

1937

c 284 Community Halls Act

Ontario

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Bibliographic Citation

Community Halls Act, RSO 1937, c 284

Repository Citation

Ontario (1937) "c 284 Community Halls Act," *Ontario: Revised Statutes*: Vol. 1937: Iss. 3, Article 22.

Available at: <http://digitalcommons.osgoode.yorku.ca/rso/vol1937/iss3/22>

CHAPTER 284.

The Community Halls Act.

1. In this Act,—

(a) "Minister" shall mean Minister of Agriculture;

Interpreta-
tion.

"Minister."

(b) "Regulations" shall mean regulations made under the authority of this Act. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 1.

"Regula-
tions."

2.—(1) The Minister may grant aid to the municipal corporation of a township or incorporated village for the purpose of assisting in providing for a community hall or the establishment and laying out of an athletic field, but such grant shall not exceed an amount equal to twenty-five per centum, of the cost of the building or that part of the building designed for a community hall or of the cost of the athletic field, nor shall such grant exceed the sum of \$2,000, but grants may be made for the establishment of more than one community hall or athletic field by the corporation of any one township. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 2 (1).

Granting
aid to
township or
village for
community
hall and
athletic
field.

(2) The Minister may make a grant to the amount set forth in subsection 1 to assist in providing for a community hall in any town where, in the opinion of the Minister, such community hall may serve the purposes of the inhabitants of townships adjacent to such town. 1934, c. 54, s. 5.

Community
hall,
grant to.

(3) The grant shall be payable out of such sums as may be appropriated by the Legislature for the purpose of aiding in the establishment of community halls. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 2 (2).

How grants
payable.

3. All the property acquired for the purposes of this Act shall, except as hereinafter provided, be vested in the municipal corporation of the township or incorporated village. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 3.

Property
vested in
corporation.

4.—(1) The council of the township or village may by by-law provide for the establishment of a community hall or athletic field in accordance with the provisions of this Act, and may acquire by purchase or otherwise real and personal property for that purpose, and may enter into an agreement with the council of any adjoining township or village for the joint use of the community hall or athletic field by the inhabitants of the municipalities upon such terms as to contribution to the cost of the hall or athletic field and as to the

By-law.

Agreement with adjoining municipality.

maintenance thereof as may be agreed upon, but notwithstanding any such agreement, the aid to be granted under this Act shall not exceed the amount mentioned in section 2.

By-law for acquiring land in another municipality.

(2) The by-law may provide for acquiring land and establishing a community hall or athletic field or both in an adjacent or contiguous village or township, but real property so acquired or held in an adjacent or contiguous municipality shall not be exempt from taxation by the corporation of the municipality in which it is situate unless the council of such last mentioned municipality by by-law declares that such real property shall be so exempt.

Exempting such lands from taxation.

(3) The council of a municipality in which a community hall or athletic field is established by the council of another municipality may grant such total or partial exemption from taxation as the council may deem proper and may enter into an agreement with the corporation of the municipality establishing the community hall or athletic field for granting such exemption. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 4 (1).

Debentures. Rev. Stat. c. 266.

(4) The corporation of the township or village may issue debentures for the purposes of subsection 1 in the manner provided by *The Municipal Act*. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 4 (2); 1932, c. 53, s. 27.

When athletic field or community hall need not be established.

5. It shall not be necessary for the council of a township or village to establish an athletic field in connection with the establishment of a community hall, or to establish a community hall in connection with the establishment of an athletic field and the Minister may grant aid under this Act without requiring the establishment of an athletic field or of a community hall where he is of opinion that adequate accommodation is otherwise provided. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 5.

Action by school section for establishment of hall.

6.—(1) Upon a petition being presented to the council of a township, signed by more than one-half the number of rate-payers in any school section or school sections in the township and praying that the council of the township may pass a by-law for the establishment of a community hall, or a community hall and athletic field, or an athletic field, for such school section or sections, the council may pass a by-law for the establishment of such community hall, or community hall and athletic field, or athletic field, in any school section or in any village adjacent or contiguous thereto and may exercise the power conferred by section 4.

Issue of debentures.

(2) The moneys required for the establishment of a community hall, a community hall and athletic field or an athletic

field under this section, may be raised by the issue of debentures of the township in the manner provided by *The Municipal Act*, but it shall not be necessary to procure the assent of the ratepayers for the passing of any by-law for the issue of such debentures, and all moneys required to provide for sinking fund and interest on the debentures issued under this section or for any other purpose in connection with the establishment of a community hall, a community hall and athletic field, or an athletic field, for a school section shall be raised by special rate upon all property subject to municipal taxation in the school section or school sections, and the word "ratepayer" in this section shall mean persons assessed and liable to taxation for general municipal purposes.

Rev. Stat.
c. 266.

(3) Where debentures are issued under this section, such debentures shall constitute a debt of the corporation of the township to the holder of the debentures and the property liable to assessment and taxation in the school section or school sections shall be liable to the township as a whole for any amounts paid by the township on account of the debentures or interest thereon.

Debentures
to be a debt
of township.

(4) Where a township council has passed a by-law for establishing a community hall or a community hall and athletic field for a school section or for school sections, the township council may, by by-law, upon request of the board of school trustees, vest the property in the said board, and the said board shall thereupon have power to hold such property and shall perform the functions of the board of management as set forth in section 7.

Property
may be
vested in
board of
school
trustees.

(5) In the case of a union school section composed of parts of two adjacent counties, the council of the municipality which passes the by-law for the establishment of a community hall, or a community hall and athletic field, or an athletic field, shall have all the powers and perform all the duties which may be exercised or are to be performed under this Act in the same manner as if the whole of the school section were within the said municipality and the lands in the union school section shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to lie wholly within and to be under the exclusive jurisdiction of the council so passing such by-law.

In union
school
section.

(6) The clerk of the said council shall forthwith after the passing of the by-law imposing the special rates to pay the cost of the establishment of a community hall, or a community hall and athletic field, or an athletic field, as the case may be, deliver or transmit by registered post to the clerk of the municipality in which is situate any land upon which a special rate

Trans-
mission of
copy of
by-law
to other
municipalities.

has been imposed, a copy of the by-law, certified under his hand and the seal of the municipality to be a true copy.

Collection
of rates in
union
section.

(7) The rates required by the by-law to be levied and collected in any year upon land in any municipality other than that by the council of which the by-law is passed shall be collected by the council of such municipality in like manner as if such rates had been imposed by that council.

Payment
of share
by other
municipalities.

(8) The corporation of a municipality other than that by the council of which the by-law is passed shall pay to the last mentioned municipality the sums which are to be levied and collected in that year under subsection 7, and such payments shall be made on demand therefor at any time after the 14th day of December in that year, and shall be made whether or not such rates have been collected from the persons liable to pay them.

Lands to
remain
liable.

(9) Such payments shall not relieve any lands specially assessed from the special rate thereon, but it shall remain liable for the special rate until it is paid. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 6.

Appointment
of board.

7.—(1) Every community hall, community hall and athletic field or athletic field established under this Act shall be under the management and control of a board appointed by the council, composed as follows,—

- (a) two members of the council; and
- (b) five members selected by the council from among the officers of the local organizations, for the use of which the hall or athletic field is established, and in selecting such representatives, the council shall have regard to the contribution by each organization to the erection and maintenance of the community hall or establishment and maintenance of the athletic field.

Vacancies
on board.

(2) The council may fill any vacancy arising on the board from among the class of representatives in which the vacancy occurs.

Term of
office.

(3) The representatives of the council shall be appointed annually, and shall hold office until their successors are appointed, and every other officer of the board shall hold office for two years from the date of his appointment and until his successor is appointed. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 7.

Grants in
aid from
other bodies.

8. Any municipal corporation entering into an agreement for the joint use of a community hall or athletic field, and any of the societies or other bodies by which the community hall may be used under the regulations, may make grants out

of any moneys in their hands in aid of the erection and maintenance of a community hall or athletic field established under this Act. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 8.

9. The Minister shall have power to make grants to the board of trustees of any consolidated school, continuation school or high school in a township or incorporated village, which provides athletic grounds of satisfactory area, and a community hall in or in connection with the school, on the same terms as herein set forth, except that such grounds and community halls shall be managed and conducted under the regulations of the Department of Education, and such property shall be vested in the board of the consolidated school, continuation school or high school provided always that the community halls and athletic grounds shall be available for the purposes permitted by the regulations. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 9.

Community hall in connection with consolidated school.

10. The Lieutenant-Governor in Council, upon the recommendation of the Minister, may make regulations respecting the terms and conditions upon which aid may be granted under this Act, the uses to which a community hall or athletic field may be put, and the accommodation which may be provided therein, and generally for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Act. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 10.

Regulations.

11.—(1) In territory without municipal organization, a community hall or athletic field may be established with the approval of the Minister and subject to the regulations, by a board of public school trustees or a board of separate school trustees in connection with any school maintained by such board.

Establishment of community hall or athletic field in unorganized territory.

(2) Where a community hall or athletic field is established under subsection 1, the property shall be vested in the board of school trustees, and the like grant may be payable to the school trustees as in the case of a community hall or athletic field established in a municipality and the terms of this Act shall otherwise apply. R.S.O. 1927, c. 247, s. 11.

Property to be vested in school board.

12. Where under the provisions of this Act, aid has been granted to assist in building a community hall or to assist in establishing or laying out an athletic field out of sums appropriated by the Legislature for such purpose, such hall or athletic field shall not be sold or disposed of within ten years from the time the aid was granted without the approval of the Minister. 1934, c. 4, s. 2.

Disposal of hall.