

state will not exceed the appropriation.

Approved February 27, 1953.

CHAPTER 70—H. F. No. 828

An act relating to powers of town meetings, granting power to lease real or personal property belonging to town; amending Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 365.10.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 365.10, is amended to read:

365.10 Town meetings, powers. The electors of each town have power, at their annual town meeting:

(1) To determine the location of pounds, and number of poundmasters, and to discontinue any such pounds;

(2) To select town officers as are to be chosen;

(3) To direct the institution and defense of all actions in which the town is a party or interested; to employ necessary agents and attorneys for the prosecution or defense of the same, and to raise such sums of money for that purpose as they deem necessary;

(4) To make such lawful orders and by-laws as they deem proper for restraining horses, cattle, sheep, swine, and other domestic animals from going at large on the highways, and provide for impounding such animals so going at large;

(5) To fix penalties for violations of any order or by-law made by such town, except such as relate to the keeping and maintaining of fences;

(6) To vote money for the repair and construction of roads and bridges, and determine the amount thereof to be assessed as labor tax, and to vote such sums as they deem expedient for other town expenses, including the construction and maintenance of docks and breakwaters;

(7) When they deem it for the interest of the town to direct that a specified amount of the poll and road tax be expended, under the direction of their town board, on the roads of an adjoining town;

(8) To authorize the town board to sell and convey *or lease* any real estate or personal property belonging to the

town, not conveyed to and required to be held by the town for a special purpose;

(9) To authorize the town board to purchase or build a town hall or other building for the use of the town, and to determine, by ballot, the amount of money to be raised for that purpose; but, if a site for a town hall is once obtained, it shall not be changed for another site, except by vote therefor designating a new site by two-thirds of the votes cast at such election of the legal voters of the town;

(10) To authorize the town board, by vote, to purchase grounds for a town cemetery, and limit the price to be paid, and to vote a tax for the payment thereof;

(11) To authorize the town, either by itself or in conjunction with one or more other towns, to purchase grounds for a public park and to limit the price to be paid therefor; to authorize the town, alone or in conjunction with such other town or towns, to care for, improve, and beautify such parks, and to determine, by ballot, the amount of money to be raised for that purpose, and to vote a tax for the payment thereof;

(12) To vote money to aid in the construction of community halls, to be erected by farm bureaus, farmers' clubs, or other like organizations.

Approved February 27, 1953.

CHAPTER 71—S. F. No. 85

An act relating to the desertion and failure to support a wife or child; amending Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 617.55 as amended by Laws 1951, Chapter 190.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 617.55 as amended by Laws 1951, Chapter 190, is amended to read:

617.55. **Desertion of child or pregnant wife.** Every parent, including the duly adjudged father of an illegitimate child and a parent who in an action for divorce or separate maintenance or in a neglect, delinquency or dependency proceeding for his or her child in Juvenile Court has been judicially deprived of the actual custody of such child, or other person having legal responsibility for the care or support of a child who is under the age of 16 years and unable to support himself by lawful employment, who fails to care for and support such child with intent to abandon and avoid such legal responsibility for