

**CITY ORDINANCES AS REVISED AND  
PASSED MARCH 17, 1914, TOGETHER  
WITH THE CITY CHARTER, SPECIAL  
LEGISLATION, RULES OF ORDER OF THE  
CITY COUNCILS, AND LIST OF CITY  
OFFICIALS FROM 1874 TO 1914**

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City Ordinances as Revised and Passed March 17, 1914, Together with the City Charter, Special Legislation, Rules of Order of the City Councils, and List of City Officials from 1874 to 1914 by City of Keene

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# **CITY OF KEENE**

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CITY OF KEENE.  

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**CITY ORDINANCES**

AS

Revised and Passed March 17, 1914,

TOGETHER WITH THE

**CITY CHARTER,**

**SPECIAL LEGISLATION,**

**RULES OF ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCILS,**

AND

**LIST OF CITY OFFICIALS**

FROM 1874 TO 1914.



KEENE, N. H.

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1914.

**CITY CHARTER.**

# CITY CHARTER,

WITH AMENDMENTS THERETO.

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## AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE CITY OF KEENE.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

SECTION 1. The inhabitants of the town of Keene in the county of Cheshire shall continue to be a body corporate and politic, under the name of the city of Keene.

SECT. 2. The said city of Keene hereby is divided into five wards, which shall be constituted as follows, namely:

Ward No. 1 shall include all that part of the town of Keene now included within the following limits, viz: bounded northerly by a line drawn easterly from Central square, through the center of Roxbury street and the center of the highway leading by the dwelling houses of Miles S. Buckminster and John W. Nye, to Roxbury, easterly by the town lines between said Keene, Marlboro and Swanze; and westerly by a line drawn southerly from said Central square through the center of Main street and the road leading to Swanze; Factory Village.

Ward No. 2 shall include all that part of said Keene included within the following limits, viz: bounded northerly by the town lines between said Keene and Gilsum; easterly by the town lines between said Keene, Sullivan and Roxbury; southerly by the northern limit above described of Ward No. 1; and westerly by a line intersecting with said last mentioned line, and drawn thence northerly through said Central square, the center of Washington street, and the road leading by the dwelling house of E. G. Holman, to Gilsum.

Ward No. 3 shall include all that part of said Keene included within the following limits, viz: bounded northerly by the town lines between said Keene, Gilsum and Surry; easterly by the west line above described of Ward No. 2; and westerly by a line drawn northwesterly through said Central square, the center of Court street, and the center of the old road leading by the dwelling houses of Charles Wright and Calvin Randall, to said Surry.

Ward No. 4 shall include all that part of said Keene included within the following limits, viz: bounded northerly by the town lines between said Keene, Surry and Westmoreland; easterly by the west line above described of Ward No. 3; southerly by a line intersecting with said last mentioned line, and drawn thence westerly through Central square, the center of West street, and the center of highway leading from said West street by the dwelling houses of Charles N. Wilder, Josiah Sawyer, Joseph Wilson, Daniel Brown and Isaiah Robbins, to Chesterfield; and westerly by the town lines between said Keene, Westmoreland and Chesterfield.

Ward No. 5 shall include all that part of said Keene included within the following limits, viz: bounded northerly by the south line above described of Ward No. 4; easterly by the west line above described of Ward No. 1; southerly by the town lines between said Keene and Chesterfield and Swanzey.

SECT. 3. At the first meeting after the adoption of this act, there shall be chosen in each of said wards, in the manner prescribed by law, one alderman, three common councilmen, one assessor of taxes, and one overseer of the poor.

SECT. 4. The annual meeting of the legal voters of said city of Keene, for the choice of city and ward officers, shall be held on the second Tuesday of December annually; and all city and ward officers who are chosen by the people shall hold their respective offices for one year from the first Tuesday of January next succeeding, and until others are chosen and qualified in their stead.

SECT. 5. The mayor, aldermen and common councilmen shall meet in convention for the purpose of taking the oath of their respective offices on the first Tuesday of January in each year, at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

SECT. 6. A police court is hereby established within said city



of Keene, constituted in the manner prescribed in section 2, chapter 196 of the General Statutes of this state, with all the powers and made subject to all the duties prescribed for police courts in and by said chapter.

SECT. 7. All the power and authority now vested by law in said town of Keene in regard to the construction, maintenance and management of water works, is hereby transferred to and vested in the city council, and shall be carried into execution by the appointment of a superintendent or board of water commissioners, or such other manner as said city council shall determine.

SECT. 8. Within fifteen days after the acceptance of this act by the legal voters of the town of Keene, in the manner hereinafter prescribed, the selectmen of said town, for the purpose of the first election under this charter, shall prepare, revise, correct and post up, in the manner in which selectmen of towns are now required to do, an alphabetical list of voters in each ward of the city, and shall issue and serve their warrant for a meeting of the legal voters in their respective wards for the choice of all city officers who are elected by the people. Such warrant shall be posted at least fourteen days before the time appointed for said meetings, and shall designate the time and place for the meetings in the respective wards. At said meeting, each of said wards shall choose a moderator, clerk, three selectmen, one alderman, three members of the common council, one assessor, and one overseer of the poor, and shall also give in their votes for a mayor and such other offices as are then to be voted for. The clerk of each ward shall deliver certificates of their election to the persons elected aldermen and members of the common council, and a copy of the record of election to said selectmen of the town, certified by himself, the moderator, and a majority of the selectmen of said ward, within twenty-four hours after the termination of said ward meeting. The selectmen shall, within two days after receiving said returns, examine, compare and record the same, ascertain the result of the election, and give notice in writing to the person chosen mayor of his election. If a mayor shall not have been elected at such meeting, the selectmen shall forthwith issue their warrant for another meeting, as provided in this section, and the same proceedings shall be had and repeated

until a mayor shall be chosen. Any legal voter in the respective wards may call the first meeting to order, and preside until a moderator shall be chosen.

SECT. 9. This act shall be void, unless a majority of the legal voters of said town of Keene shall, by a majority of the voters present and voting thereon by ballot, determine to adopt the same at an annual meeting of the voters of said town.

SECT. 10. The selectmen shall issue and serve their warrant as prescribed by law at least fourteen days before said meeting to the legal voters of said town, to see if they will adopt this charter for a city government—said votes to be taken by ballot.

SECT. 11. The first meeting of the legal voters of said Keene for the choice of city and ward officers shall be held on the second Tuesday of April following the adoption of this act. The mayor, aldermen and common councilmen then elected shall meet in convention for the purpose of taking the oath of their respective offices on the first Tuesday of May next succeeding. All the city and ward officers elected by the people in April shall hold their respective offices until others are chosen and qualified in their stead.

[Approved July 3, 1873.]

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AN ACT IN AMENDMENT OF THE CHARTER OF THE  
CITY OF KEENE.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in  
General Court convened:*

SECTION 1. There shall be elected in each ward, on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November next, by major vote, and at each biennial state election thereafter, one supervisor of check-lists, and the supervisors thus elected shall constitute a joint board whose duty it shall be to canvass each ward, at least twenty days preceding the posting of the check-lists, as now prescribed by law; to obtain as near as possible a list of the legal voters, from which they shall make up an alphabetical list of all the legal voters of each ward. Certified copies of said lists shall be given into the hands of the selectmen of the several wards seventeen days previous

to every election, which copies shall be posted by the selectmen as now required by law.

SECT. 2. Said supervisors shall publish in the newspapers of the city, at least fifteen days previous to every election, a notice of the time and place of meeting for the correction of said check-lists, and also give notice of the same on the aforesaid copies in the same manner as now provided by law for selectmen, which meeting shall be: the first, not less than five days previous to election (exclusive of Sunday), and the last meeting on the day preceding every election from the hours of two p. m. to six p. m., and from seven p. m. to ten p. m. on each of said days, and no name shall be added to said check-lists after the last meeting, except such name as may have been left off through mistake; and not then unless the supervisor in attendance, in any ward where such omission occurs, shall have positive knowledge or information that said person has been a resident of the city for the period of one year, and in the ward six months.

SECT. 3. The several check-lists, as finally corrected by the supervisors, shall be returned to the selectmen of their respective wards before the hour of meeting, and shall be used in voting at every election; and the clerk of each ward shall, within ten days after every election, leave said lists with the city clerk to be preserved.

SECT. 4. Said supervisors shall meet and organize by electing one of the board as chairman, said chairman selecting, with advice and consent of the other members, one of their number to serve in each ward at all elections, said supervisor to serve in another ward than the one in which he was elected, or is a voter, whose duty it shall be to decide all contested cases which may arise by reason of omission as hereinbefore mentioned.

SECT. 5. Said supervisors shall be commissioned by the mayor to act as police officers which shall be for election days only; and they shall remain in attendance at the polls during every election day, unless necessarily absent.

SECT. 6. Said supervisors shall have the same powers and be entitled to the same protection by law, while in the performance of their duties, as is now afforded to selectmen while in attendance