

CHAPTER 277—S. F. No. 1256

An act relating to the financial affairs of all villages now or hereafter having a population of more than 600 inhabitants and less than 900 inhabitants, and having an assessed valuation of more than \$1,000,000 and less than \$1,500,000, providing for placing such villages on a cash basis through the funding of outstanding indebtedness by issuance of bonds for the retirement thereof, and including and prescribing penalties for the violation of its provisions.

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

Section 1. Villages may not issue orders without funds.—That from and after January 1, 1932, no village now or hereafter having a population of more than 600 inhabitants, and less than 900 inhabitants, and an assessed valuation of more than \$1,000,000 and less than \$1,500,000, shall draw any order or warrant on any fund until there is sufficient money in such fund to pay the same, together with all orders previously issued against said fund.

Sec. 2. Shall not incur indebtedness.—Whenever from and after January 1, 1932, the expense and obligations incurred chargeable to any particular fund of such village in any calendar year are sufficient to absorb 85 per cent of the entire amount of the tax levy, payable in that year, including such amount as may remain in the fund from the levy of any prior year or years, no officer, board or official body of such village shall have the power and no power shall exist to create any additional indebtedness (save as the remaining 15 per cent of said tax levy is collected) which shall be a charge against that particular fund, or shall be in any manner a valid claim against such village, but such additional indebtedness attempted to be created shall be a personal claim against the officer or members of the municipal board or body voting for or attempting to create the same; and in no event shall any officer, board or official body of such village have the power, and no power shall exist, to create any indebtedness which shall be a charge against the village, in excess of the tax levy payable in that year for the use of the particular department, board or official body, less the amount required to be paid each year therefrom on bonds herein authorized and interest accruing thereon.

Sec. 3. May issue certificates.—At any time after the annual tax levy has been certified to the county auditor, but not earlier than October 10th of the year preceding the year for which the

tax levy is made, the governing body of such village may, by resolution, issue and sell as many certificates of indebtedness as may be needed in anticipation of the collection of taxes levied for any fund named in the tax levy for the purpose of raising money for any such fund, but the certificates outstanding for any of such separate funds shall not at any time exceed 50 per cent of the amount of taxes previously levied for such fund remaining uncollected, and no certificate shall be issued to become due and payable later than December 31st of the year succeeding the year in which said tax levy, certified to the county auditor as aforesaid, was made, and said certificates shall not be sold for less than par and accrued interest and shall not bear a greater rate of interest than six per cent per annum. Each certificate shall state upon its face for which fund the proceeds of said certificate shall be used, the total amount of said certificates so issued, and the whole amount embraced in said tax levy for that particular purpose. They shall be numbered consecutively and be in the denominations of \$100.00, or a multiple thereof, and may have interest coupons attached and shall be otherwise of such form and terms and may be made payable at such place as will best aid in their negotiations, and the proceeds of the tax assessed and collected, as aforesaid, on account of said fund, and the faith and credit of such village shall be irrevocably pledged for the redemption of the certificates so issued. Such certificates shall be paid from the moneys derived from the levy for the year against which such certificates were issued, except as herein provided. The money derived from the sale of said certificates shall be credited to such fund or funds for the calendar year immediately succeeding the making of such levy and shall not be used or spent until such succeeding year. No certificates for any year shall be issued until all certificates for prior years have been paid, nor shall any certificate be extended; provided, that money derived from the sale of certificates for any one year may, if necessary, be used to redeem unpaid certificates issued in a prior year.

Sec. 4. Revenues for 1931.—All taxes levied in 1930 shall be considered as the tax revenues for the year 1931, provided the outstanding indebtedness is funded and paid by the issuance of bonds as herein authorized, and thereafter in any such village, taxes shall be levied as now provided by law not later than October of each year, but for the succeeding year.

Sec. 5. May issue bonds.—If any such village prior to January 1, 1931, has incurred by proper authority a valid indebtedness, excluding bonds, in excess of its cash on hand, such village may, for the purpose only of paying and discharging such valid indebtedness (except bonds) and interest thereon, issue its bonds in the manner now provided by law, except that such bonds may be issued on a vote of the council thereof, without a vote of the electors; provided that if any moneys received from taxes levied in 1930 and payable in 1931, or income from local sources received since January 1, 1931, have been used prior to the issuance of bonds authorized by this Act for the retirement of indebtedness existing January 1, 1931, and interest thereon, such bond issue may include the amount of such payments for the purpose of reimbursing the funds from which such moneys were so paid; and provided further, that such bond issue may also include the amount of attorneys' fees and incidental expenses reasonably incurred in connection with placing such village on a cash basis and the issuance of such refunding bonds.

Sec. 6. Tax levy to pay bonds.—The village council of any village issuing bonds pursuant to the authority of this Act shall, before the issuance thereof, by a resolution, provide for a levy for each year until the principal and interest are paid in full, or a direct annual tax in an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest thereon when and as such principal and interest become due. Such tax levy shall be irrevocable until all of such bonds are paid. Said annual tax for the payment of said bonds and interest shall be derived from two sources: (1) 57 per cent of the amount necessary to pay said bonds and interest, and no more, shall be levied as a special tax in addition to the annual tax levy for general corporation purposes, water, light, power and building commission purposes, and library purposes for each year, and other special taxes which may be levied annually as provided by law; and (2) 43 per cent of the amount necessary to pay said bonds and interest shall be raised and obtained from each of the annual tax levies made by said village for general corporation purposes, water, light, power and building commission purposes, and library purposes for each year until all of said bonds are paid, in the same ratio as the tax levy for paying 43 per cent of the bonds and interest payable in any one year bears to the total annual maximum tax levy that could be made for general corporation purposes, water, light, power and building commission purposes, and library purposes for said year.

Sec. 7. Boards or commissions may not incur indebtedness.—Whenever any department, board or commission of such village has the power to expend money such department, board or commission shall not during any year contract any indebtedness, or incur any pecuniary liability, which shall be in excess of the sum that may be allotted to its department for said year by the village council. The village council shall by resolution, prior to February 1st, each year, set aside for each such department, board or commission, such sum as it deems necessary and adequate for the proper operation thereof, subject, however, to amendments of such resolution thereafter as necessity may require.

Sec. 8. Recorder to keep record.—The village recorder shall keep a record showing accurately the amount allotted to each board or governing body for the calendar year, and the amounts incurred and expended from time to time by the village council and each department of such village. A record of expenditures for the village council and all its departments shall be presented to and examined at a regular meeting once each month by the village council and shall show the true condition of affairs at the date of such meeting.

Sec. 9. Federal census to govern.—For the purpose of this Act, the last federal census of population taken prior to the calendar year in which any levy may be made shall govern and shall be conclusive in determining hereunder the population of any such village.

Sec. 10. Application of act.—When a village has once come under the provisions of this Act, it shall continue under its provisions, notwithstanding any subsequent change in assessed valuation or population.

Sec. 11. Provisions separable.—If any section, part or provision hereof be found unconstitutional such determination shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions not clearly dependent thereon.

Sec. 12. Inconsistent acts repealed.—This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and all acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and declared of no effect insofar as they may be inconsistent with this Act.

Approved April 20, 1931.