

## CHAPTER 4.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE VILLAGE OF WATERVILLE, IN  
THE COUNTY OF LESUEUR, STATE OF MINNESOTA.

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

SECTION 1. That part of Le Sueur county, in the State of Minnesota, included within the following described territory, to-wit: Lots number three, four and five (3, 4 & 5), the south half of the south-west quarter, and the south-west quarter of the south-east quarter, all of section number twenty-six (26); all those parts of lots number one, two, three and four (1, 2, 3 & 4) lying south of the Cannon river and lake, the north half of the south-east quarter, and the north-east quarter of the south-west quarter, all of section number twenty-seven (27); and the north half of the north half of section number thirty-five (35), all being in township number one hundred and nine (109) north, range twenty-three (23) west, shall be comprised within and form the boundaries of a village to be known as the Village of Waterville. And people now inhabiting, and those who shall hereafter inhabit the district of country herein described, shall be a municipal corporation by the name of the Village of Waterville, and shall have all the powers possessed by municipal corporations at common law, in addition thereto, shall possess the powers hereinafter specially granted, and the authorities thereto shall have perpetual succession, shall be capable of contracting and being contracted with, of suing and being sued, in all courts, may have a common seal, and change the same at pleasure, and may also take, hold, purchase and lease such real, personal and mixed estate, within or without the limits thereof, as the purposes of said village may require.

SEC. 2. The said village of Waterville shall be and constitute one (1) election district for all purposes of general and special elections under the election laws of this State, and the councilors of said village of Waterville shall be and act as judges at all elections held in said village, (except such as may be held under section thirty-two (32) of this charter,) and shall have power to appoint clerks of such election, and administer the necessary oaths. Such elections shall be held and conducted in the same manner and under the same penalties, and vacancies in the board of election filled as required by the election laws of this State.

The recorder of said village shall give notice of all elections in the same manner as required by law of town clerks, and the councilors of said village shall perform all the duties pertaining to the registry list in the same way that township supervisors are required to do under the general laws of this State. Chapter one (1) of the general statutes of this State shall apply to and govern the judges and clerks of election at all elections in all cases wherein the

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same does not conflict with the provisions of this act; and the common council shall determine in what place in said election district elections shall be held, at least ten (10) days before any election shall be held.

SEC. 3. The elective officers of said village shall be one (1) president of the common council, one (1) recorder, one (1) treasurer, one (1) justice of the peace, who shall be styled police justice, two (2) councilors, one (1) assessor, and one (1) marshal, who shall each, except the justice of the peace, hold his respective office for the term of one (1) year, and until his successor is elected and qualified: the justice of the peace shall hold his office for the term of two (2) years, and until his successor is elected and qualified.

SEC. 4. The president, the two (2) councilors, and the recorder shall constitute the common council of the village of Waterville, a majority of whom shall constitute a quorum to do business. The common council shall have power to determine the rule of its proceedings, compel the attendance of its members under such penalties as it may prescribe. It shall meet once in six (6) months, at such time and place as shall be prescribed by rule. Special meetings may be called by the president or the two (2) councilors, whenever they shall deem it for the interest of the corporation. The common council shall have power to appoint such officers as may be in their opinion necessary for the government of said village, and define their duties and fix their compensation.

SEC. 5. Every person elected or appointed to any office under this act, shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, take and subscribe to the oath of office prescribed by general law, and file the same with the recorder of the village. The treasurer, recorder and marshal, shall execute to the village of Waterville, a bond in the sum of five hundred (\$500) dollars, with sufficient surety to be approved by the common council, conditioned for the faithful performance of the duties of their respective offices, which bonds shall be filed with the recorder, except that the bond of the recorder shall be filed with the town treasurer of said village, and the justice of the peace of said village shall qualify as prescribed for justices of the peace under the general law of the State, except such bond shall be executed to said village of Waterville, and be approved by the president of the common council of said village, who shall endorse his approval thereon.

SEC. 6. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings of the common council, but in case of his absence or inability to act, the members present shall choose one (1) of their number to preside during his absence.

The president of the council shall see that all the ordinances of said village, and the laws of the State are duly observed, and that all other (executive) officers of said village discharge their respective duties, and shall be the chief executive officer of said village.

SEC. 7. That the recorder shall be the recording officer of said village, and of the common council; he shall have the custody of the seal of said corporation (if any), and of all the records thereof, not necessarily and specially appertaining to the other officers

thereof; he shall receive all moneys payable to said corporation, except as hereinafter provided, and shall immediately pay the same over to the treasurer, charging him therewith and taking his receipt therefor; he shall keep all the accounts of the corporation, receive all claims against the same, and draw orders upon the treasurer for moneys payable by said corporation; but no such order shall ever be drawn by said recorder unless the same shall be in full or in part payment of a claim against said corporation, previously audited and allowed by the common council. He shall also make to the common council, at the close of each official year, a condensed report of all his doings as such officer during the year, which report shall be published in such manner and to such extent as may be provided by ordinance, and he shall, with all reasonable dispatch, make such other reports, and at such times as the common council may require; and said recorder shall also receive and file and keep record of all chattel mortgages presented to him for such purposes, in the same manner and way as prescribed by law for town clerks, and all chattel mortgages filed in the office of said recorder shall have the same effect, and be noticed to the same extent, as chattel mortgages filed in the office of the township clerk; and the election district herein created shall, as far as chattel mortgages are concerned, be construed to mean town or city; and sections two (2), three (3) and four (4), chapter thirty-nine (39), statutes of Minnesota, shall apply to the election district herein created and mentioned; and the aforesaid recorder shall be governed by the next above mentioned sections in chapter thirty-nine (39), in his official duties as to chattel mortgages; and the said recorder shall have power to administer oaths and affirmations, and to take the acknowledgements of deeds and all other writings, in like manner and to the same extent that town clerks now are or may be hereafter authorized to do by general law.

SEC. 8. The treasurer shall be the depository of all moneys belonging to said corporation. He shall from such moneys pay upon presentation, all orders therefor, drawn by the recorder and countersigned by the president. *Provided*, That no order shall be paid by him, unless first endorsed in writing thereon, with the signature of the payee therein, and the party receiving the money therefor.

SEC. 9. The justice of the peace provided for, and elected under the provisions of this act, shall have and possess, and may exercise all the powers and jurisdiction of justices of the peace provided for, and elected under the general laws of the State, and in addition thereto, shall have cognizance and jurisdiction of all suits, prosecutions or proceedings for the recovery of any fine, forfeiture or penalty under any by-law, ordinance or regulation, of said corporation, or under this act, or for breach or violation of any such by-law, ordinance or regulation, and in all cases of offences committed against the same, all prosecutions and assaults, batteries and affrays, not indictable, and for a breach or violation of any by-law, ordinance or regulation, shall be commenced in the name of the village of Waterville, and the same proceeding shall be had

in all civil and criminal suits or prosecutions before said justice when not otherwise herein directed as are established and required to be had in civil and criminal actions, by the general laws of this State, before justices of the peace, and in case of prosecution for a breach or violation of an ordinance, by-law or regulation of said corporation or of this act, or for an assault, battery or affray, not indictable, committed within the limits of said corporation, no appeal shall be allowed when the judgment or fine imposed exclusive of costs, is less than ten (\$10) dollars. All fines, forfeitures and penalties, imposed by or recovered before said justice in any suit, prosecution or proceeding had or commenced in the name of said village, shall be promptly paid by said justice to the recorder of said corporation for the use thereof. The justice of the peace shall take judicial notice of the by-laws, ordinances and regulations of said corporation, and it shall not be necessary in any action, civil or criminal, before said justice, to plead or refer to the same in any manner whatever, in any pleading or complaint, but said by-laws, ordinances or regulations, shall, in said justice's court, be held and deemed to be public law. The justice of the peace shall at least, once in six (6) months, make to the common council a full report of all moneys received by him for fines, forfeitures and penalties, and shall pay them into the hands of the recorder, taking his receipt therefor. The fees of the justice of the peace shall be the same as are allowed and fixed by the general laws of the State, for justices of the peace; and all warrants, summons, writs and processes of every nature, issued by such justice of the peace, shall be directed to the sheriff or any constable of Le Sueur county, and may be executed and served by the marshal elected under the provisions of this act, or by the sheriff or any constable of said county, and for such purposes said sheriff or constable of said county shall have and possess the same power and authority, which by the general laws of the State, they have and possess in the execution or service of warrants, summons, writs and other process issued by justices of the peace elected under the general laws of this State.

SEC. 10. The marshal elected under the provisions of this act, shall be the ministerial officer of the council, and shall have and possess and may exercise all the powers belonging to constables elected under the general laws of the State, and said marshal shall, with in the county wherein he resides, also have and exercise all the duties of, and when acting as such receive the same compensation as constables elected under the general laws of the State; shall also be chief of police force of said village, and receive such compensation therefor as may be allowed by the common council, but as such shall be subordinate to the president. And the marshal and other police officers of the village, are hereby vested with all the powers of a sheriff or constable in the service of writs as granted them by law of the State, and may pursue into any county in this State, and take and bring back for trial any offender against the ordinances of the village.

SEC. 11. The assessor of said village shall qualify in the same manner, and will perform the same duties within said village as are prescribed for town assessors by general law.

SEC. 12. The terms of all officers elected under the provisions of this act, except the officers elected at the first (1st) election, who shall hold their offices until the third (3d) Tuesday of March, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine (1879), shall commence on the third (3d) Tuesday of March of each year (unless elected or appointed to fill a vacancy). All officers shall be residents of the village, and there shall be an annual election for the election of the officers herein provided for, on the second (2d) Tuesday of March in each year (except in the present year), and the polls shall be kept open from ten (10) o'clock in the forenoon until four (4) o'clock in the afternoon, and ten (10) days previous notice shall be given by the recorder of the time and place of holding such election, and the officers to be elected, by posting notices in three (3) of the most public places in said village. At the close of the polls the vote shall be counted, and a true statement thereof proclaimed to the voters present by one of the judges, and the recorder shall make a true record thereof, and shall, without delay, notify all persons so elected of their election.

SEC. 13. Whenever any vacancy occurs in the common council, or when any office in said village becomes vacant by death, resignation or otherwise, it shall be the duty of the common council to fill such vacancy until the next annual election. Any person so appointed to fill a vacancy shall have the same rights, and be subject to the same liabilities, as the person whose office he may be appointed to fulfill.

SEC. 14. All persons entitled to vote for county and state officers, and who shall have resided in said village for ten (10) days next preceding the day of election, shall be entitled to vote for any elective officer under this act, and to hold any office hereby created.

SEC. 15. The treasurer of Le Sueur county shall retain in his hands all taxes collected off from property within the corporate limits of said village, and pay over the same to the treasurer thereof, except such taxes as are assessed for state and county purposes.

SEC. 16. The common council shall have the management and control of the finances, and all the property of the corporation, and shall also, in addition to the power herein vested in them, have full power and authority to make, enact, ordain, establish, publish, enforce, alter, modify, amend and repeal all such ordinances, orders, by-laws, and regulations for government and good order of the village, for suppression of vice and intemperance, and for the prevention of crimes, as they shall deem expedient. The common council shall have the full power and authority to declare and impose fines, penalties and punishments, and to enforce the same against any person or persons who may violate any of the provisions of any ordinance, rules, by-laws and regulations which are hereby declared to be, and have force of law; *Provided*, That they

be not repugnant to the constitution of the United States or of this State, and for those purposes, shall have authority by ordinances, rules, by-laws, or resolutions.

*First.* To license and regulate the exhibitions of common showmen and shows of all kinds, or the exhibitions of caravans, circuses, concerts or theatrical performances, billiard tables ten pin alleys, bowling saloons; to grant licenses and regulate auctions and auctioneers, and groceries, taverns, victualling houses, and all persons vending or dealing in spirituous, vinous, or fermented liquors.

*Second.* To restrain and prohibit all descriptions of gambling and fraudulent devices and practices, and all playing of cards, dice or other games of chance for the purpose of gaming in said village, and to restrain any person from vending, giving, or dealing in spirituous, fermented or vinous liquors, unless duly licensed by the common council.

*Third.* To prevent any riots, noise, disturbance and disorderly assemblage in said village, and to provide for the arrest and punishment of any person or persons who shall be guilty of the same; to suppress disorderly houses or groceries, and houses of ill-fame, and to provide for the arrest and punishment of the keepers thereof, and to authorize the destruction of all instruments used for the purpose of gaming.

*Fourth.* To compel the owner or occupants of any grocery, cellar, tallow chandler's shop, soap factory, stable, barn, privy, sewer, or other unwholesome, nauseous house or place, to cleanse, remove or abate the same from time to time as often as may be deemed necessary for the health, comfort or convenience of the inhabitants of said village.

*Fifth.* To direct the location and management of slaughter houses and markets, breweries, distilleries and pawn brokers.

*Sixth.* To prevent encumbering of the streets, sidewalks, lanes, alleys or public grounds with carriages, carts, wagons, sleighs, boxes, firewood, posts, awnings, or any other material or substance whatever.

*Seventh.* To prevent and punish horse racing, immoderate riding or driving in the streets; to compel persons to fasten their horses or other animals attached to vehicles or otherwise, while standing in the streets.

*Eighth.* To restrain the running at large of cattle, horses, swine, sheep, poultry and geese, and to authorize the distraining and sale of the same, and to impose penalties on the owners of such animals for violation of the ordinances.

*Ninth.* To prevent the running at large of dogs, and may impose a tax on the same, and to authorize the destruction of the same in a summary manner when at large contrary to the ordinance.

*Tenth.* To prevent any person from bringing, depositing, or having within said village, any putrid carcass or other unwholesome substance, and to require the removal of the same by any person who shall have upon his premises any substance or putrid

or unsound beef, pork, fish, hides or skins of any kind, and on default, to authorize the removal thereof, by some competent officer, at the expense of such person or persons.

*Eleventh.* To make and establish public grounds, pumps, wells, cisterns, hydrants and reservoirs, to provide for and control the erection of water works for the supply of water.

*Twelfth.* To establish and regulate boards of health.

*Thirteenth.* To prevent all persons riding or driving any ox, mule, cattle or other animal on the sidewalks of said village, or in any way doing any damage to such sidewalks.

*Fourteenth.* To prevent the shooting of firearms or crackers, and to prevent the exhibition of any fireworks in any situation which may be considered by the council as dangerous to the village or any property therein or annoying any citizen thereof.

*Fifteenth.* To prevent open or notorious drunkennes, and obscenity in the streets or public places of said town, and to provide for the arrest, imprisonment and punishment of all persons who shall be guilty of the same.

*Sixteenth.* To license and regulate butchers' shops, stalls and stands for the sale of game, poultry, butchers' meats, butter, fish and other provisions.

*Seventeenth.* To regulate the place and manner of weighing hay, and selling the same, and measuring of and selling firewood, coal and lime, and to appoint suitable persons to superintend and conduct the same.

*Eighteenth.* To compel the owner or occupant of any building or grounds to remove snow, dirt or rubbish from the sidewalk, street or alley opposite thereto, and to compel such owner or occupant to remove from the lot owned or occupied by him all such substances as the board of health may direct; and in his default, to authorize the removal or destruction thereof by some officer of the village, at the expense of such owner or occupant.

*Nineteenth.* To provide for watchmen, and to prescribe their number and duties, and regulate the same.

*Twentieth.* To provide for a standard of weights and measures, for the appointment of a village sealer, and to require all weights and measures to be sealed by him, and to provide for the punishment of the use of false weights and measures.

*Twenty-first.* To direct and regulate the planting and preserving of ornamental trees in the streets and public grounds, and to offer bounties to encourage the planting of the same, if deemed necessary, and to protect native shade trees, and to impose penalties for the destroying or injuring the same.

*Twenty-second.* To remove and abate any nuisance, obstruction or encroachment upon the streets, alleys, public grounds and highways of the village.

*Twenty-third.* To do all acts and make all regulations which may be necessary or expedient for the preservation of health.

*Twenty-fourth.* To restrain and punish vagrants, mendicants, street beggars and prostitutes.

*Twenty-fifth.* To raise money for opening, building, grading,

paving or repairing streets and crosswalks, the expense of which shall be charged to all property alike within incorporated limits of said village, or to lands and lots fronting on said improvements.

*Twenty-sixth.* The style of all ordinances shall be: "The common council of the village of Waterville do ordain;" and no ordinance shall be passed except by a majority of all the members of the common council. A record, in book form, shall be kept by the recorder, in which he shall record all the proceedings of the common council, and the ayes and noes on every ordinance voted upon, shall be entered therein. The fine and imprisonment which the common council are authorized to impose for the violation of any ordinance or by-law, shall not exceed one hundred (\$100.00) dollars, and imprisonment not to exceed ninety (90) days; and commitment to prison under this act shall be to the county jail of Waseca county, or Le Sueur county, under charge of either of the sheriffs of said counties; but when the common council of the village of Waterville shall procure and designate any proper place as the village prison, than it shall be at the discretion of the village justice to commit offenders as before specified in this section, or to said village prison, in charge of the village marshal or his deputy.

SEC. 17. All ordinances, regulations, resolutions and by-laws, shall be passed by a vote of a majority of the common council, by ayes and noes, and any ordinance, regulation or resolution, rule or by-law, imposing any penalty or forfeiture for a violation of its provisions, shall be published one week in some newspaper in the village, if there be one, and if no such paper is published in the village, then the same shall be posted up, either in writing or print, in three (3) or more public places in the village for one (1) week before the same shall be in force, except as hereinafter provided, and proof of such publication by affidavit of the printer or foreman of the office of such newspaper or producing a copy of such newspaper containing such publication or by the affidavit of the clerk or other person who posted the same, shall be conclusive evidence of the publication, promulgation or posting of such ordinance, rule, regulation, resolution or by-law, in all courts and places; and within ten (10) days after such publication or posting, they, with said affidavit, shall be recorded by the recorder of the village, in books to be provided for that purpose, which record shall also be conclusive evidence of such publication, posting or passage of such rules, regulations, resolutions, by-laws or ordinances, in all courts and places.

SEC. 18. The power conferred upon the common council to provide for the abatement or removal of nuisances, shall not bar or hinder suits, prosecutions or proceedings in the courts according to law. Gambling houses and houses of illfame, disorderly taverns, and houses or places where spiritous, vinous or fermented liquors, are sold without license required therefore, within the limits of said village, are hereby declared and shall be deemed public or common nuisances.

SEC. 19. The council shall examine, audit and adjust the accounts of the recorder, treasurer and justice and all other officers

and agents of the village, at such time, as they may deem proper, and also at the end of each year and before the term for which the officers of said village were elected or appointed, shall have expired; and the common council shall require each and every such officer and agent to exhibit his books, accounts, and vouchers for such examination and settlement; and if any such officer or agent shall refuse to comply with the orders of said council in discharge of their said duties in pursuance of this section or shall neglect or refuse to render his accounts or present his books and vouchers to said council or to a committee thereof, it shall be the duty of the common council to declare the office of such person vacant, and the common council shall order suits and proceedings at law against any officer or agent of said village who may be found delinquent or defaulting in his accounts or in the discharge of his official duties, and shall make a full record of all such settlements and adjustments.

SEC. 20. All actions brought to recover any penalty or forfeiture under this act or the ordinances, police or health regulations, made in pursuance thereof, shall be brought in the corporate name of the village; in all prosecutions for any violations of this act or of any ordinance of the village, the first process shall be a warrant. *Provided*, That no warrant shall be necessary in any case of the arrest or apprehension of any person or persons while in the act of violating any law of the State of Minnesota or any ordinance of the village; but the person or persons so arrested may be proceeded against, tried, and convicted, and punished or discharged in the same manner as if the arrest had been made by warrant.

SEC. 21. When any suit or action shall be commenced against said village the service therein shall be made by copy left with the recorder of said village.

SEC. 22. The sale of all intoxicating vinous, spiritous, malt or fermented liquors, within the limits of said village, is declared to be under the exclusive control of the common council of said village, and all fines imposed for violations of any ordinance, regulating such traffic, shall be paid into the treasury of the village for the use thereof; and the common council of said village may prohibit the sale of all intoxicating, vinous, spiritous, malt or fermented liquors, within the limits of said village and enforce the prohibition by appropriate penalties.

SEC. 23. The common council shall have the power and authority to open, lay out and vacate streets and alleys, within the limits of said village, which is conferred by the general laws of the State upon the board of supervisors of townships, to open, alter, discontinue, or lay out roads; and in the matter of opening, laying out or vacating streets or alleys and the assessment of damages, the common council shall be governed by and act under the general laws of the State, providing for altering, discontinuing and laying out roads; and appeals may be taken in the same manner to the county commissioners as appeals are under the general laws taken from the decision of the township supervisors.

SEC. 24. The common council may prescribe the width and

grade of sidewalks and may establish different widths in different locations and determine the kind of material of which they shall be constructed, having regard to the business and the amount of travel in the vicinity of each; whenever the common council of said village shall deem it necessary to construct or repair any sidewalk in said village, they shall, by resolution, require the overseer of the road district, in which such sidewalk is to be constructed or repaired, to notify all owners or occupants of any lot or parcel of land adjoining such sidewalks to construct or repair, so much of said sidewalk as adjoins their several lots, at his or their own proper expense, within a certain time, to be designated in such notice, which shall not be less than twenty (20) days after the service of such notice; if any such walk or any part thereof, is not done in the manner prescribed by ordinance and within the time designated in said notice, the common council may order the same to be done at the expense of the lots adjoining such sidewalks, and the expense thereof shall be assessed upon such lots, so chargeable in such manner that each lot shall be charged with the whole expense of the sidewalk adjoining thereto; and such assessment shall be a lien upon said lot or lots as in case of other taxes; and the said common council shall cause a statement of such assessment to be returned to the auditor of said Le Sueur county at the same time with the village taxes levied by them, and such assessment shall be collected and payment thereof enforced in like manner as county taxes are collected and payment thereof enforced; no error or informality in the proceedings shall vitiate the assessment made by virtue of this section; *Provided*, The notice hereinbefore provided for shall have been given.

SEC. 25. All property, real and personal, in the village, except such as may be exempt by the laws of this State, or is village property, shall be subject to taxation not exceeding two and one-half (2½) mills on the dollar per year for general purposes; such property shall also be liable for special taxes as the common council are hereby authorized to levy.

SEC. 26. The common council shall have full power to order and direct the levy and collection, within the limitation prescribed by law, of taxes sufficient to give full effect to the powers herein conferred.

SEC. 27. The common council shall have power to provide by ordinance for the manner of assessing and enforcing the collection of all taxes levied under the provisions of this act, but until express provision is made in regard to that subject, all taxes shall be collected as follows: The recorder shall deliver to the county auditor of Le Sueur county a certificate signed by him under the seal of the corporation, setting forth the amount levied upon every dollar in value of the taxable property within the limits of the village of Waterville, as incorporated in this act. It thereupon shall become the duty of the said auditor to add the amount thus levied to the assessment rolls of the year in which such levy was made; and it shall become the duty of the county treasurer of

said county to collect the amount thus added to the assessment roll, and to enforce the collection of the same in like manner as any other tax of the said county of Le Sueur, placed in his hands for collection, and to pay the amount so collected to the treasurer of the village of Waterville, incorporated by this act.

SEC. 28. In any action brought to recover any penalty or damages under this act, or under any ordinance made by the common council, it shall be sufficient to complain that the defendant is indebted to the village for the amount of said penalty or damages, and to refer to the act or ordinance under which the same is claimed, and to give the special matter in evidence under it. All civil cases shall be under the control and direction of the common council; they shall have power to settle, compromise or prosecute all such actions on the part of the village, when said village shall be a party or be interested in such action.

SEC. 29. The corporation is vested with all powers to carry into full force, virtue and effect, all and every part of the charter of said village, and the acts amendatory thereof, and to carry into execution the same; shall have power to pass and ordain all and every ordinance necessary to carry out fully the meaning and intent thereof.

SEC. 30. The village of Waterville shall be constituted one or more road districts, to be defined by the common council; the common council shall appoint one (1) overseer of each road district, and they shall issue a warrant to him containing the whole amount of highway labor and taxes assessed and levied in his district, which said warrant shall be returned by him to the treasurer of said village. The laws of the State shall apply to warning, working (except as to the time of performing the same, which shall be set forth in said warrants), suing for and collecting highway taxes and returning delinquent taxes and in all respects except as herein expressly provided. The common council shall have full power to direct the overseer where and how to expend said labor and tax, and to remove him, and may direct him to expend the labor in the manner to be directed by them at any point beyond the limits of the village. The common council shall perform the duties imposed by law upon the supervisors of towns in levying highway taxes, and shall be governed and restricted in the amount so levied, by the same laws applicable to the supervisors of said towns in levying highway labor and taxes, except as herein before provided.

SEC. 31. This act shall not be construed so as to exempt any person or property within the corporate limits of said village from a just proportion of any indebtedness or taxation heretofore contracted by or on account of the town of Waterville, as constituted prior to the incorporation of said village. It shall be the duty of the village council to order sufficient road work to be done on the approaches of the bridges across the Cannon river, in section twenty-seven (27), to keep the same in good repair.

SEC. 32. General, special and town elections, of the town of Waterville, may be held in the village of Waterville at the discre-

tion of the supervisors of the town of Waterville; and the transaction of any public business, either at annual town meeting or by the officers of the town of Waterville, shall be equally valid when done within the village of Waterville as though done in the town of Waterville.

SEC. 33. The president and councilmen shall serve during the first year from the adoption of this charter, without salary or pay from the village treasury, and during the second year after the organization of this village, the officers last enumerated may, at their discretion, for the time consumed in attending to elections, receive the usual fees allowed supervisors of towns, and afterward such fees as they may deem reasonable. Provided, that their pay shall not exceed three (3) dollars per month each for the time they remain in office. The fees of the recorder shall be for such duties as usually devolve upon the town clerk, the same as now received by said town clerk; and for additional duties that may be imposed upon him by this charter and by the common council, he shall receive such compensation as may be allowed by the common council, in no case to exceed seventy (70) dollars per year. The fees of the village assessor and treasurer shall be as prescribed by general statutes for similar officers in townships.

SEC. 34. For the purpose of an election upon the adoption or rejection of this charter, and for holding the first election under this charter should the same be adopted, R. W. Jacklin, L. L. Blair and William Green, judges, and M. H. Warner, clerk of said elections, are hereby appointed an election board for the elections named in this section; and they shall have power to fill any vacancies that may occur upon said board.

SEC. 35. The election for voting upon this charter shall be held on the first (1st) Tuesday in March, eighteen hundred and seventy-eight (1878), to convene at such place and hour as shall be specified in notices posted in five (5) public places in the village of Waterville, and signed by a majority of the before named election board, and the polls of said election shall be continued open five (5) hours, and ballots shall be cast and canvassed at this election as hereinbefore provided for the election of officers for this village. Ballots at the charter election contemplated in this section, shall contain the words, "For the Village Charter," or "Against the Village Charter." If upon the canvass of the votes it shall appear that a majority of the votes cast were "Against the Village Charter," then this act shall be of no further effect. If it shall appear upon the canvass that a majority of the votes cast were "For the Village Charter," then the election board shall forthwith, and by public notices appoint the second Tuesday of the same month as an election day for the election of village officers; and all the public papers affecting said elections, together with a copy of the election notices, shall be certified and filed by the village recorder, when he is elected and qualified.

SEC. 36. This act is hereby declared to be a public act, and may be read in evidence in any and all courts of law, in this State, and no general law of this State contravening in any manner the

provisions of this act or any ordinance or thing done by virtue thereof, shall be considered or deemed as repealing, or amending or in any manner modifying the same unless such purpose and intention shall be expressly set forth in such law.

SEC. 37. This act shall be a public act, and take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved February 28, 1878.

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## CHAPTER 5.

### AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE VILLAGE OF MORRIS, COUNTY OF STEVENS.

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

SECTION 1. That part of Stevens county, in the State of Minnesota, included within the following described territory, to-wit: All of sections numbered thirty-four (34), thirty-five (35) and the west half of the northwest quarter and the west half of the south-west quarter of section number thirty-six (36), all in township number one hundred and twenty-five (125) north, range number forty-two (42) west, and the west half of the north-east quarter and the north-west quarter of section number 2 (2), the north half of section number three (3), and the north-east quarter of section number four (4) in township number one hundred and twenty-four (124) north, range aforesaid, shall be comprised within and form the boundaries of a village to be known as the village of Morris, and the people now inhabiting, and those who shall hereafter inhabit the district of country herein described, shall be a municipal corporation by the name of the village of Morris, and shall have all the powers possessed by municipal corporations at common law, and in addition thereto, shall possess the powers hereinafter specially granted, and the authorities thereto shall have perpetual succession, shall be capable of contracting and being contracted with, of suing and being sued, and in all courts, may have a common seal, and change the same at pleasure, and may also take, hold, purchase and lease such real, personal and mixed estate, within or without the limits thereof, as the purposes of said village may require.

SEC. 2. The said village of Morris shall be and constitute one (1) election district for all purposes of general and special elections under the election laws of this State, and the president and councilors of said village of Morris shall be and act as judges at all elections held in said village, and shall have power to appoint one clerk, who with the recorder shall be and act as clerks of such elections, and administer the necessary oaths. Such elections shall be held and conducted in the same manner and under the same penalties, and vacancies in the board of election filled as required by the election laws of this State. The recorder of said