

districts referred to in the first section of this act, shall continue in office until the unfinished business of said districts shall have been closed up and settled, with all the powers and duties now by law imposed upon them, for the purpose of closing up such unfinished business, which shall be done with as little delay as possible.

Term of present officers.

SEC. 30. This act shall take effect immediately.

J. McM. SHAFTER.

*Speaker of the Assembly.*

E. B. DEAN, JR.

*President pro tem. of the Senate.*

Approved April 14, 1852.

LEONARD J. FARWELL.

[*Published, June 3, 1852.*]

An Act to incorporate a Fire Department in the Village of Janesville

Chap 295

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

SECTION 1. That the following named persons, William L. Mitchell, William Kempe, A. G. Allen, Henry O. Clark, H. Miltmore, William Shelton, H. Jackman, J. N. Kaiser, S. W. Smith, Isaac Houland, Samuel Doolittle, Nathaniel Parker, J. W. Hobson, C. P. Sears, and their successors shall be and hereby are ordained, constituted, and declared to be and continue a body politic and corporate in fact and in name, under the name and style of the "Fire Department of the Village of Janesville;" by which name they and their successors may and shall have perpetual succession, and shall be known in law, capable of suing and being sued, of pleading and being impleaded, of answering and being answered unto, of defending and being defended, in all suits, complaints, matters, causes, courts, and places whatsoever, both in law and equity; and capable of having a common seal, of acquiring by purchase, gift, devise, or otherwise, and of holding and conveying any real, personal, or mixed estate, necessary, proper, or expedient for the object of this incorporation: *Provided*, That the amount of said estate shall at no time exceed the sum of fifty thousand dollars.

Created a body corporate.

Proviso.

SEC. 2. The officers of said department by this act incorporated, shall be a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer; and said officers shall, together with the chairman, of the town board of supervisors and the delegates to be elected or appointed pursuant to the constitution and by-laws of said department, constitute a board of trustees, a majority of whom shall be a quorum for the

Officers.

transaction of business; and the members of said board of trustees separately, and as such board, shall exercise such authority and do and perform such duties as shall be vested in them, or required of them by said constitution and by laws: *Provided*, That in case the village of Janesville shall be hereafter incorporated, the mayor or the president thereof, as the case may be, shall be a member of said board of trustees, in the place and stead of the chairman of said board of supervisors.

Proviso.

SEC. 3. There shall be an annual meeting of said department on the first Monday in May in each year, at which the officers shall be elected by ballot by a majority of the members present. Said officers shall hold their offices for one year, or until others shall be chosen in their places. In case it shall at any time happen that an election of officers shall not be held on the day above specified, said corporation shall not be dissolved; but it may and shall be lawful to hold such election thereafter pursuant to public notice given in one or more of the newspapers published in said village of Janesville.

Annual meeting

Who to be officers.

SEC. 4. The officers of the said department the chairman of the board of supervisors of the town of Janesville shall be president, J. J. R. Pierce, vice president, B. B. Eldridge, secretary, E. H. Bennett, treasurer; and shall, together with said chairman of said board of trustees, and the delegates to be elected or appointed as provided in section second of this act, constitute the first board of trustees of said department, and shall hold their offices until one year from the first Monday in May next, except that said chairman of said board of supervisors shall continue a member of said board of trustees as long as he shall remain such chairman of said board of supervisors.

How interest to be invested.

SEC. 5. The interest arising from the funds and property of said corporation, except sufficient to defray incidental expenses, shall be appropriated to the relief of such indigent and disabled members and their families, as may be interested in the funds or property, and who may, in the opinion of the majority of the trustees, be worthy of assistance.

Fire companies.

SEC. 6. The board of trustees of the said department shall have power to authorize the formation of fire engine, hook and ladder, hose and bucket companies, to provide for the due support and regulation of the same, and to order such companies to be disbanded, their meetings prohibited, and their apparatus to be delivered up to the department. Each company shall be formed by voluntary enlistment of not to exceed seventy able bodied men and be-

between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, and shall have their own officers, and form their own by-laws, not inconsistent with the rules and regulations of the said department. Every member of each company shall be exempt from highway poll tax, and from military duty, during the continuance of such membership; and any person who shall serve as a member of any such company the full term of seven years, shall be forever thereafter exempt from military duty, except in case of insurrection and invasion.

SEC. 7. If any of the said companies, formed as above provided, shall cause, incite, or create any riot, mob, quarrel, or disturbance with any other company, or with any other person or persons, said board of trustees shall inquire into and investigate such riot, mob, quarrel, or disturbance and shall, in their discretion, disband said company, and require the said company to deliver up its fire apparatus, whatever the same may be, and prohibit its meetings.

SEC. 8. Certificates of membership and certificates of discharge, after full term of service in any of said companies shall be granted by the department, which certificate, signed by the president and treasurer of said department, and countersigned by the clerk of the court of the county [of] Rock, and under the seal of the said fire department, shall in all cases be satisfactory evidence of the fact therein contained, and each member applying for such certificate shall pay therefor such sum as the by-laws of said department shall prescribe.

SEC. 9. It shall be the duty of the said board of trustees to make out and deliver to said clerk of court of said county of Rock, once in each year, or as often as he may request it, an accurate list of all members of this incorporation, who shall be exempt from jury or military duty, or who may be entitled to the benefits of such exemption.

SEC. 10. The legislature may at any time alter, modify or amend this act.

SEC. 10. This act shall be in force from and after its publication.

J. McM. SHAFER.

*Speaker of the Assembly.*

E. B. DEAN, JR.,

*President pro tem. of the Senate.*

Approved, April 14, 1852.

LEONARD J. FARWELL.

[*Published May 12, 1852.*]

When companies may be disbanded.

Board to issue certificates.

List of members