

AN ACT INCORPORATING THE BOROUGH OF BANTAM

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

SECTION 1. The electors of the state, inhabitants of the town of Litchfield and residing within the following limits: Beginning at a point one hundred twenty rods south from the elevation stone on the corner of Main street and Lake Shore road, and thence running west three hundred rods; thence due north two hundred sixty rods; thence east four hundred rods; thence south two hundred eighty rods; thence west one hundred rods to place of beginning, hereby are constituted, a body corporate and politic, by the name of the borough of Bantam, and by that name, they and their successors, inhabitants and electors of said town within the limits aforesaid, shall have perpetual succession and be capable of suing and being sued, and of purchasing, holding, and conveying any estate, real or personal, and of having a common seal.

SECTION 2. All electors of the state, domiciled in said borough, qualified to vote at elections of the town of Litchfield, also anyone owning real estate valued at \$1,000.00 or more, shall be qualified to vote in meetings of said borough.

SECTION 3. A meeting of the legal electors of said borough shall be held on the fourth Wednesday of June, 1915, and such electors shall elect from their number, by a plurality of ballots, a warden, six burgesses, a clerk, a treasurer, an auditor, two assessors, and such other officers as are required by the provisions of this act to be elected by ballot. All officers elected at such meeting or at any meeting held for the purpose of dissolving a tie as hereinafter provided, shall hold office until the first Monday in May (year). On the following first Monday of May (year), and annually thereafter, there shall be a meeting of the legal electors of said borough at which said electors shall elect from their number, by a plurality of ballots, such officers as are required by the provisions of this act to be elected by ballot. Each officer of said borough shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his duties and hold office until the next election and until his successor shall be chosen. If any officer of said borough shall remove his residence therefrom, he shall cease to hold such office, and the same shall thereupon be vacant. Vacancies created by death, resignation, removal from the borough, or failure to qualify for office may be filled at any meeting of the borough duly warned for such purpose. Until the borough shall fill such vacancy the same may be filled by the warden and burgesses, and any person so appointed by the warden and burgesses shall hold office until his successor is duly elected as herein provided.

SECTION 4. For all elections within said borough the registrars of the first voting district of the town of Litchfield shall prepare a list of the legally qualified voters of said town, residing within the limits of said borough at the time of the completion of the last revised registry list of the town, and shall place on such list the names of all electors of said town who have resided continuously within the limits of said borough for a period of at least six months before any election held therein. Said registrars shall cause a sufficient number of such lists to be printed for use at such elections, and shall deliver to the moderator of any such election not less than fifty copies of such list at a time not later than two hours before the opening of the polls for such election. Said registrars shall prepare a ballot box, and shall appoint the moderator, checkers, and counters for such elections. At such elections the vote shall be by ballot, and the time for opening and closing the polls, casting, challenging, checking, and counting ballots, and all procedure relating thereto shall conform to the provisions of the general statutes governing elections for boroughs. The transaction of business at all annual meetings of the voters of said borough, other than for the election of officers, shall immediately follow the closing of the polls unless otherwise specified in the warning therefor.

SECTION 5. Special meetings of the borough may be called by the warden, or by three burgesses, or in the absence of the warden, or his inability to act, by the senior burgess, and in the absence or inability of the latter by the next burgess in seniority. On written petition of not less than fifteen electors of said borough lodged with the warden, or if he be absent or incapacitated, with the senior burgess, a special meeting shall be called within ten days thereafter, and warning given in the same manner as provided by law for special town meetings, provided it shall not be necessary for said warden or said burgesses to post a copy of such warning upon the public signpost of the town of Litchfield unless such signpost is maintained by said town within the limits of said borough.

SECTION 6. Every officer of said borough, whether elected or appointed, shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, be sworn to the faithful discharge thereof. Such oath shall be administered to the clerk of said borough by any officer qualified to administer oaths in Litchfield county, and the clerk shall thereupon administer such oath to all other officers required to be sworn, and the fact of the administration of such oath shall be recorded by said clerk.

SECTION 7. The time and place for the first meeting of said warden and burgesses shall be fixed at the business meeting of the electors of said borough held on the fourth Wednesday in June, 1915, and said board of warden and burgesses shall have power to provide for stated meetings of said board, and may adjourn any such meeting from time to time. Special meetings of said board may be called by the warden and attested by the clerk or by three burgesses. Notice for a special meeting of said board shall be given by mailing a copy thereof to each burgess, and to the warden at least two days before the time of such meeting. Four members of the board of warden and burgesses shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 8. Every officer of said borough shall, upon the expiration of his term, deliver to his successor in office all books, vouchers, papers, or other property in his possession belonging to said borough, or concerning the business thereof. Said officers shall receive such reasonable compensation for services performed for said borough as the burgesses shall direct. The Warden and Burgesses shall receive compensation in the amount of \$8.00 for Warden and \$5.00 for each regular monthly meeting attended. Compensation for Warden and Burgesses shall take effect starting with the officials elected in May, 1977.

SECTION 9. The warden shall be ex officio a burgess and chairman of the board of burgesses. He shall be the chief executive officer of said borough and shall preside at all meetings of the electors thereof, except meetings for the election of officers, and at all meetings of the board of burgesses. At all meetings where he shall so preside, he shall vote to dissolve a tie when necessary, but shall not otherwise vote except in the election of officers. He shall have the power to preserve the peace in said borough, to suppress riots and tumults with force if necessary, and may require the aid of any sheriff or other officer, and may call upon any other person for such aid as he may deem necessary. He may, without warning, arrest any person quarreling or behaving in a disorderly manner in his presence, and commit such person to the county jail or the town lockup for a time not exceeding twenty-four hours, and shall have, within the limits of said borough, the power of a sheriff or other police officer. When the warden shall arrest any person for an offense committed in his presence as aforesaid, he shall forthwith make complaint to a grand juror of the town of Litchfield, and such grand juror may issue a warrant for such person and cause him to be brought before a justice of the peace of said town for trial.

SECTION 10. If the warden shall vacate his office, or be unable to perform the duties thereof, the senior burgess, and in case of inability of the latter, the next senior burgess able to act, shall act in the place of the warden during such inability or until another person shall be elected warden, and while so acting as warden shall have the powers conferred and the duties imposed upon the warden under the provisions of this act, and all acts of such burgess or warden shall have the same effect as like acts of the warden, and such temporary performance of the duties of the warden shall in no wise disqualify such burgess from performing any of his duties as burgess. In all meetings of the warden and burgesses, such burgess, while acting as warden, may vote as a burgess and in case of a tie shall have an additional vote. The seniority of a burgess shall be determined by a vote of the burgesses at the first regular meeting of the board held after the annual election.

SECTION 11. The clerk of the borough shall be clerk of the board of burgesses, and shall act at all meetings of the voters of said borough and at all meetings of said board of burgesses. He shall keep records of such meetings, and he shall be custodian of all books, papers, and documents belonging to said borough, and said warden and burgesses, except such books and documents as the treasurer shall be required to keep. He shall cause the publication of all by-laws and ordinances of the borough

and shall certify the fact of such publication. He shall also make record of his acts in serving notices of orders or votes passed by the burgesses. All books, papers, and documents kept by the clerk shall be open to the inspection of any inhabitant of said borough at all reasonable times. Said clerk shall post and serve all notices which may be required by the board of burgesses and shall perform such other clerical duty as may be required by said board or the voters of the borough at any legal meeting. In the absence of the clerk, a clerk pro tempore, while acting as clerk, shall have the powers and be subject to the duties of the clerk.

SECTION 12. The treasurer of said borough shall have the same relative powers and duties in said borough as town treasurers have in their respective towns. He shall pay no money out of the borough treasury except in accordance with a vote passed at a meeting of the board of burgesses or on an order signed by a majority of the members of said board and shall be accountable to the borough.

SECTION 13. A bailiff of said borough shall be appointed by the board of burgesses and shall have the same authority within the limits of the borough as constables have within their respective towns, and shall be liable to the same extent.

SECTION 14. The collector of said borough shall be appointed by the burgesses, and shall faithfully collect all rate bills made out by the burgesses for taxes laid by said borough; and any justice of the peace of Litchfield county, on their application or that of the collector, shall issue a warrant for the collection thereof. The collector shall have the same powers as town collectors, and shall be accountable to the burgesses in the same manner as town tax collectors are accountable to the selectmen, and shall pay all taxes collected to the borough treasurer at least once each month.

SECTION 16. The auditor shall annually examine and verify all accounts of the officers of the borough and shall make a sworn report in writing within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. He shall have access at all convenient times to all books of accounts, bills, and vouchers of any officer or employee of the borough.

SECTION 17. The treasurer, collector of taxes, and bailiff shall give sufficient bonds, to be approved by the warden and burgesses, with sureties, to the borough for the faithful performance of their respective duties.

SECTION 18. Said borough may, at a legal meeting called for such purpose, lay taxes upon all property subject to taxation in said borough to meet all necessary expenses, and the assessors, after taking the oath provided by law for assessors of towns, shall, within thirty days after the beginning of the fiscal year, make, and so far as it pertains to the assessment of taxes for the borough, complete a list of all real estate in said borough and all ratable personal property of persons domiciled therein, as the same may appear in the grand list of the town then last made and completed, provided said assessors shall not be bound to follow

such list if, in their judgment, the valuations therein or any of them are not truly or fairly set forth in such list. In that event, subject to the provisions hereinafter contained relating to notice, they may add to or reduce the list of any person, firm, or corporation as the same appears in such town list and may set the taxable property of such person, firm, or corporation in the borough list at its true valuation as required by law in the case of assessors for towns. If any real estate in said borough has been sold or conveyed, or has changed ownership between the date of the assessments of such town list, and the time for making such list for the borough, as aforesaid, said assessors shall assess the value of such real estate, and shall set the same in such borough list, to the person owning the same at the time of making such borough list, and shall deduct the same from the list of the person in whose name it stood in the assessment list of the town, and if any person or corporation liable or having property liable to taxation, shall have moved into said borough between the date of the assessment of such town list and the time of making such borough list, or if any person, corporation, or property liable to taxation in said borough shall have been omitted from such town list, such person, corporation, or property shall be assessed by said assessors and set in such borough list, and when any building or part of building shall have been constructed, or erected in, or moved into, or stationed within said borough, between the date of the assessment of such town list and the time of making such borough list, said assessors shall assess the value of such building and the land on which the same is located at the time of making such borough list and shall set such real estate in such borough list. When any real estate is only in part situated within the limits of the borough and is so assessed and entered on the grand list of the town that there is no separate value put upon that part of such estate lying in said borough, said assessors shall assess the value of that part of such real estate as lies within said borough and set the same in such borough list. Before completing such list, notice shall be given to all persons affected by such conditions, changes, and omissions in the same manner as assessors of towns are by law required to give notice, and said assessors, after having given ten days notice which shall be by posting on the signpost, if any there be, and by publication in some newspaper having a circulation in said borough, shall hold a public session at the time and place designated in such notice, to hear all persons interested in such list. Such list, when so completed, shall be returned by said assessors to the clerk of said borough.

SECTION 19. Said burgesses shall constitute a board of relief, and at the end of fifteen days after such assessment list shall have been returned as aforesaid, shall, by publication and posting as aforesaid, give notice of their meeting, at least ten days before the holding of the same, and shall have the same authority and proceed in the same manner in relation to such list as boards of relief of towns in relation to lists and assessments. The warden of the borough shall be ex officio chairman of such board of relief, and such board shall elect one of its number as secretary who shall keep minutes of the acts and proceedings of said board, and after

the sessions thereof, certify to such record and transmit the same to the borough clerk for filing and preservation. Such assessment list, when corrected and perfected by the board of relief as aforesaid, shall be called by the burgesses for the purpose of laying the borough tax, within ten days after such perfected list shall be lodged with the borough clerk; at which meeting the board of burgesses shall submit an estimate of the probably expenditures of the borough for the next ensuing fiscal year, stating the amount required to meet the interest and sinking fund, if such shall be established, for the outstanding funded indebtedness of the borough, and for the requirements of all departments of the borough government in detail, and showing specifically the amount necessary to be provided for each department; also an estimate of the amount of income from all sources. All taxes shall, at such meeting, be laid on such list to cover the expenses of said borough for one year thereafter. Such taxes shall be due and payable on August first of each year and all taxes remaining unpaid after September first following any assessment shall bear interest at the rate of three-quarters of one per centum per month. If any or all officers of the borough concerned in, or whose duty it shall be to take the necessary steps for raising the borough tax, shall fail to complete a list for said borough or shall fail to cause said borough tax to be laid, the burgesses of the borough may make a rate bill upon the list last completed for the amount of tax necessary for said borough and shall cause the same to be collected as other taxes and the same right of lien for such taxes shall apply in favor of the borough of Bantam for taxes so laid as for other taxes for which the right of lien may attach under the provisions of this act.

SECTION 20. The estate of any person in any portion of real estate which is by law set in his list for taxation shall be subject to a lien for that part of his taxes which is laid upon the valuation of such real estate as found in such list when finally completed, which lien shall continue for one year from the time such tax became due, and during its continuance shall take precedence of all other liens, mortgages, attachments, and other incumbrances, except taxes to the town of Litchfield and county and state taxes, and other borough liens prior in date. Such lien may be continued, enforced, or foreclosed by the borough in the same manner as town tax liens are continued, enforced, or foreclosed. No sale of real estate for taxes shall divest the real estate sold of any lien for other taxes which would not have been divested had such sale been made by the owners of such real estate.

SECTION 21. All claims and bills against the borough shall be presented to and passed upon by the burgesses of said borough, and if approved, orders on the borough treasurer shall be drawn and signed by a majority of the burgesses for payment thereof.

SECTION 22. Said borough, through its board of burgesses, is hereby authorized to lay out, construct, repair, maintain, and operate a system or systems of sewers and drains in said borough, and to construct, maintain, repair, and operate a sewage disposal plant in connection therewith,



which plant may be located either within or beyond the limits of said borough, or at such suitable place within the limits of the town of Litchfield or the town of Morris as may be designated on a plan or plans prepared and adopted by the board of burgesses, and said borough may extend such sewer system and outlet or outlets thereof to such disposal plant, may construct, repair, maintain, and operate such sewers, drains, and sewer system or systems in, through, over, upon, and along the streets and highways, rivers, watercourses, and public and private lands, and under the right of way or rights of way of any steam, electric, or other railroad or railway and under or over any underground conduit for electric or telephone wires or under or over any gas or water pipes or mains in said town and borough and may use land acquired for any of such purposes. Said borough may take, by purchase or otherwise, any land in fee, and rights to or easements in lands, watercourses, or ways within the limits of said town of Litchfield or Morris, and may, within the limits of said towns, take land for the disposition of sewage from the sewers of said borough, upon paying the owner just compensation.

SECTION 23. Said board of burgesses are hereby authorized, either by themselves or by committees by them appointed, to appraise and assess damages and benefits to any person damaged or benefited thereby. Any person aggrieved by the action of said burgesses in the appraisal and assessment of such benefits and damages may, within thirty days after notification of the action of said burgesses or committee, appeal to the next term of the superior court for Litchfield county, or, in vacation time, to any judge of said court, pursuant to the provisions of the general statutes, and said court or judge, upon notice and hearing, shall appoint three judicious and disinterested freeholders, two of whom shall not be residents of said borough, who, after being duly sworn and after notice and hearing, shall reappraise and reassess such damages and benefits, which, when approved by said court or such judge shall be final. Such damages and assessments shall be due and payable ten days after the amount thereof shall be finally determined, and all assessments shall remain a lien upon the lands and buildings on account of which they were made, if a written description thereof, with the amount of such assessments and date when due, shall, within sixty days after due, be lodged for record with the clerk of said borough.

SECTION 24. Said burgesses are hereby empowered to make such alterations and repairs in any drain or common sewer, as shall, in their opinion, be proper and necessary and may adjust and liquidate the expenses thereof and apportion and assess the same upon individuals in the same manner as prescribed in the case of laying out, building, and constructing drains or common sewers.

SECTION 25. Whenever the burgesses of said borough shall lay out or cause to be laid out and constructed any drain or common sewer in said borough, in whole or in part, through or across lands of individuals or corporations, they shall, by themselves or by a committee by them appointed, appraise the damages to such lands caused by taking the right of way to

construct such drains or common sewer through or across such lands, and shall notify the owners of such lands of such laying out and construction, and of the damages allowed to them respectively. If the owners of any such lands are nonresidents the notice shall be by registered letter from the clerk of said borough; if the owners are not known or their residence is unknown, notice to the occupant or the person having the care of the land shall be sufficient. If any owner of such land shall be dissatisfied with such appraisal, he may, within ten days after the receipt of such notice, apply to one of the judges of the superior court for the appointment of a committee to reappraise such damages, first giving three days' notice to said board of burgesses of the time and place of making such application; and such judge shall appoint three judicious freeholders, not more than one of whom shall be a resident of said borough, who shall be sworn to faithfully discharge the duties of their appointment. Such freeholders shall give at least one day's notice to such owner of the time when they will view such premises, and after having heard such owner, they shall reappraise and reassess such damages and report the same to said burgesses in writing, and such reappraisal and reassessment shall be final. Said borough shall thereupon pay such damages, or deposit the same in the hands of the clerk of the superior court for Litchfield county subject to the order of such owner. If upon any application for reestimate or reassessment, the damages shall be increased or the assessment for benefits shall be decreased the cost of the application shall be paid by said borough, otherwise by the applicant; and such judge shall tax costs and may issue execution for the same. The report of such freeholders shall be recorded in the records of said borough.

SECTION 26. If said burgesses fail to agree with the owner upon the amount of such compensation, they may bring a civil action by writ of summons in the name of the borough to the superior court to be held in Litchfield county, or to either judge of the superior court, praying that such compensation may be determined, which writ shall be served in due form on the owner of the land to be taken, and on all persons interested therein; and upon such complaint said court or such judge shall appoint a committee of three as aforesaid, who, after being sworn, and giving reasonable notice to the parties, shall examine the land proposed to be taken, decide how much of the same, if any, is suitable and necessary for the use proposed, assess its value, fix such sum as will justly compensate the owner thereof, and report their doings to said court or such judge. Such report may be rejected for any irregular or improper conduct in the performance of their duties.

SECTION 27. If the report be rejected, the court or judge shall appoint another committee who shall proceed as above provided; but if it be accepted, such acceptance shall have the effect of a judgment against the borough in favor of the owner of the land for the amount so determined. Such court or judge may make any order necessary for the protection of the rights of all persons interested in the land taken, but the land shall not be used by the borough until such judgment be paid or the amount thereof deposited with the clerk of the superior court for Litchfield county, subject to the order of such owner as hereinafter provided. The borough shall pay the committee a reasonable compensation for its services to be taxed by said court or judge.



SECTION 28. The warden and burgesses of said borough are hereby authorized to organize, form, constitute, adopt, regulate, and disband one or more fire and hose and hook and ladder companies within the limits of said borough, to enlist a sufficient number of men to fill the same, to discharge any such enlisted men for cause after due hearing, and to make all suitable by-laws, rules, and regulations for the well-ordering and good government of such company or companies. Such company or companies enlisted as aforesaid shall have power to appoint their own officers, subject to the approval of the burgesses of said borough, and in the same manner to fill all vacancies that may occur among such officers.

SECTION 29. The burgesses shall have power to designate in a by-law, limits in said borough within which it shall not be lawful to erect or remove any building, or any part of or addition to any building, unless such building, part, or addition, or the out walls and roof thereof, shall be composed of such incombustible material as said burgesses may approve or as they may in said by-laws prescribe. Whenever any building or part thereof or addition thereto shall be erected or in process of erection in such limits, or be removed to the same, or stationed therein, in violation of the provisions of this section, the warden shall give notice in writing to the owner or owners thereof to remove the same from such limits within a time to be specified in such notice.

SECTION 30. Whenever any person or persons, after notice by the warden as aforesaid, shall fail to immediately remove from such limits, any building or part thereof, or addition thereto, erected within, moved into or stationed within such limits, or in process of erection therein, in violation of the provisions of the preceding section, or, after notice by the warden, shall continue the use of any building so prohibited by the board of burgesses, such person shall forfeit to the use of said borough a sum not less than twenty-five dollars and not exceeding one hundred dollars and the further sum of not less than twenty-five dollars and not exceeding one hundred dollars for every thirty days of such failure to remove or such continued use, to be recovered by the borough in a proper action.

SECTION 31. The burgesses shall have power to appoint a borough fire warden, and may contract for a sufficient supply of water for fire purposes, and purchase all necessary fire extinguishing engines and apparatus, hose, carts, and other proper machines and implements for extinguishing or preventing the spread of fire, but no expense on such account or contract therefor shall be incurred in excess of one hundred dollars in any year, without the vote of the borough approving the same in legal meeting called and warned for such purpose. Said burgesses may regulate the mode in which buildings shall be secured against fire, may regulate, license, or forbid the keeping and use of dangerous and explosive substances; may, when not inconsistent with the provisions of the general statutes, regulate the erection and use of steam boilers; may regulate or prevent the use of buildings for bakeries, trades, or other business which may expose the borough to danger from fire; and may appoint inspectors who shall be empowered to enter all buildings, premises, and dwellings in the borough to ascertain whether the by-laws and ordinances of the burgesses for protection against fire have been complied with.

SECTION 32. The board of burgesses may select and appoint a chief policeman of the borough, and from time to time, as expediency may require, and for such length of time as they see fit, may appoint special policemen and subordinate them to the direction and command of such chief, all of whom shall hold office until one month after the next annual meeting of said borough, unless removed by said burgesses, and shall receive such reasonable compensation for their services as said board of burgesses may determine. Such chief policeman and special police shall be duly sworn and a record of such appointment and qualification shall be made and kept by the clerk of the borough, and the burgesses may, at their discretion, require sufficient bonds from them for the faithful performance of their duties. Said chief policeman and special police shall have the same authority within said borough to preserve the peace, arrest and secure offenders, and serve criminal warrants and procedures, as constables have in their respective towns, and shall have power within said borough to arrest without previous complaint or warrant all such persons as are guilty of drunkenness, disorderly conduct, or breach of the peace, and such other offenders as constables of towns and policemen of cities may by law apprehend.

SECTION 33. Said burgesses shall have control of all established sidewalks and crosswalks in the streets of the borough. They are empowered from time to time as they shall judge proper, by themselves or by a committee by them appointed, to designate, alter, fix, and establish the width, course, height, grade, and level of the sidewalks, crosswalks, and curb lines in said borough, and after written notice of not less than five days, to all persons affected thereby, and hearing had thereon, and, subject to the right of appeal as to the reasonableness of any such order to the superior court for Litchfield county, to order the owner or owners of lands or buildings fronting upon highways or streets in said borough to make such walks on their lands fronting upon such highways or streets according to the width, height, and grade designated as aforesaid, also to curb, flag, and pave the same on such line, in such manner and place, and with such material as the burgesses or said committee shall direct; and also to order such owners to provide and erect such railings or guards along the sidewalks in front of their premises as public safety may require; and also to order any such proprietor to repair his sidewalk, curb, guard, or railing, as aforesaid, when such repairs shall be necessary, within such time and in such manner as said burgesses or said committee may designate and direct; and to establish building lines, to designate which streets shall have sidewalks, either upon one or both sides, and to designate the kind of sidewalks, to be constructed on any such street, to pass ordinances requiring the building of sidewalks, as aforesaid, including the curbing thereof, and the proper care of the same, and regarding the removal of ice, snow, rubbish, ashheaps, piles of lumber, and other obstructions and incumbrances. Whenever the burgesses shall lay out, and by ordinance require the building or repair of sidewalks, curbing, or railing on any street or streets and any adjoining property holder shall fail to build the sidewalks, curbing, or railing or make such repairs within the time required by such ordinance, the board of burgesses may construct such walk or walks or set such curb or erect such railing or make such repairs and assess the costs of the same, with the necessary costs of such proceedings, in part or in whole, upon the adjoining property or the owners thereof, and such assessment shall be a lien upon

such property, and shall take precedence of all other liens, mortgages, attachments, and other incumbrances, except tax liens and other borough liens prior of date, and shall remain a lien upon the property in favor of said borough, and the payment thereof may be enforced by said borough in a civil action in the name of said borough, or by foreclosure, or by any other proper remedy, provided such lien shall not be good for a longer period than two months after such assessment or lien shall be made, unless a certificate in writing, made and signed by the warden or clerk of said borough, describing the premises, the amount claimed as a lien, and the date of the ordinance requiring the sidewalk, curbing, railing, or guard to be built or repaired, the date of the completion of the sidewalk, curbing, or repairs made as aforesaid by said borough, and the date of the assessment therefor, shall be lodged with the town clerk of the town of Litchfield, and all such liens shall bear interest from the date of filing thereof at the rate of three fourths of one per centum per month until paid; and any such lien shall cease to exist whenever a certificate that the claim secured thereby, with the interest and costs thereon, has been fully satisfied to said borough, signed by the officer aforesaid, shall be lodged with the town clerk aforesaid. All such certificates said town clerk shall record in a book kept for that purpose. Whenever the board of burgesses shall require by ordinance that the sidewalks shall be cleared of ice and snow, and the owners or occupants of adjoining property shall fail to clear the same within the time and in the manner required by such ordinance, the board of burgesses or other proper officer authorized by said board shall cause such ice and snow to be removed, and the costs of such removal and such fine as the board of burgesses may by ordinance prescribe, not exceeding the sum of twenty-five dollars, shall remain a lien upon the adjoining property, and take precedence and be collected in the same manner as is provided herein for neglect to build or repair sidewalks, curbins, railings, or guards.

SECTION 34. No contract which shall involve an expenditure of money in excess of the amount of one hundred dollars in any year shall be made by the board of warden and burgesses, unless the same shall be approved by vote of the borough, provided said board of burgesses, on the failure of a borough meeting properly warned to provide for the suitable lighting of the streets by night, hereby are authorized to expend a sum not to exceed three hundred dollars in any year for such purpose.

SECTION 35. Said board of burgesses shall not in any event expend more than the sum of five hundred dollars in the aggregate in any year without the vote of the borough authorizing the same, said sum of one hundred dollars for fire purposes authorized in section twenty-eight and said sum of three hundred dollars for lighting, authorized in section thirty-four, being included in said limitation, nor shall the burgesses have any power to borrow money so as to bind the borough, except that they may borrow for the current expenses of said borough when necessary not to exceed the sum of one hundred dollars.

SECTION 36. Said burgesses, when directed by vote of a borough meeting and not otherwise, are hereby authorized to purchase and take conveyances for and in the name of the borough of all lands or other estates or privileges necessary and convenient for accomplishing the purposes of this act; and to make contracts for labor and materials for the general purposes hereof.

SECTION 37. The burgesses shall constitute a board of health, and shall exercise in the borough the authority and perform the duties of town health officers. They may appoint committees of their number or inspectors, who may enter upon all premises and into dwellings and other buildings in the borough, for examination into the manner in which privies, water-closets, sinks, cesspools, drains, sewers, stables, barns, manure heaps, and other places or things liable to become deposits of filth are kept and managed, and for the prevention of nuisances therefrom; may regulate the laying and use of sewers and drains, and forbid the deposit of garbage or other offensive matter in the streets.

SECTION 38. The burgesses shall have power, and, within the limitations as to penalties prescribed by the provisions of this act, may prescribe penalties for the violation of by-laws regulating the maintenance, and when in the interest of public health, the discontinuance and abolition of offensive outhouses, cowsheds, and privies, and the grand jurors of the town of Litchfield, on request of the burgesses, shall prosecute all violations of such by-laws before any justice of the peace of the town of Litchfield.

SECTION 39. The board of burgesses may make by-laws in relation to licensing and regulating the sale by any person upon the public streets or sidewalks within the borough limits of goods, wares, and merchandise other than the produce of the farms, gardens, and waters of the state, and shall have power to regulate and license selling or peddling from house to house, from wagons, carts, or automobiles, and the soliciting of orders for fruits, vegetables, meats, fish, groceries, provisions, patent medicines, proprietary articles, dry goods, hardware, stoves, tinware, furniture, or other goods, wares, or merchandise, at private sale or at public auction, or at any sale at which the highest bidder is considered to be the purchaser, and may prescribe penalties for the violation of such by-laws within the limitations of their power to fix penalties under the provisions of this act, provided this section shall not apply to sales by farmers, stock-raisers, gardeners, and fish venders of the produce of farms, gardens, or waters of this state.

SECTION 40. The board of burgesses may make by-laws in relation to licensing the sale of goods, wares, and merchandise, other than the produce of the farms and gardens, and may prescribe penalties under the provisions of this act for violation thereof.

SECTION 41. All conveyances, grants, or leases of land owned by said borough, when approved by said borough in legal meeting assembled, sealed with the borough seal, and signed by some person to be especially appointed for such purpose by said meeting, and recorded in the land records in the town where such land lies, shall be effectual in law. No purchase of, bargain for, or lease of any lands or buildings shall be binding upon said borough unless such purchase, bargain, or lease shall be authorized by vote of said borough.

SECTION 42. The warden and burgesses, or a majority of them, may make, alter, repeal, and enforce necessary by-laws or ordinances relative to markets, commerce, and trading by peddlers or otherwise; to public walks and grounds, and to the removal of obstructions and annoyances therein; to building lines, nuisances, the preventing of any building or buildings from being used for any purpose, which, in the opinion of the board of burgesses, may expose such borough to injury by fire, or which shall endanger the health of the inhabitants, or cause unreasonable annoyance to those living or owning property in the vicinity; to the preservation of said borough from loss by fire and to protection against loss by fire; to preventing cruelty to animals; to trees planted for shade, convenience, or public use; to the meetings of the board of burgesses; to the mode of taxation and manner of collecting taxes to be laid by said borough; to the bonds to be given by the treasurer, policemen, and bailiff; to the establishment and use of public lamps, lights, and hydrants; to restraining any animals from going at large, or to the driving of cattle in, upon, and along the streets of the borough, and to the keeping of cows, gees, poultry, and swine; to the keeping of explosives; to the speed of animals and vehicles, other than automobiles, on the highways within the borough; to places of amusement and theatrical exhibitions of every description; to the erection of signs and posts, to the preservation of order, to naming streets; to the opening of new streets and numbering of houses thereon; to appointment, duties, compensation, and duration of employment of all officers and agents not herein otherwise provided for; to street crossings; and to prescribing penalties for the breach of any by-law or ordinance, payable to the treasurer and for the use of said borough; provided such penalty shall in no case exceed fifty dollars, and provided all by-laws and ordinances made by the burgesses, prescribing a penalty shall be approved by the borough in legal meeting assembled, and after being so approved, shall be published at least two weeks successively in a newspaper published in Litchfield county and circulating in said borough, before the same shall be in effect. The warden shall have power to sue for, in the name of the borough, and collect, in behalf of said borough, all penalties incurred by the breach of any by-law or ordinance of said borough and may employ counsel for such purpose, or may enforce the payment of such penalty by complaint or process before justices of the peace residing in said borough, or in said town, as in criminal cases. When the penalties prescribed by the by-laws or ordinances shall be enforced, as in criminal cases, the fees provided by the general statutes in criminal cases shall be taxed in favor of the borough of Bantam, and shall be paid to the treasurer thereof. Any grand juror of the town of Litchfield, on the complaint of said burgesses or the borough warden, shall, when required by the warden, prosecute for any violation of any by-law or ordinance authorized by the provisions of this act.

SECTION 43. The first meeting of said borough shall be held at Bantam hall on the fourth Wednesday of June, 1915, at one o'clock in the afternoon, at which time the electors of said borough may, by ballot, choose a warden, six burgesses, a clerk, treasurer, two assessors, and an auditor.

A copy of this section, certified under the hand of the secretary of the state and posted on the temporary signpost aforesaid in said borough, at least five days before the fourth Wednesday in June, 1915, and published at least five days before said meeting in some newspaper having a circulation in said borough, shall be legal warning to the freemen of said borough to attend such first meeting. The officers chosen at such meeting shall continue in office until the next biennial election.

SECTION 44. The fiscal year for the Borough of Bantam will begin July 1 and end the following year June 30.

SECTION 45. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved, May 14, 1915.

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REGULAR MEETINGS\*\* The agenda of the regular meetings of every public agency . . . shall be available to the public, and shall be filed, not less than twenty-four hours before the meetings . . . Upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of a public agency present and voting, any subsequent business not included in such filed agendas may be considered and acted upon at such meetings. (Chapter 2, Sec. 1-21, Connecticut General Statutes.)

SPECIAL MEETINGS\*\* Notice for a special meeting of said Board shall be given by making a copy thereof to each burgess and to the Warden at least two days before the time of such meeting. (Sec. 7 of Borough Charter.)

Notice of each special meeting of every public agency . . . or any committee thereof shall be given not less than twenty-four hours prior to the time of such meeting . . . in the office of the clerk. (Chapter 3, Sec. 1-21, Connecticut General Statutes.)

{ EMERGENCY MEETINGS\*\* Any special meeting may be held without the foregoing requirement . . . but a copy of the minutes . . . setting forth the nature of the emergency and the proceedings occurring at such meeting, shall be filed . . . with the clerk not later than seventy-two hours following the . . . meeting. (Chapter 3, Sec. 1-21) }

\*SPECIAL MEETINGS\*\* In addition, such written notice shall be delivered to the . . . abode of each member . . . prior to such special meeting. The requirement of delivery of such written notice may be dispensed with as to any member who at or prior to the time the meeting convened files with the clerk . . . a written waiver of delivery of such notice. (Chapter 3, section 1-21.)

SPECIAL BOROUGH MEETINGS\*\* On written petition of . . . fifteen electors . . . a special meeting shall be called within ten days thereafter and warning given in the same manner as provided by law for special town meetings. (Sec. 5 of Borough Charter.)