

CHAPTER 188.

H. F. No. 431.

An act to amend section six (6) of chapter one hundred and eighty-seven (187) of the General Laws of one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five (1885), as amended by chapter seventy-three (73) of the General Laws of the State of Minnesota for the year eighteen hundred and ninety-five (1895), relating to the support of the fire department, in cities, towns, villages or other municipal corporations in the State of Minnesota.

Amendment.
Fire de-
partments.

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

SECTION 1. That section six (6) of chapter one hundred and eighty-seven (187) of the General Laws of the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five (1885), as amended by chapter seventy-three (73) of the General Laws for the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five (1895), be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 6. The money so paid to any city, town or village under the provisions of this act shall be by it set aside as a special fund, and may be appropriated and disbursed in the same manner that other funds belonging to such city, town or village are appropriated or disbursed, but only for the following purposes, viz.:

Special fund
and how
used.

First—For the support and relief of firemen injured or disabled while in the discharge of their duties.

Second—For the equipment and maintenance of such fire department.

Provided, That in case there exists or shall exist a fire department relief association duly organized or incorporated in any such city, town or village, said money due said city, town or village as aforesaid shall be paid to the treasurer of such relief association, instead of to the treasurer of such city, town or village.

Relief asso-
ciations.

But the secretary and treasurer of such relief association shall prepare annually a report of all the receipts and expenditures of such association for the previous year, showing for what purpose the money has been paid and expended, and to whom, which report shall be filed in the office, the town, village or city clerk, of the city, town or village in which such association is situated, and a duplicate of such report shall also be filed with the state auditor before any money shall be paid any city, town or village, or any relief association. This proviso shall apply only to cities, villages or towns having a re-

relief association, and the money thus paid to such relief association shall be expended by such relief association for the support and relief of sick, injured or disabled firemen, their widows and orphans, and for such other purposes as may be prescribed by the constitution, laws and by-laws of such relief associations, not inconsistent with the purposes of this act; but for the purposes of this act no substitute firemen or anyone serving on probation shall be deemed to be a fireman within the meaning of this act. The treasurer of every such relief association, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall give a good and sufficient bond to said relief association, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, and for the safe keeping and paying over, according to law, of all moneys which come into his hands as such treasurer.

Provided, further, that no such moneys shall be paid to any such relief association hereafter organized, unless such organization is made with the consent of the council or board of trustees of the city, village or town to which the organization belongs.

And *provided, further,* that it shall be the duty of the public examiner, and he is hereby authorized and empowered, when complaint is duly made to him, that the money or any part thereof paid under the provisions of this act, to any of said relief associations, is being expended for purposes other than as aforesaid, to examine the books and financial accounts of such relief associations as to the expenditure of said money, and if said complaint be found true, to report the same to the governor, with his recommendation, and the governor may take such action as the emergency may seem to demand. Said public examiner is further authorized and empowered at any time, in his discretion, to examine the books and financial accounts of said relief association as to the expenditure of said money, and make a report thereof to the governor with his recommendation.

SEC. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 9, 1901.