

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

the care and support of such child; and every husband who, without lawful excuse, deserts and fails to support his wife, while pregnant, with intent to abandon her, is guilty of a felony; and, upon conviction, shall be punished therefor by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than five years. Desertion of and failure to support a child or pregnant wife for a period of three months shall be presumptive evidence of intention to abandon or to avoid legal responsibility for the care and support of the child.

Approved March 2, 1953.

CHAPTER 72—S. F. No. 105

An act relating to school districts; amending Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 125.18; repealing Special Laws 1887, Chapter 1, Sub-Chapter 8, Section 14.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1949, Section 125.18, is amended to read:

125.18 Contracts. Subdivision 1. Advertisement for bids. No contract for work or labor, or for the purchase of furniture, fixtures, or other property, or for the construction or repair of school houses, the estimated cost or value of which shall exceed \$1,000, shall be made by the school board of any common or independent school district, or any special school district to which special statutory provisions relating to the letting of contracts are not applicable, without first advertising for bids or proposals in some newspaper of the county by two weeks' published notice in the city or village located nearest to the school district in which the contracts are proposed to be let, or some newspaper published in the county-seat in such county; provided, that advertisements for bids for school house construction may be published in a trade journal, periodical, or magazine. Such notice shall state the time and place of receiving bids and contain a brief description of the subject matter.

Subd. 2. Award. Every such contract shall be awarded the lowest responsible bidder, duly executed in writing, and the person to whom the same is awarded shall give a sufficient bond to the board for its faithful performance, and otherwise conditioned as required by sections 574.26, 574.28, 574.29, and 574.30. If no satisfactory bid is received, the board may re-advertise.

Subd. 3. Limitations. Every contract made without compliance with the provisions of this section shall be void;