

No. 608, A.]

[Published April 22, 1905.]

## CHAPTER 97.

AN ACT relating to the improvement of inner harbors and in aid of navigation.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

**Duty of common council when harbor situated within city; plat to be prepared.** SECTION 1. Whenever the United States government has indicated its intention to aid in the improvement of any inner harbor, situated within the limits of any city in this state; then it shall be the duty of the common council to cause the chief engineer, board of public works, or other official, as the case may be, in charge of public improvements, to prepare without unreasonable delay and submit for the approval of the common council a plat covering a complete system of waterways, canals, slips, revettments, docks and bridges intended to be constructed or improved, showing the exact location of all docks and bridges then built and encroachments upon the harbor lines if any, and plainly indicating the changes and improvements which may be deemed necessary or advantageous in the interest of navigation or the community at large.

**Preparation of plat; plan of improvement.** SECTION 2. In preparing such plat and adopting such system due regard shall be paid to harbor lines such as may have been established by the government and the location of turning basins when thus recommended; also to present docks when of modern construction and to all valuable improvements bordering on the waterways, as long as not a serious impediment in straightening, regulating and establishing the channel at an approximately uniform width. All of said work is to be done with a view of adapting such inner harbor to modern demands, dredging everywhere to a depth of not less than 21 feet and the eventual substitution of lift bridges in place of the old structures now in use.

**Plat to be submitted to U. S. government; filing of plat.** SECTION 3. The plat thus prepared when favorably acted

upon by the common council shall be forthwith submitted for approval or correction to the U. S. government and shall be open to changes and modifications as circumstances may require; but, when finally perfected and approved, the common council shall cause such plat to be filed in the office of the board of public works or other appropriate department and a duplicate shall also be recorded with the register of deeds of the county; and thereupon the common council shall promptly and permanently locate by ordinance all dock lines and re-tettments in conformity thereto.

**Duty of city after improvements made.** SECTION 4. After the establishment of such a system of improvement and the permanent location of dock lines as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the city from time to time, and in the manner herein provided, to order the construction of the turning basins and the straightening, docking and dredging of the waterways, canals and slips as public interests may require.

**Work how ordered and done.** SECTION 5. All work shall be ordered and done in substantially the same way as is now provided by law in case of streets and public highways, and all charter provisions whether general or special shall be applicable thereto, with the exception that a petition of property owners for doing any of such work is dispensed with, whenever the common council by resolution of two-thirds of its members declare that necessity requires the same to be done.

**Lands how acquired.** SECTION 6. Any land needed for any of the purposes contemplated by this act may be taken or acquired by gift, grant, purchase or condemnation as in other cases.

SECTION 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved April 21, 1905.