

CHAPTER 256.

Passed Mar 10, 1856. AN ACT to incorporate a company under the name of the Hydrant Company of Port Tobacco.

Incorporated. SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Jonathan Padgett, John Hamilton, John G. Chapman, William Boswell, Joseph H. Cooksey, Robert S. Reeder, Peregrine Davis, William B. Mathews, Joseph Hutton, John R. Bateman, and Elijah Wells, jr., be and they are hereby incorporated and made a body politic, for the purpose hereinafter mentioned; and that the said body politic shall be known and distinguished by the name of the Hydrant Company of Port Tobacco, and shall have full and ample power and authority to do, perform and execute all and every matter and thing which any similar corporation may or can rightfully do, and shall have perpetual succession, and for that end, the individuals composing said company by the passage of this act, and their successors, shall be and are hereby declared to be members thereof; and by the name aforesaid may sue and be sued, answer and be answered, in any court of law or equity in this State.

Vacancies—
how filled.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That the survivor or survivors of the persons above named shall have full power, whenever any one or more of them shall die or remove from Charles county, or whenever a vacancy may in any manner occur, to elect by ballot any person or persons residing in Charles county, whom they may judge proper, to fill the vacancy or vacancies so occasioned by removal, death or resignation, or to elect any additional member or members, if in their judgment they may think proper to do so, who, when so elected, shall have all the power and authority and stand in the same situation as the persons above named and hereby created a body corporate, have by this act.

Authorised to
pass by-laws,
&c.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That the said corporation shall have full power and authority to make by-laws, rules, and regulations for the well ordering and conducting of the business of the company, and of their meetings, the time and place thereof, and to alter, change and annul the same at their pleasure.

SEC. 4. *And be it enacted*, That the said corporation may purchase and hold in fee simple, or otherwise, all such land and real estate suitable for the erection of the necessary works, and that may be necessary in whole or in part for the proper accomplishment of their undertaking, and for that purpose may direct from the usual course, at such place or places as they shall think fit, the water flowing from the spring near Port Tobacco, on William B. Matthews' land, commonly called the Mount Spring, on the said corporation's first obtaining the consent of all persons having any right or interest in said stream of water so to be diverted, or in the lands through which said stream or streams may be intended to pass after being so diverted; and the said corporation shall have full power and authority to make and lay conduits or pipes for the conveyance of said water under ground, and the said conduits or pipes from time to time to renew and repair, and for such purposes to dig, break up and open, at their own expense, all or any part of the land through which the said pipes are to pass, and shall have full power and authority to establish and raise reservoirs or hydrants for the distribution of said water in the public square of said town, and to grant to all persons whomsoever the privilege of using the said water so to be introduced, in such manner and on such terms and conditions, and in such quantities respectively, as they shall think fit; and the said waters so to be introduced and distributed, together with all reservoirs, hydrants, conduits, pipes, engines, buildings or machines whatsoever, to be by them made and used for the purpose of introducing, raising and distributing said water, to hold to them, the said corporation, and their successors forever, as their sole and exclusive property.

Rights and
privileges

SEC. 5. *And be it enacted*, That the commissioners of the tax for Charles county be and they are hereby authorised and required to levy on the assessable property of Charles county, at their next meeting, for the purpose of ascertaining the assessment of said county, the sum of five hundred dollars, to and for the use of the Hydrant Company hereby incorporated, and to enable them to carry into effect the provisions of this act.

County Com-
missioners au-
thorised to
levy.