain of police, sergeant of police, and any police officer, a member of the police force, may be removed from office by the common council upon charges preferred against him in writing, and notice thereof to him, so as to afford such officer a reasonable opportunity of being heard in his defence under such regulations as the said common council may prescribe by ordinance. The chief of police, captain of police, sergeant of police, and any police officer or member of the police force may be removed by a resolution of the common council without any cause assigned, passed by a vote of two-thirds of all the members of said council elect, and approved by the mayor. The mayor shall make all appointments to fill vacancies in the police force, and shall have power to suspend any member of said police force pending charges preferred against him before the common council. The said chief of police, captain of police, police officers and members of the police force shall perform such duties as shall be prescribed by the common council of said city for the preservation of the public peace. All police officers, watchmen, and members of the police force aforesaid of said city, shall possess the power of constables at common law, or by the laws of this state; and it shall be their duty to execute and serve all warrants, processes, commitments, and all writs whatever issued by the city justice for any violations of the laws of the state of Minnesota, or of the ordinances or by-laws of said city, and they shall have power to pursue and arrest any person fleeing from justice in any part of this state, and when performing the duties of constable as aforesaid, shall be entitled to like fees.

SEC. 4. That chapter five, section five, is hereby amended as follows: Strike out the words "first day of October," and insert these words, "first day of November."

SEC. 5. That the fourth subdivision of section four, of chapter five, of the charter of said city of St. Paul as now amended, shall be amended so as to read as follows :

Fourth—To provide a ward fund in each ward of said city for such improvements, repairs or other expenses, within such ward as may be properly ordered to be paid out of a general ward fund, there may be levied annually a tax not exceeding four mills on the assessed value of the property of the city. The amount of such taxes collected from the real estate shall be credited to the ward fund of the ward from which the same was collected, and the amount of such taxes collected from personal property shall be divided equally among the wards of said city. The common council of said city may, with the concurrent vote of two aldermen of any ward of said city, set apart such proportion of said ward fund as said council may deem expedient, not exceeding one-fourth thereof, as a district sewerage fund for such districts as may be situated within such ward ; and said common council may also make said ward funds respectively chargeable with the interest or sinking fund or principal, when due, of or for any bonds which may be issued by said common council to aid in the construction of main sewers in said city, to the extent in each ward that said bond shall be issued in aid of any main sewers within said ward.

SEC. 6. This act to take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 1, 1873.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

AN ACT REGULATING THE ASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY FOR TAXES
WITHIN THE CITY OF ST. PAUL.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

SECTION 1. There shall be a board of assessors for the assessment of property for taxation within the city of St. Paul, appointed and organized as follows : The common council of said city, at their last regular meeting in December, or as soon thereafter as practicable, shall appoint a number of assessors corresponding to the number of wards into which said city is now or hereafter may be divided, to-wit,