

TOWNSHIPS.

CHAPTER 139.

[H. B. 46.]

DISSOLUTION OF TOWNSHIP.

AN ACT Providing for the Dissolution of Civil Townships.

Be it Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota:

§ 1. ONE THIRD OF LEGAL VOTERS.] When an application signed by one-third of the legal voters of any organized civil township within this State shall be presented to the board of supervisors of such civil township, in writing, at least ten days prior to the fourth Monday of June in any year, asking for a dissolution of the civil township, setting forth the reasons therefor, such petition shall be considered by such board of supervisors at its regular meeting on the fourth Monday of June in such year, and it shall be competent for the board, if it deems the reasons good, to call a meeting of the voters of such civil township, by giving at least ten days notice thereof, to determine whether such civil township shall be dissolved.

§ 2. NOTICE SIGNED BY TOWN CLERK.] Said notice shall be signed by the town clerk of such civil township, and shall be by him posted in five of the most public places in such civil township, at least ten days prior to such meeting of said voters, and also, if there is a newspaper published in such civil township, he shall cause a copy of such notice to be published once therein, at least five days before the time appointed for such meeting.

§ 3. SPECIFY PURPOSE.] Each notice given for such a meeting shall specify the purpose for which it is to be held, and no other business shall be transacted at such meeting than such as is specified in such notice.

§ 4. SHALL VOTE BY BALLOT.] The board of supervisors of such civil township shall preside at such meeting and the polls shall be opened and closed as at other township meetings, and the voters shall vote by ballot "yes" or "no," and the result of the vote shall be publicly announced after the polls close and as soon as ascertained by the officers of such meeting, and if a majority of all the votes given shall have thereon the word "yes," and such votes shall have been given by a majority of all the legal voters in such civil township, a statement of the vote signed by the chairman of the board of supervisors of such civil township,

and attested by the clerk thereof, shall be filed in the office of the county auditor of the county within which such civil township lies and such civil township shall on the first day of January next succeeding the time of holding such meeting cease to be a corporation; *Provided*, that all debts of said civil township shall have then been fully paid and discharged; and the property belonging to such civil township, after the payment of its debts and liabilities, shall be disposed of in such manner as a majority of the voters of such civil township at any special meeting may have directed.

§ 5. PERSONAL RIGHTS NOT AFFECTED.] No such dissolution shall affect the rights of any person in any contract or agreement to which such corporation is a party.

§ 6. ASSESSMENT.] Upon the dissolution of any civil township it shall be the duty of the board of county commissioners of the county within which such civil township lies, to attach the territory embraced within such township, for the purposes of assessment and taxation, to such assessment district of such county as such board may deem advisable or practicable.

§ 7. DUTY OF COUNTY AUDITOR.] It shall be the duty of the county auditor of such county, upon the dissolution of any civil township therein, to immediately notify the State auditor thereof, and, further, to enter upon the proper record book in his office the fact of such dissolution.

§ 8. REPEAL. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

§ 9. EMERGENCY.] *Whereas*, An emergency exists in this that certain civil townships within this State are desirous of disorganizing at the earliest possible moment, and no law therefor now exists; *Therefore*, this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval.

Approved, February 20th, 1897.