

No. 1046, A.]

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CHAPTER 558.

AN ACT to authorize all cities of the first class, whether organized under general or special charter, to designate a board of city land commissioners for the purpose of acquiring and disposing of lands in certain cases.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Every city of the first class, whether organized under general or special charter, is hereby empowered to designate by ordinance any existing board or commission as the board of city land commissioners, which board shall thereupon be vested with the powers, duties and restrictions herein specified, in addition to those already lawfully exercised by such board, for the purpose of acquiring and disposing of lands and improvements thereon as herein provided.

SECTION 2. Said board is hereby authorized to acquire, in the name of such city, lands and improvements thereon in any manner by purchase, lease, contract or gift, within one thousand feet of any existing or contemplated public park or parkway, and to sell, mortgage, lease or contract for the sale of the same in any manner, but no such acquisition, or such disposal of such property, shall be made until ordered by a resolution of the common council of such city, adopted by a majority vote thereof, upon the prior recommendation of said board, and such resolution of said common council shall also fix and specify the terms of such acquisition or disposal of such property. Any gift of property for the purposes herein specified shall first be accepted by the common council of such city upon recommendation of said board before the same shall become the property of such city.

SECTION 3. When such property shall have been acquired as aforesaid, said board shall have power to manage, control, govern, improve, subdivide, resubdivide and plat the same into lots, streets and boulevards, to establish building lines, and make any reservations, restrictions and exceptions in relation to such lands as it may deem necessary.

SECTION 4. The acquisition of any land under this act shall be in the name of and for such city. All deeds, leases, contracts, mortgages or other instruments necessary to execute in carrying out the purposes of this act shall be executed in the name of such city, and signed in its behalf by said board by its president and secretary, after due authorization by resolution of said board.

SECTION 5. No corporated liability whatever shall in any event be created against such city, but all securities issued by said board shall be payable solely out of the proceeds of the operation of such board and the city land fund hereinafter named. Such securities shall not be issued in an amount in excess of the cost to such city of such lands and ten per cent of such cost in addition thereto.

SECTION 6. For the purposes of carrying out this act the common council may at the request of such board make an initial appropriation of not to exceed twenty-five thousand dollars, which shall be known as the city land fund, and it shall be deposited, together with all of the proceeds of the operation of such board with the treasurer of such city. Such fund shall be drawn out only on an order signed by the president and secretary of such board, and countersigned by the city comptroller.

SECTION 7. All claims and demands, bills and accounts, created by said board shall be audited and allowed by said board, before an order is issued therefor, and immediately after their allowance by said board they shall furnish the city comptroller with a list of such claims and demands, bills and accounts allowed, stating the character thereof, materials furnished or services rendered, and said comptroller shall then audit the same before countersigning said orders. It shall be the duty of said board to transmit to the common council of said city at its first regular meeting in January of each year a full and detailed report of all transactions of said board for the preceding year, together with their itemized account of all expenditures, and a list of employes, and inventory of property, and the purchase price thereof, and of all mortgages and securities issued, which may be outstanding at the time of making such report.

SECTION 8. The common council of such city may by a three-fourths vote of the aldermen elect either to suspend the operation of or abolish such board. In case of suspension or abolition of such board the common council may exercise the powers of such board so far as may be necessary to carry out the terms of any contract or complete any proceeding already entered into by such board.

SECTION 9. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved July 5. 1911.