

Registered
instead of
coupon bonds
may be issued
by the common
council.

by amended by adding at the end of said section the following words: "Provided, however, that it shall be competent for the common council to provide in said ordinance that the bonds to be issued may be registered bonds instead of coupon bonds, and the registered bonds so to be issued shall be of such denomination as the common council shall, in the ordinance authorizing the issue of such bonds, determine and direct. And the common council shall further by general ordinance prescribe the form of such registered bonds, or manner in which the same shall be registered and the interest thereon paid."

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved March 26, 1897.

No. 457, A.]

[Published March 29, 1897.

CHAPTER 111.

AN ACT to provide for the establishment and maintenance of historical museums in cities of the first and second class, and to authorize the levy of a tax to purchase, erect and maintain such museums.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Cities authorized to establish a free public historical museum.

SECTION 1. Any city of the first and second class is hereby authorized to establish and maintain a free public historical museum, for the receipt and free public exhibition of works and objects of historical interest, with reference or pertaining to the state and nation and the late

civil war between the states of the United States, and for that purpose to receive, hold and manage any donation, devise or bequest, or any loan of articles that may be made to such city for the increase or maintenance of such historical museum, under the regulations and conditions as hereinafter contained, or such as may be agreed upon between the donors and such city, or as may be adopted as provided by this act.

SECTION 2. The museums established and maintained under this act shall be under the general management, control and supervision of a board of nine trustees, and shall be styled "board of trustees of the historical museum of the city of ———." The first board of trustees shall consist of the mayor of such city, the president, or other presiding officer of the school board of such city, and three members of the common council, or other governing body of such city, to be designated by said mayor, and of four resident tax-payers of such city, who shall, likewise, be chosen by the mayor. The mayor and president of the school board shall always be ex-officio members of said board of trustees. The said aldermen, or members of the council or other governing body of such city, to be appointed, shall hold office as members of said board during the time that they shall continue to hold their then terms as aldermen or members of the governing body of such city, and the said resident tax-payers shall be divided into four classes; the first one to be appointed to hold office for one year, the second to be appointed for two years, the third to be appointed for three years, and the fourth to be appointed for four years after their respective appointments, and all vacancies to be filled on the nomination of the mayor. Whenever the common council or other governing body of any city, falling within the class designated by this act, shall pass a resolution to provide in effect that a board of trustees be named, and for the establishment of a historical museum, as con-

To be under management of a board of trustees—how chosen—terms, etc.

templated by this act, it shall thereupon become the duty of the mayor of such city, to make the appointments as herein provided, and to call a meeting of the said board. None of the said trustees shall receive any compensation from the city treasury, or otherwise, for their services as such trustees; and no member of said board of trustees shall become, or cause himself to become interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract or job for the purchase of any matter pertaining to the museum, or for fuel, furniture, stationery or other things necessary for the increase or maintenance of the said museum. Such trustees shall take an official oath to faithfully discharge their duties as such, and shall be subject to all the restrictions, disabilities, liabilities, punishments and limitations prescribed by law as to the alderman, or other governing body of such city.

Officers to be chosen at first meeting.

SECTION 3. At the first meeting of said board of trustees, the said board shall organize by the choice of one of its members to serve as president for the ensuing year, and until his successor shall be chosen. The annual meetings of said board shall thereafter be held annually, and at such meeting a president shall be chosen from their number, to serve for one year, until his successor shall be chosen.

Board of trustees to have full control and to formulate rules, etc.

SECTION 4. The board of trustees shall have the care, control and supervision of the public historical museum, its appurtenances, fixtures and furniture, and of the receipt, selection, arrangement and disposition of the specimens and objects appertaining to said museum; also of the disbursements of all moneys appropriated for, and belonging to the museum fund, in the manner hereinafter provided; and the said board shall adopt, and at their discretion, modify, amend or repeal by-laws, rules and regulations for the management, care and use of the historical museum, and fix and enforce penalties for their violation, and generally, shall adopt such measures as shall promote the public utility of the museum; provided, that such

by-laws, rules and regulations shall not conflict with the provisions of this act.

SECTION 5. The board of trustees shall, at their first meeting, or as soon thereafter as practicable, and every three years thereafter, at an annual meeting, elect by ballot, a person of suitable attainments and ability as custodian, who shall so act, and he shall be ex-officio secretary of said board of trustees. The custodian first appointed shall hold his office for three years, from the time of the first annual meeting, unless previously removed, and thereafter the term of appointment shall be the term of three years, and the compensation of the custodian shall be fixed by the board of trustees. Said board of trustees shall also appoint such assistants and employes for such museum, as they may deem necessary and expedient, and shall fix their compensation. All vacancies in the office of custodian, assistants and other employes shall be filled by the board of trustees.

Custodian.

SECTION 6. The custodian, or other assistants or employes may be removed by the board of trustees for misdemeanor, incompetency or inattention to duty, or for any other cause.

Removal of subordinates relating to.

SECTION 7. It shall be the duty of the board of trustees, within ten days after the appointment of the custodian, and other salaried employes, to report to, and file with the city comptroller, or other proper officer of the city, a full certified list of the persons so appointed, with the salary allowed to each, and the time or times fixed for the payment thereof, and they shall also furnish to said comptroller, or other similar officer, a list of accounts and bills allowed by said board of trustees, stating the particulars thereof, which list of accounts and bills shall be furnished immediately after the meeting of the board at which the same were allowed. And the said board of trustees shall, on or before the first day of October, in each year, make to the common council, or other governing body, a report up to and including the thirty-first day of August of said year, containing a statement

Trustees to report employes and salaries.

of the condition of the museum, the articles added thereto, and the account of all moneys credited to the historical museum fund, and expended on the same, during the preceding year.

Annual tax not to exceed one-fifth of a mill.

SECTION 8. From and after the organization of such board of trustees, the common council shall levy and collect, annually, upon all taxable property in any such city, at the time and in the same manner as other taxes are levied and collected by law, a special tax not exceeding one-fifth of a mill upon each dollar of the assessed value of said taxable property, the amount of which shall be determined by said board of trustees and certified to the common council, and the said comptroller, or other like officer, at the time of making the annual report to said common council; and the entire amount of said special tax shall be paid into, and held in the city treasury as a separate and distinct fund, to be known as the historical museum fund, and shall not be used or appropriated, directly or indirectly, for any other purpose than for the purchase of a site and the erection of a suitable building for such museum, and for the maintenance and increase of the said museum, and the payment of the salaries of the custodian, assistants and other employes, or for the purchase of such objects as may be necessary or proper for the purposes of the museum, and for the purchase of fuel and supplies, and for incidental repairs and expenses connected with the museum.

Board of trustees authorized to receive gifts for museum.

SECTION 9. The board of trustees may purchase, lease or receive as a gift, any real estate and hold the same for the purposes designated in this act, and shall have the authority to erect, improve, enlarge and repair any building upon the same; but no real estate shall be purchased or leased without a resolution of the common council authorizing the same, nor shall any building be erected, improved or enlarged without a resolution of said common council authorizing the same, and all deeds of conveyances, donations and leases shall be made to

the city, and title to all property, save that loaned, shall be vested in such city.

SECTION 10. All moneys received by, or raised in any such city for historical museum purposes shall be paid over to the city treasurer or other like officer, to be disbursed by him on the order of the president and secretary of the said board of trustees, countersigned by the city comptroller, or other like officer. Such orders shall be made payable to the order of such persons in whose favor they have been issued, and shall be the only vouchers of the city treasurer for the payments from the museum fund. The said board of trustees shall provide for the purchase of books, supplies, fuel and other matters necessary for the maintenance of the museum; provided, however, that it shall not be lawful for said board of trustees to expend, or contract a liability for any sum in excess of the amount levied in any one year for the museum fund, on account of such fund.

All moneys raised to be paid into city treasury

SECTION 11. Whenever any such common council shall, by resolution, direct the purchase of any site for said museum, or shall direct the erection of any building for the purposes specified in this act and the sum required to purchase any site, or to erect any building, shall be in excess of the amount which can be raised by the tax herein authorized, during or within the next ensuing year, it shall be lawful, and the said common council is hereby authorized to provide that the taxes herein authorized shall be levied, and the same received and paid into the treasury of such city for a sufficient number of years to raise a fund large enough to meet the designed expenditures, for the purpose of purchasing a site, or erecting a suitable building or both.

Money for purchase of site may be in excess of tax.

SECTION 12. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved March 26, 1897.