

performance of their official duties shall not exceed eight cents a mile, except in cases where a higher allowance is specifically provided by statute; provided that in the case of commitments of the insane the justice of the court ordering the commitment may order a higher rate, but not to exceed forty cents a mile one way. No expenditures shall be made for travel outside the commonwealth for attendance at conferences or conventions.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved August 29, 1969.*

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**Chap. 856.** AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SOMERVILLE TO USE THE INSURANCE PROCEEDS FROM A CERTAIN FIRE TO REDUCE THE CURRENT TAX RATE.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of law to the contrary, the city of Somerville is hereby authorized, upon the recommendation of the mayor and the approval of a two thirds vote of the board of aldermen, to apply an amount not exceeding six hundred thousand dollars from the insurance proceeds resulting from a fire loss at the Western Junior High School to be used as a credit in the determination of the tax rate of the city of Somerville for the year nineteen hundred and sixty-nine.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved August 29, 1969.*

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**Chap. 857.** AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF TAUNTON TO BORROW MONEY FOR A NEW ELECTRIC GENERATING UNIT AND TO MAKE LONG-TERM CONTRACTS FOR THE SALE OF ELECTRICITY.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. For the purpose of constructing and equipping a new electric generating unit, including transmission and other facilities appurtenant thereto, the city of Taunton may borrow from time to time such sums as may be necessary, not exceeding nineteen million dollars, and may issue bonds or notes of the city therefor which shall bear on their face the words, Taunton Electric Loan, Act of 1969. Each authorized issue shall constitute a separate loan and shall mature serially beginning not later than one year, and ending not later than thirty years, after the date of issue or the date of commencing regular operation of the unit as determined or estimated by the manager of the city's electric department, whichever date is later. The maturities of each issue shall be arranged so that the amounts payable in the several years for principal and interest combined shall be as nearly equal as it is practicable to make them in the opinion of the officers authorized to issue the bonds or notes, or in the alternative in accordance with a schedule providing a more rapid amortization of principal.

SECTION 2. If the city votes to issue bonds or notes hereunder, the officers authorized to issue the same may, in the name of the city, make

temporary loans in anticipation of the money to be derived from the sale of such bonds or notes, and may issue temporary notes therefor. Each such loan shall be payable within one year from its date or from the date of commencing regular operation of the unit as determined or estimated by the manager of the city's electric department, whichever date is later; provided that the time within which the serial bonds or notes shall mature shall not be extended by reason of the making of such temporary loans beyond the time fixed herein or in the vote authorizing the issue of the serial bonds or notes. Temporary notes issued under this section for a shorter period than permitted herein may be refunded by the issue of other temporary notes maturing within the required period; provided that the period from the date of issue of the original loan to the maturity of the refunding loan shall be not more than the period permitted herein.

SECTION 3. Indebtedness incurred under this act shall be in excess of the statutory limits prescribed by clause eight of section eight and by section ten of chapter forty-four of the General Laws, but shall, except as provided herein, be subject to the applicable provision of said chapter forty-four, exclusive of the limitations contained in the first paragraph of section seven thereof. The incurring of indebtedness hereunder shall not be subject to the limitation contained in section fifty-seven of chapter one hundred and sixty-four of the General Laws.

SECTION 4. In addition to other lawful items, the project costs to be financed by the issue of bonds or notes hereunder may include interest up to the date of commencing regular operation of the unit as determined or estimated by the manager of the city's electric department and may also include the cost of training the initial staff and of operations prior to regular operation of the unit, and the cost of an original inventory of fuel, spare parts and spare equipment for the unit.

SECTION 5. In addition to any other power conferred by law, the city of Taunton, acting by vote of its municipal light commission, may contract from time to time for the sale of electricity in bulk to any electric company, railroad, street railway, electric railroad or Massachusetts municipality primarily for consumption, or resale and consumption, within the commonwealth or any designated area thereof, and any such other party may contract from time to time for the purchase of such electricity from the city of Taunton. Any such contract may be for a period extending no later than thirty-one years after the date of the contract or the date of commencing regular operation of the unit financed under this act as determined or estimated by the manager of the city's electric department, whichever is later. Each such contract shall be subject to the approval of the department of public utilities and may contain such provisions as may be agreed upon relating to the disposition of the electricity so purchased, interconnections with other parties, inflows and outflows incidental to the operations of the parties or to pooling arrangements in which they participate, and the facilities to be provided for connecting the parties, and such provisions relating to cooperation between the parties as may be deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of the contract.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*Approved August 29, 1969.*