

C H A P. 72

An Act to amend the charter of the city of Verdun

[Assented to 22nd December, 1916]

WHEREAS the corporation of the city of Verdun has Preamble.
by its petition represented that it is in the interest of the proper administration of its affairs that its charter, the act 7 Edward VII, chapter 73, as amended by the acts 3 George V, chapter 61, 4 George V, chapter 80, and 6 George V, chapter 48, be further altered and amended in order to give it certain powers which it does not possess and to do away with certain provisions which govern it, namely: for the appointment of a city engineer and the definition of his powers, for municipal taxes, compensation for water, light and power, for interest on the same, and for exemption from taxation; and whereas it is expedient to grant its prayer;

Therefore His Majesty, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly of Quebec, enacts as follows:

1. Sections 6 and 7 of the act 7 Edward VII, chapter 73, are repealed, subject to the provisions of section 7. Provisions repealed conditionally.
2. Article 5300 of the Revised Statutes, 1909, is replaced for the city by the following: R. S., 5300, replaced for the city.
 "5300. The municipal council shall be composed of a mayor and six aldermen, elected in the manner herein-after prescribed." Composition of council.
3. Articles 5301 and 5302 of the Revised Statutes, 1909, are replaced for the city by the following: R. S., 5301 and 5302, replaced for the city.
 "5301. The mayor shall be elected for two years by the majority of the municipal electors who have voted. Election of mayor.
 "5302. The aldermen shall be elected for the same period by the majority of the municipal electors who have voted." Election of aldermen.
4. After article 5361 of the Revised Statutes, 1909, shall be added for the city, articles 5361a and 5361b, as follows: R. S., 5361a and 5361b, enacted for the city.
 "5361a. The city shall have an officer to superintend the construction and maintenance of sewers, roads and side-walks, parks and buildings and municipal works generally, and make plans and maps showing the same. City engineer.

Such officer, who must be a civil engineer licensed for the Province of Quebec, shall be styled "city engineer", and his office shall be in the building where the sittings of the council are held, or any other place fixed by a resolution of the council."

Additional powers.

"**5361b.** The city engineer may also exercise, with the approval of the council, the functions of building and plumbing inspector, and exercise the powers which the council may delegate to him by by-law or resolution respecting buildings and plumbing.

Idem, &c.

He shall have the right to sign all plans, maps, documents and papers prepared by him, and all copies and extracts of plans, maps, books, registers, and other documents and papers certified by him shall be evidence of their contents".

R. S.. 5726, replaced for the city.

5. Article 5726 of the Revised Statutes, 1909, is replaced for the city by the following :

Interest on taxes.

"**5726.** Taxes shall bear interest at the rate of six per cent per annum from maturity without its being for such purpose necessary that a special demand for payment be made.

Taxes, &c., cannot be remitted.

Subject to article 5775, neither the municipal council nor its officers can remit any taxes or the interest thereon."

Certain sections not to apply in certain case.

6. Sections 1, 2 and 3 shall, however, be of no effect if the majority of the electors voting in the manner indicated in section 7 pronounce against the abolition of wards and the reduction of the number of aldermen. Voting on such question shall be held on the second Saturday of February, 1917.

Questions to be submitted to electors.

7. The city council shall, on the second Saturday of February, 1917, submit to the municipal electors entitled to vote for the election of mayor in the manner provided by the charter and its amendments, the following question, to wit:

"Are you in favour of abolishing the wards and electing the aldermen by the majority of the municipal electors on the list, and of reducing the number of aldermen from eight to six?"

Manner of voting.

The electors shall vote thereon by making a cross on the the ballot opposite the word: "Yes" or "No" printed thereon as replies to such question.

Answer in affirmative.

If the majority of the votes cast is in the affirmative, the law enacted by sections 1, 2 and 3 shall be in force for the next general municipal election; and such election shall be held in accordance with sections 1, 2 and 3 of this act.

If the majority of the votes cast is in the negative, the law enacted by sections 1, 2 and 3 shall be cancelled and of no effect, the city shall remain divided, as enacted by section 6 and 7 of the act 7 Edward VII, chapter 73; and the election shall be held in accordance with sections 6 and 7 of such latter act.

The polling-places opened for such referendum shall remain open from seven o'clock in the forenoon till eight o'clock in the afternoon of the same day; and the city is authorized to make the disbursements required for such referendum.

8. Notwithstanding the act 3 George V, chapter 61, section 2, article 5776 of the Revised Statutes, 1909, as it stood before its repeal for the city, shall apply to the city.

9. The power granted to the city under the act 3 George V, chapter 61, section 2, to borrow \$250,000.00 per annum during three years, to be applied to the execution of certain permanent works, is limited to the power of borrowing for the two first years, so that the loan therein authorized shall not exceed \$500,000.00.

10. The sale of \$250,000.00 of debentures issued under the act 4 George V, chapter 80, section 6, and the proceeds of which have been employed in paying the costs of permanent works in lieu of being employed in the construction of underground conduits, is hereby validated, and without prejudice to the power of the city of Verdun to borrow the balance of the \$500,000.00 authorized by the said act for the construction of the said underground conduits.

11. The city is specially authorized to borrow, by by-law, a sum not exceeding \$250,000.00, to be applied exclusively to paying the present floating debt contracted almost wholly in doing permanent works.

This loan shall be effected by an issue of debentures or registered stock for a term not exceeding forty years from the date of issue, and at a rate of interest not exceeding six per cent, and it shall be exempt from the formalities required under articles 5782, 5783, 5784 and 5788 of the Revised Statutes, 1909, and under section 28 of the act 7 Edward VII, chapter 73.

The by-law ordering such loan shall impose an annual special tax on the taxable properties of the city until the extinction of the debt, sufficient to cover the payment of interest on the debentures or registered stock, and at

least one per cent per annum on the amount of the loan, as a sinking-fund.

Special annual tax for sinking-fund.

12. A special annual tax shall be imposed by by-law on all taxable properties of the city, sufficient to create a sinking-fund of a least one per cent, to provide for the payment of the \$250,000.00 of debentures already issued and sold under the powers granted to the city by the act 4 George V, chapter 80, section 6, and to meet the payment of the interest on the said debentures.

General borrowing power to be affected.

13. The loans authorized by the act 3 George V, chapter 61, section 2, by the act 4 George V, chapter 80, section 6, and by this act, shall affect the general borrowing power of the city.

Loan for permanent works authorized.

14. The city is authorized, upon a petition signed by the majority in number and in value of the interested proprietors, to do all permanent works, such as sidewalks, sewers and other so-called permanent works, and to borrow, as may be necessary, the amounts required for such purposes.

Special assessment.

The cost of these works and the interest on the loan contracted for the payment thereof, as well as the costs and disbursements incurred in such case in the preparation of the by-laws and the negotiation of the loans, shall be paid by a special assessment on the interested proprietors, in proportion to the frontage of their properties, and shall not exceed 40 years.

Amount.

The total amount of the loans authorized by this section shall not exceed one million dollars.

Term of loans.

The term of each of such loans shall not exceed that of the special assessment made for the works for which such loan is made; and the interest shall not exceed six per cent per annum.

Formalities.

These loans shall be ordered by by-laws of the city council, but without being submitted to the formalities prescribed in articles 5782, 5783, 5784 and 5788 of the Revised Statutes, 1909,

They shall be made by means of an issue of debentures or registered stock issued in accordance with the provisions of the city charter, or, in default of provisions on the subject in the charter, in accordance with the provisions of the Cities and Towns' act. Any by-law ordering such a loan, shall in each case clearly specify the object of such loan, and no by-law of this nature shall be adopted by the city council without having obtained from the city engineer a written declaration on his oath of office, attesting to the

total cost of the works for which such loan is required, and that the works have been entirely executed.

The special assessment collected from the interested proprietors, for the permanent works made under this section, shall constitute a sinking-fund to be applied exclusively to paying the interest on the debentures or registered stock issued for the payment of these works, and to redeem such debentures and registered stock at maturity, which said interest and sinking-fund shall nevertheless remain a charge against the general funds of the city.

The loans authorized by this section shall not affect the general borrowing power which the city has under its charter, but upon the special condition that the sinking-fund required by the preceding paragraph be not used for any other purpose than that for which it is established.

The city may, however, redeem, before maturity, the debentures or registered stock issued under this section, provided such redemption be not made above par, and may use for such purpose the moneys of the sinking-fund established for their redemption.

15. This act shall come into force on the day of its sanction.

C H A P. 73

An Act to incorporate the town of Ste. Thérèse

[Assented to 22nd December, 1916]

WHEREAS the corporation of the village of Ste. Thérèse de Blainville has, by its petition, represented that the provisions of the Municipal Code no longer suffice for its present needs, and it has become necessary to take more extensive measures for the administration of the said village; and it has prayed to be incorporated as a town under the The Cities and Towns' Act, and under the name of the "Town of Ste. Thérèse";

Whereas it is in the interest of the ratepayers of the said village of Ste. Thérèse de Blainville, that the said petition be granted;

Therefore His Majesty, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of Quebec, enacts as follows:

1. This act shall be cited as "The charter of the town of Ste. Thérèse."