

duties and the execution of its powers under this act, to employ such agents and employees as may be necessary in its judgment, and to fix their compensation, and to do all acts and things necessary or convenient to carry out the powers expressly granted in this act; provided, that the provisions of chapter thirty-one of the General Laws shall not apply to any such employees.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its acceptance by the town of Ludlow.

Approved July 24, 1974.

Chap. 601. AN ACT RELATIVE TO REPAIR OF HIGHWAYS AND TOWN WAYS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 84 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section 1, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following section:—

Section 1. Highways and town ways, including railroad crossings at grade with such highways and town ways, shall be kept in repair at the expense of the town in which they are situated, so that they may be reasonably safe and convenient for travelers, with their horses, teams, vehicles and carriages at all seasons. A city or town shall submit a letter of request for such repair and for approval by the state department of public works. Upon receipt of such approval, the city or town shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth from monies which may be appropriated therefor by the commonwealth and the federal government to defray expenses of such repairs for safety programming. Such reimbursement will not create liability, of any kind, either civil or criminal on the part of the commonwealth or the federal government.

Approved July 24, 1974.

Chap. 602. AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE INVENTORY, MEASURING AND RESEARCHING OF THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF THE GROUND WATER OF BARNSTABLE COUNTY, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SAID COUNTY TO BORROW MONEY THEREFOR.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The county commissioners of Barnstable county are hereby authorized to inventory, measure and research the quantity and quality of the ground water of Barnstable county and for such purposes may expend such sums as may be necessary, not exceeding five hundred thousand dollars. Any sums received from the federal government or gifts, grants and donations for the purposes of this act shall be included in, and considered part of, the total amount authorized to be expended hereunder.

SECTION 2. For the purpose aforesaid the county treasurer of said county, with the approval of the county commissioners, may borrow, from time to time, on the credit of said county, such sums as may be necessary, but not exceeding, in the aggregate, five hundred thousand dollars, and may issue bonds and notes of the county therefor, which shall bear on their face the words, Barnstable County Water Inventory Loan, Act of 1974. Each authorized issue shall constitute a separate loan and such loans shall be payable in not more than ten years from their dates. The bonds or notes shall be signed by the county treasurer and countersigned by a majority of the county commissioners. The county may sell the said securities at public or private sale, upon such terms and conditions as the county commissioners may deem proper, but not for less than their par value. Indebtedness incurred hereunder shall, except as herein provided, be subject to chapter thirty-five of the General Laws.

SECTION 3. This act shall be submitted to the voters of Barnstable county at the biennial state election to be held in the current year in the form of the following question which shall be placed upon the official ballot to be used at said election: — “Shall an act passed by the general court in the current year entitled ‘An Act providing for the inventory, measuring and researching of the quality and quantity of the ground water of Barnstable county, and authorizing the county commissioners of said county to borrow money therefor’, be accepted?”

YES	
NO	

If a majority of the votes cast in answer to said question is in the affirmative this act shall take effect, but not otherwise.

Approved July 24, 1974.

Chap. 603. AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ANNUAL OBSERVANCE OF MASSACHUSETTS NATIONAL GUARD WEEK.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 15AA, inserted by chapter 158 of the acts of 1974, the following section: —

Section 15BB. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart that week preceding Armed Forces day as Massachusetts National Guard week and recommending that said week be observed in an appropriate manner by the people. The state secretary shall send a copy of said proclamation to each Army and National Guard unit within the commonwealth.

Approved July 24, 1974.