WELLINGTON CITY TRADING DEPARTMENTS RESERVE AND RENEWAL FUNDS.

[LOCAL BILL.]

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A BILL INTITULED

An Act to empower the Wellington City Council to establish Renewal Title. Funds in connection with its Trading Departments, and to appoint Commissioners in respect of such Funds.

WHEREAS the Wellington City Council has established the following Preamble. trading undertakings, namely—(1) Abattoir undertaking; (2) tramway 5 and power-supply undertaking; (3) electric light and power supply undertaking: And whereas the said Council has established a renewal fund in connection with its abattoir undertaking and held on the thirtyfirst day of March, nineteen hundred and seventeen, in respect of such funds, investments and cash amounting to two thousand one hundred 10 and seventy-one pounds and fourpence, and in connection with the tramway and power-supply undertaking a renewal fund in respect of which it held on the thirty-first day of March, nineteen hundred and seventeen, investments and cash amounting to thirty-two thousand and seventy-eight pounds eight shillings and sixpence: And whereas it is 15 desirable to establish renewal funds in connection with all the above undertakings and reserve funds in connection with the tramway and power-supply undertaking and with the electric light and power supply undertaking, and to incorporate the said amounts in the several renewal funds for the abattoir undertaking, and for the tram-20 way and power-supply undertaking:

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Short Title.

Interpretation.

1. This Act may be cited as the Wellington City Trading Departments Reserve and Renewal Funds Act, 1917.

2. In this Act, if not inconsistent with the context,—

City Engineer" means the City Engineer for the time being of the City of Wellington:

"Council" means the Wellington City Council:

"Commissioners" means the Renewal Fund Commissioners appointed under this Act:

"Mayor" means the Mayor for the time being of the City of $m ilde{W}ellington.$

3. (1.) In compiling the annual accounts showing revenue and expenditure in respect of the various trading undertakings under the control of the Council, namely,—

(a.) Abattoir undertaking;

(b.) Tramway and power-supply undertaking;

(c.) Electric light and power supply undertaking, the Council shall charge an annual appropriation to provide renewal funds, such appropriation to be one pound ten shillings per centum of the value of the depreciable assets of the undertaking.

(2.) Such value shall be fixed by the City Engineer, whose decision 20

shall be final.

(3.) These appropriations shall be exclusive of any amounts carried to the debit of the respective accounts for maintenance and repairs, and shall be devoted to the purpose hereinafter mentioned.

4. The appropriations referred to in the last preceding section shall 25 be paid to the Commissioners to be appointed as hereinafter provided in the month of April in each year, the first of such payments to be

made in the month of April, nineteen hundred and eighteen.

5. Immediately upon the coming into operation of this Act the Council shall appoint three Commissioners to be called "The Wellington 30 City Renewal Fund Commissioners," and sections thirty-five, thirtysix, and thirty-nine of the Local Bodies' Loans Act, 1913, shall, mutatis mutandis, apply to the Commissioners to be so appointed in like manner as if they were Sinking Fund Commissioners appointed under the said section thirty-five.

6. The Council shall forthwith transfer to the Commissioners. either in cash or in investments, the amounts which is held on the thirty-first day of March, nineteen hundred and seventeen, in respect of the abattoir undertaking and in respect of the tramway and powersupply undertaking.

7. (1.) The Commissioners shall invest all sums of money received by them prusuant to the last preceding section in the manner following, that is to say:-

(a.) In New Zealand Government securities.

(b.) On deposit in any bank carrying on business in New Zealand 45 under the authority of an Act of the General Assembly.

(2.) Separate accounts shall be kept by the Commissioners of all moneys paid to or received by them in respect of the several undertakings specified in section three hereof; and in preparing the yearly statement of accounts, pursuant to section thirty-nine of the Local 50 Bodies' Loans Act, 1913, the Commissioners shall show in detail the amount of such funds or moneys paid to or received by the Commissioners as aforesaid.

Council may charge annual appropriations for renewals.

Appropriations to be paid to Commissioners.

Appointment of Renewal Fund Commissioners. Local Bodies' Loans Act to apply.

Existing Abattoir and Tramway Renewal Funds to be paid to Commissioners.

How fund to be invested by Commissioners.

Accounts.

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8. All the funds or moneys received by the Commissioners pur-Application of fund suant to the provisions of this Act, together with all accumulations and interest, shall be held by the Commissioners upon trust to pay to the Council, either in one sum or from time to time by instalments in 5 respect of each of the undertakings specified in section three hereof, the portion of the funds or moneys and interest standing to the credit of each such undertaking for the purpose of renewing or replacing the plant of the undertaking or any part or parts thereof that may from time to time become worn out, obsolete, or incapable from any other 10 cause of further usefulness.

9. (1.) Every demand made by the Council upon the Commissioners Demands on for any sum shall be accompanied by a copy of the resolution duly passed by the Council calling up such money, and by a full specification of the works proposed to be done.

(2.) Such resolution shall contain a statement that the money proposed to be called up is required to replace plant or material that has become worn out or obsolete or is incapable from any other cause of further usefulness, and shall be certified by the Mayor and Town Clerk as a correct copy of the resolution of the Council.

(3.) The Commissioners shall not pay or refund any amount in respect of any one of the various trading undertakings aforesaid in excess of the amount held by them to the credit of the said undertaking

for the time being.

10. (1.) The Commissioners may call for a report by an engineer Commissioners may

25 or other qualified person to be appointed by them.

(2.) Such engineer or other person shall have the right to inquire made upon them. into the reasons why the Council proposes to expend the money asked for and the nature and extent of the work proposed to be done.

(3.) Such engineer or other person shall report the result of his 30 investigation and of his opinion upon the proposals of the Council to the Commissioners.

(4.) The Commissioners are hereby authorized to pay to such engineer or other qualified person a reasonable sum for his services.

11. (1.) The Commissioners may pay the money so demanded Commissioners may 35 by instalments as the works proceed, or may decline to pay the said demand by money except under an order of the Supreme Court, in which case the instalments, or may Council may, by a summons in Chambers, apply for an order directing decline to pay. the Commissioners to pay to the Council the money so demanded, and to the Supreme if the Court is of opinion that the Council has proved that the money Court. 40 required is necessary to replace or renew plant which has become worn out or obsolete or incapable from any other cause of further usefulness, the Court may make an order authorizing the payment of the money to the Council.

call for report in

(2.) The decision of the Supreme Court in such an application shall 45 be final.

12. If, upon the maturity of any debentures issued by the Council, Whole or part of the accrued sinking fund is insufficient to pay the debentures it shall moneys held by Commissioners I be lawful for the Council to call up from the Commissioners the whole be used for purpose or part of whatever moneys may be held by them in respect of the of making up any insufficiency of 50 undertaking for which the said debentures were issued. The Com-sinking fund missioners may either pay the amount so demanded or may call for a relative to loan at maturity. report on the financial bearing of the Council's demands, and the

Commissioners not to be responsible to see to application

Establishment of reserve funds.

of fund by Council.

provisions of sections ten and eleven hereof shall, mutatis mutandis, apply to any demand made upon the Commissioners in terms of this section.

- 13. The Commissioners shall not be answerable for the misapplication or non-application nor shall they be obliged to see to the application of any moneys which may from time to time be paid by them to the Council under the provisions in that behalf hereinbefore contained.
- 14. (1.) In compiling the annual accounts showing revenue and expenditure in respect of the tramway and power-supply undertaking and in respect of the electric light and power supply undertaking the 10 Council shall charge an annual appropriation to provide a reserve fund; such appropriation to be one pound ten shillings per centum of the value of the depreciable assets of the undertaking. Such value shall be fixed in manner provided by section three hereof.

(2.) The Council shall in the month of April in each year pay such 15 appropriations into two separate banking accounts to be termed the "Tramway Reserve Fund Account" and the "Electric Light Reserve Fund Account"; the first of such payments to be made in the month of April, nineteen hundred and eighteen.

(3.) The moneys paid into such accounts shall be applied for such 20 extensions and improvements in the undertaking in connection with which the fund is established as the Council thinks fit.

- (4.) If at any time the renewal funds created in respect of either the tramway and power-supply undertaking or in respect of the electric light and power supply undertaking shall be insufficient to meet renewals, the Council may use any part of the reserve fund established for the undertaking requiring further renewals for the purposes of such renewals.
- (5.) The Council may invest any part of such reserve funds in manner following:—

(a.) In New Zealand Government securities.

(b.) On deposit in any bank carrying on business in New Zealand under the authority of an Act of the General Assembly.

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(6.) Separate accounts shall be kept by the Council of all moneys paid to or received by them in respect of such reserve funds.

(7.) Such accounts shall for the purposes of audit be subject to

the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1908.

15. (1.) The Council may establish accident funds in connection both with the tramway and power-supply undertaking and with the electric light and power supply undertaking, and may set aside annually 40 in the month of March in each year such sums as it thinks fit in connection with such funds.

(2.) Such funds may be used to meet claims for accidents arising in connection with the undertaking for which each fund is established.

(3.) The Council may invest such funds on deposit in any bank 45 carrying on business in New Zealand under the authority of an Act of the General Assembly.

Accident funds.