

No. 137, S.]

[Published May 31, 1917.

CHAPTER 296

AN ACT to repeal section 9a of chapter 165 of the laws of 1903, as created by chapter 500 of the laws of 1911, relating to recovery from the fire pension fund in cities of the first class.

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

SECTION 1. Section 9a of chapter 165 of the laws of 1903, as created by chapter 500 of the laws of 1911, is repealed.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved May 28, 1917.

No. 174, S.]

[Published May 31, 1917.

CHAPTER 297

AN ACT to create section 926—32 of the statutes, relating to central purchasing in the cities of the first class.

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

SECTION 1. There is added to the statutes a new section to read: Section 926—32. 1. In all cities of the first class, whether incorporated under special charter or under general law, there is hereby created a Central Board of Purchases.

2. This board shall be composed of the mayor, two aldermen to be selected by the common council, the commissioner of public works, the responsible administrative official of each of the following boards and commissions to be designated by the board or commission which he represents; the sewerage commission, the board of school directors, the public library board, the public museum board, the board of park commissioners and the officers, boards and commissions corresponding thereto.

3. Each member shall have one vote, the mayor shall be chairman of the board and shall call all meetings. If the mayor shall fail to call a meeting of the board on the written request of any member of the board, a majority of the membership may call a meeting. Five members shall constitute a quorum.

4. The central board of purchases shall organize a department of purchases and they shall appoint and remove, fix the duties, and except as hereinafter provided, determine the fitness and salaries of such employes as shall be necessary to administer the affairs of the department of purchases. Provided that all employes whose duties are solely clerical in character shall be subject to civil service rules, and if the common council of such

city shall have fixed standard rates of pay for such employes, said employes shall receive the same standard rates of pay as may be provided by the common council for such service.

5. The common council shall appropriate annually in the budget a sum sufficient to carry on the activities of the department of purchases. This shall not, however, prevent the appropriation of funds by other proper appropriating officials for the operation of the department of purchases.

6. The board of purchases shall have full power to purchase or to provide for the purchase of all materials, supplies and equipment for the use of all departments, boards or commissions comprising the city government. Such purchases shall be made upon requisition by the proper officials of said boards, commissions or departments from funds provided by the proper appropriating official. Providing that nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent the central board of purchases or their agents from making purchases or contracts in anticipation of the needs of departments, boards and commissions or from maintaining stores of commodities in anticipation of needs, and providing further that any board or commission may, by agreement with the central board of purchases, purchase independently such articles of a special character as are used only by it, or which may be decided by agreement with the central board of purchases may be more advantageously purchased by any such board or commission than by the department of purchases. This power and authority of the central board of purchases to make all purchases shall not be construed to include contracts for public works where materials, supplies or equipment are furnished by the contractor as part of the requirements of his contract.

All such materials, supplies and equipment, except as otherwise provided herein, when the estimated cost thereof shall exceed \$1,000.00 shall be purchased by formal contract from the lowest responsible bidder, after due notice inviting proposals. Such notice shall be published in at least one official paper for at least six days preceding the last day set for the receipt of proposals. Except as hereinafter provided, where the nature of the purchase is such that it is in their judgment to the best interests of the city, the central board of purchases may authorize purchases in excess of \$1,000.00 value, without complying with the foregoing provisions. The reasons for dispensing with the formal contract provisions shall be set forth in the minutes of the central board of purchases and shall be a matter of public record. When the proportion of any such proposed purchase which is to be charged to those departments under the control of the common council shall exceed \$1,000.00, such purchase shall

be made by formal contract from the lowest responsible bidder, unless the common council shall, by a two-thirds vote of the members elect, authorize such purchases without the intervention of a formal contract. The central board of purchases shall have power to let contracts in excess of funds available provided that each contract shall state in substance that its continuance beyond the limits of funds already available shall be contingent upon the appropriation of funds by the proper city officials. All contracts shall run to the city of Milwaukee and shall be countersigned by the comptroller, who shall state thereon whether or not funds are available to make payment in full for the amount of the contract and to what extent the continuance of the contract is contingent upon the appropriation of additional funds, by proper city officials. The central board of purchases shall have power to require of bidders and contractors such sureties as in their judgment are advisable and shall have power to decide as to the responsibility and competency of such bidders and sureties.

7. The central board of purchases shall have power and authority to call upon any officer, board or commission to furnish information or otherwise assist them in the performance of their duties and it shall be the duty of any such officer, board or commission to furnish such information or assistance as shall be within the scope of such officer, board or commission.

SECTION 2. All acts or parts of acts in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved May 28, 1917.

No. 180, S.]

[Published May 31, 1917.

CHAPTER 298

AN ACT to create subsection 3 of section 1421—17, and to amend subsection 1 of section 1421—20, relating to district tuberculosis hospitals, and to amend subsection 2 of section 1421—11, of the statutes, relating to county sanatorium boards.

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

SECTION 1. A new subsection is added to section 1421—17 of the statutes to read: (Section 1421—17) 3. The board of supervisors of any county is authorized to levy taxes, borrow money, or issue bonds to raise a sufficient amount of money, to cover such county's share of the cost of procuring a site, construct-