

GENERAL LAWS AND REFERENCES

In force in the Town of Dartmouth by virtue of their acceptance by vote of the people.

To special statutes, laws and resolves affecting the Town of Dartmouth, passed by the General Court of Massachusetts since the adoption of the Constitution, October 25, 1780.

1807-Chapter 115	Establishment of Dartmouth and New Bedford turnpike
1827-Chapter 7	Alteration of line between Dartmouth and New Bedford
1828-Chapter 54	Incorporation of Dartmouth Bridge Company
1830-Chapter 48	Alteration of line between Dartmouth and New Bedford
1831-Chapter 68	Alteration of line between Dartmouth and New Bedford
1833-Chapter 78	Authorizing certain persons to call meetings
1834-Chapter 11	Dartmouth Bridge Company allowed further time to complete bridge
1835-Chapter 5	Dartmouth Bridge Company allowed further time to complete bridge
1839-Chapter 148	Relative to setting fires on woodland
1844-Chapter 85	Regulating rates of toll over Dartmouth Bridge
1845-Chapter 164	Part of Dartmouth annexed to New Bedford
1862-Chapter 33	Regulating tolls at the Dartmouth Bridge
1863-Resolve 40	Relative to Dartmouth Tribe of Indians
1864-Resolve 53	Relative to Dartmouth Tribe of Indians
1864-Resolve 93	Relative to Dartmouth Tribe of Indians
1870-Chapter 221	An act to make the Dartmouth Bridge free
1871-Chapter 328	Protection of shellfish (similar to shellfish law of 1906 - Chapter 477)
1872-Chapter 164	Authorizing bridge over Little River
1877-Chapter 186	Relative to the election of Overseer of the Poor for the term of three years
1878-Chapter 256	Relative to the election of Selectmen and Assessors for the term of three years

1888-Chapter 298	Change of boundary line between Dartmouth and New Bedford
1888-Chapter 431	Provides for aid to small towns to provide themselves with School Superintendents
1893-Chapter 320	Granting Fall River and New Bedford St. Railway Co. authority to construct road
1894-Chapter 358	Authorizing bridge over Little River
1898-Chapter 548	(Section 332 and 333) Relative to the election of a Highway Surveyor
101-Sections 1 to 5	Relative to common nuisances
33-Section 28	Relative to impounding of beasts on premises of field driver
1908-Chapter 209	Provides for the protection of forests or sprout lands from fire
226-Section 134	Provides for penalties on any person setting fires in Dartmouth and its neighboring towns and cities
48-Sections 58 to 62 inc.	Gives the Selectmen jurisdiction over highways and county bridges
1909-Chapter 423	Relative to the sale of ice cream, confectionery, soda water and fruit on the Lord's Day
49-Section 14 to 15	Relative to appointment of sewer assessments
1911-Chapter 471	Relative to vocational education - Accepted in 1929
1914-Chapter 188	Authorizing New Bedford to supply Dartmouth with water
1916-Chapter 135	Special Laws providing for the election of Water Commissioners
1916-Chapter 153	Relative to license fees for slaughter houses
1916-Chapter 236	Special Laws authorizing New Bedford to purchase land for rifle range
1916-Chapter 283	Relative to licensing motor vehicles used for carrying passengers for hire
1916-Chapter 330	Special Laws establishing a Board of Survey
1919-Chapter 157	An Act to authorize the Town of Dartmouth to make an additional water loan
1920-Chapter 69	An Act to authorize the City of New Bedford to dispose of the sewage from a part of the Town of Dartmouth

1920-Chapter 240	Permits under public regulation and control certain sports and games on the Lord's Day
39-Section 20	Relative to precinct voting at Town elections
41-Section 97	Relative to the establishment of a Police Department
143-Section 3, 6 to 12 inc.	Relative to the adoption of by-laws regulating the inspection of buildings
1920-Chapter 445	An Act to ratify the vote of the Town of Dartmouth appropriating money for the construction of Padanaram Bridge and authorizing the Town to borrow money therefor
1921-Chapter 216	An Act authorizing the Town of Dartmouth to make an additional water loan
1922-Chapter 276	An Act authorizing the Town of Dartmouth to incur indebtedness for school purposes
1922-Chapter 516	An Act - accounting system
1923	Fire Districts – April 7, 1923 – Fire #2 – Petitioned Selectmen to have meeting
1923-Chapter 188	An Act authorizing the Town of Dartmouth to make additional water loans
1923-Chapter 391 Section 42A-42F	Water Bills - Lien - unpaid Water Bills (See 1954 Chapter 40, Section 42A-C
1924-Chapter 330	An Act authorizing the Town of Dartmouth to borrow money for the repair of the Padanaram Bridge
1924-Chapter 365	An Act authorizing the Town of Dartmouth to pay a certain sum of money to the widow of Benjamin J. Potter
1924-Chapter 400	An Act authorizing the cities of Fall River, New Bedford and Taunton to increase and protect their water supply
1924-Chapter 496	Relative to the fee for Slaughter Inspection
1925-Chapter 218	An Act authorizing the Town of Dartmouth to borrow money for school purposes
1927-Chapter 26	An Act providing for precinct voting, representative town meetings, town meeting members, a referendum and a moderator to serve for a year in the Town of Dartmouth
1933-Chapter 366	Permitted the Town to reconstruct the Padanaram Bridge

40-Section 13	Relative to Municipal Building Fire Insurance - Accepted in 1935
147-Sections 32 to 47 inc.	Permits legalized boxing and sparring matches in the Town of Dartmouth - Accepted in 1935
1938-Chapter 422	An Act authorizing the Town of Dartmouth to make additional water loans
1938-Chapter 461	An Act granting Fall River water rights in Dartmouth
85-Section 11A	Provides for the registration of all bicycles in Dartmouth - Accepted in 1942
129-Section 15	Provides for the nomination of Inspectors of Animals by the Board of Health - Accepted in 1942
33-Section 54 (New Section 59)	Provides a town employee who is a member of a form of governmental militia that has been called to receive a leave of absence with 15 days and this does not count as his vacation - Accepted in 1942 (See Personnel By-Law – days changed November 9, 1999)
41-Section 55	Provides for the appointing of a Town Accountant by the Selectmen - Accepted in 1943
143-Section 6 - 12 inc.	Pertains to the alteration, erection, inspection and use of buildings - Accepted in 1944
32-Sections 26 - 31H inc.	Established contributory retirement system for Town employees - Accepted in 1945
71-Section 40	Provides for equal pay for men and women pay - Accepted in 1946
1945-Chapter 494	An Act allowing the Town to receive monies in lieu of taxes from the City of Fall River
1945-Chapter 639	An Act granting 26.84 acres on Mishaum Point as a United State Military Reservation
1946-Chapter 602	An Act combining the offices of Water and Sewer Commissioners - Accepted March 11, 1947
1947-Chapter 438	An Act for the regulation of the common and town landing places in the Town of Dartmouth
1950-Chapter 567	An Act authorizing the Town of Dartmouth to make additional water loans
41-Section 97A	Establishment of Police Department - Accepted in 1950

1950-Chapter 820	Increase of pensions already in force - Accepted in 1951
1951-Chapter 155	An Act relative to the use of the common and town landing places in the Town of Dartmouth
1951-Chapter 781	Increase of pensions already in force - Accepted in 1952
31-Section 48	Placed the Chief of Police under Civil Service - Accepted in 1952 - Election
1953	Act Relative to Referendum – Acts of 1927
Federal Act of 1947	Extended rent control in Dartmouth to April 30, 1953 - Accepted in 1952 - Automatically discontinued rent control by not voting July 31, 1953
1952-Chapter 369	An Act validating and confirming the proceedings of the annual town meeting of the Town of Dartmouth in the current year
953-Chapter 428	An Act (amends Chapter 26 of the Acts of 1927) relative to referendum procedure in the Town of Dartmouth
31-Section 48	Placed Police Department employees under Civil Service - Accepted in 1953 - Election
41-Sections 81A thru 81Y	Established "Improved Method of Municipal Planning". "Subdivision Control Law" - Accepted in 1953
Chapter 40-Sec.42A-C 1955-Chapter 22	Water Bill - Lien - 1954 (1923 Chapter 391 Section 42A-F) An Act authorizing the Town of Dartmouth to borrow for water purposes
45-Section 14	Created a Recreation Commission - Accepted in 1955
Chapter 91-Sec. 29 (Amended Chap. 5 of Acts of 1955)	Damage created incurred by work performed DPW of Massachusetts
40-Section 8A	Established Development Industrial Commission - Accepted in 1956
114-Sections 22 - 26	Created Cemetery Commissioners - Accepted in 1957
32B	Election 1957
32B-Section 10	Established group insurance for employees - Accepted in 1957
1957-Chapter 420	An Act validating election and acts of Cemetery Commissioners
31-Section 47	Placed labor service under Civil Service - Accepted in 1958

41-Section 110A	Closed town offices on Saturdays - Accepted in 1958
1959-Chapter 348	Enabled Fire District #3 to hold second election to break a tie vote for Chief
Public Law 560, 83rd Congress	Declaration of intent to begin sewerage system - Made 1960
U.S. Public Law 85-833	Invitation for salt water conversion plans - Made 1960
1960-61	Offered land to Southeastern Massachusetts Technological Institute
40-Section 8C	Established Conservation Commission - Accepted in 1961 Increase membership to seven - 1963
136-Section 4B	Allows bowling during certain hours on Sundays - Accepted in 1961
1962	Agreement made with Town of Westport for care of dividing roads
40-Section 6H	Allows Town to repair certain private ways - Accepted in 1962
1962-Chapter 409	Provides penalties for jay-walking - Accepted in 1963
1962-Chapter 674	An Act creating Board of Public Works - Accepted in 1963
31-Section 47B	Placed school custodians under Civil Service - Accepted in 1963
40-Section 6B	Provides for the Town to provide uniforms for Police and Fire employees - Accepted in 1963
121-Section 26K	Established the Dartmouth Housing Authority - Accepted in 1963
1963-Chapter 64	An Act authorizing the Town of Dartmouth to construct and operate a system or systems of sewerage and sewage disposal - Accepted in 1964
1964-Resolve	Congratulatory Resolution of the General Court on our Town's anniversary
32B-Section 9A & 11B	Established group insurance for retired employees - Accepted in 1964
Election 1964	Paying 1/2 insurance cost of retired employees prior 10/1/57 and their dependents
1965-Chapter 797	An Act establishing a fire department in the Town of Dartmouth (Election 1966 – Question 1 – Single Fire Dept. failed)
53-Section 9A	The final date for obtaining nomination papers - Accepted in 1965

91-Section 29	Town assumes liability for DPW work - Accepted in 1965
1967-Chapter 131	An Act authorizing the Trustees of the Southeastern Massachusetts Technological Institute to enter into an agreement with the Town of Dartmouth relative to joint use of sewerage facilities in said Town
1967-Chapter 415	An Act authorizing the Board of Trustees of the Southeastern Massachusetts Technological Institute to grant an easement to the Town of Dartmouth for the purpose of altering and widening Old Westport Road
1967-Chapter 628	An Act providing for an increase in the number of precincts in the Town of Dartmouth and regulating the membership on the Board of Public Works of said Town
40A-Section 8	Zoning By-Law amendment - no reconsideration for two years - Accepted in 1968
262-Section 53C	Compensatory time or additional pay for Police Officers who attend Court - Accepted in 1968
	Establish Park Dept. – 1970 ATE – Article 30
58-Section 7A	Installation of State Assessment System - Accepted in 1969
41-Section 108L	Career incentive pay for full-time Police Department - Accepted in 1970
32B	Election 1970 - Life insurance
40-Section 8E	Establishment of Youth Commission - December 1, 1971 (See Article 3 - April 4, 1972 ATM)
40D	Establish IDFA - September 14, 1972
1971-Chapter 486	An Act - Beano
148-Section 56	Licensing of open-air parking spaces: penalty accepted in 1973
Chapter 773 of Acts of 1973	Revolving Fund for Off-Duty Detail
Chapter 484 of Acts of 1973	Charter Commission – passed Article 8 1973 Town Meeting
Town Election 1974 (Chapter 484)	Act of 1973 - Appointment of Bd.of Public Works (Did not pass)
40-Section 8B	Establish 1973 - Historial Commission
40-Section 22D	Establish traffic regulations - Accepted in 1973

STM - 4/16/75	General Court - Liquor License - UMASS Dartmouth
26-Section 2 of the	Amending Acts of 1927 by inserting the word "revised" Acts of 1927 April 26, 1977
40-Sections 44A thru 44K inc.	Establishment of Regional Refuse Disposal District - April 26, 1977
71-Section 71E	Adult Education Revolving Fund - November 27, 1979
80-Section 13B 64-Section 6	Deferral of betterment - assessments - September 23, 1980 An Act of 1963 - Payment of Sewage Disposal – Sept. 23, 1980
258-Section 13	Election - April 7, 1980: - Indemnification of Municipal Employees
44-Section 17A	Petition for Special Law providing temporary note renewals – May 19, 1981
148-Section 26C	Smoke Detectors - April 29, 1980 - Accepted 1981
80-Section 13	Betterment Assessment - September 23, 1980 - Accepted in 1981
40-Section 4G	An Act of 1980 - Contracts - May 19, 1981
90-Section 20A	Authorizes Town to issue traffic parking notices - September 28, 1982
May 19, 1981ATM	Title Change from Shellfish Dept. to Nat. Resources Dept
41-Section 100B	Retired Police disability - January 18, 1983
71-Section 71F	School Tuition Account - January 18, 1983
147-Section 10F	Parking Control Officers - May 24, 1983
644 of the Acts of 1981(Ch.40-Sec.21)	Allows Town to regulate parking areas of disabled and handicapped persons - January 18, 1983
Resolution	Acid Rain Resolution - May 24, 1983
Resolution	Acid Rain Resolution - January 10, 1984
40-Section 8G	An agreement for Mutual Police Aid - May 22, 1984
55-Acts of 1984	Single payment tax bills - October 23, 1984
132A-Sections 13 thru 18	A petition for Special Legislation - Improve wastewater treatment facilities - October 23, 1984
138-Section 17A	Additional liquor licenses - January 10, 1984

148-Section 26G	Acts of 1982 - Sprinkler systems - January 10, 1984
138-Section 17A	Liquor licenses - Accepted in 1984
597/81-Section 1	Acts of 1982 - Excise tax exemption - January 10, 1984
653/82-Section 3 & 4	Acts of 1982 - Tax exemption for blind and elderly - May 22, 1984
44-Section 53D	Establishment of a self-supporting service revolving fund - October 15, 1985
70A-Section 5 Art. 7 & 8	Equal educational opportunity grant - Accepted in 1985
83-Section 16B thru 16F	Tax liens, interest, abatements, etc. - October 15, 1985
188-16	Public School Improvement Act - March 25, 1986
40-Section 57	Deny or revoke license or permit due to non-payment of taxes - October 20, 1986
64G-Section 3A	Excise Tax - January 4, 1986
71-Section 40	Acts of 1985 - Greater N.B. Reg. Voc. Tech. H.S. District - Teacher's minimum salary - May 13, 1986
73-Section 2 & 3 of the Acts of 1986	Property tax exemption for elderly - October 20, 1986
188-Section 13 Art. 9 & 10	Acts of 1985 - Greater N.B. Reg. Voc. Tech. H.S. District - Professional development grants - May 13, 1986
26 of the Acts of 1927	Amending the Acts of 1927 - Precincts - Equal number of residents, Town Meeting Members apportioned in precincts - December 1, 1987
40-Section 22D Art.9	Towing of vehicles illegally parked or standing in public - December 1, 1987
90-20A	Parking regulations, violations - Dec. 1, 1987
147-10F	Parking Officer - Dec. 1, 1987
55 of the Acts of 1984	Taxes not in excess of \$25.00 - March 24, 1987
165-Section 11 Art.12	Injury of water meters and unlawful of use of water penalized - December 1, 1987

Petition	Petition to the Great & General Court - Agreements between Dartmouth and New Bedford relative to services and reimbursements - March 10, 1988 (Section 8, Article 89 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth)
Petition	Petition to Great & General Court - Cost of installing municipal water service in area of Resolve, Inc. - June 14, 1988 (Section 8, Article 89 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth)
Petition	Petition to Great & General Court - Conservation Land Bank - June 14, 1988 (Section 8, Article 89 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth)
Petition	Petition to Great & General Court - Creation of Department of Budget & Finance and termination of <u>elected</u> Treasurer and Collector - December 6, 1988 (Section 8, Article 89 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth)
262-Section 34,	Adoption of fee schedule for Town Clerk - Clause 1-79 June 14, 1988
40-Section 39K	Establish Water Enterprise Fund - November 1, 1988
Petition	Petition to Great & General Court - Termination of Labor Service - March 14, 1989
Petition	Refiling of a petition to the Great & General Court - Conservation Land Bank - March 14, 1989
40-Section 39K	Establishment of separate account classified as the Enterprise Fund for the Sewer Division - March 14, 1989
53-Section 9A	Date to obtain nomination papers for town elections - March 14, 1989
41-Section 106B	Establish Capital Planning Committee - May 24, 1989
140-Section 147A	Removal of Town from County Dog Fund - February 13, 1990
40-Section 21	By-law adoption - April 24, 1990
40-Section 21D	Non-Criminal Deposition of dog violation - April 24, 1990
44-Section 53	Petition to Great & General Court - An act providing for a Dartmouth Social Day Trust Fund - April 24, 1990
148-Section 26E	Local Option Smoke Detectors - January 15, 1991
148-Sections 26H, 26I	Automatic Sprinkler Systems, etc. - January 15, 1991
102-19	Appointment of Harbor Master - May 7, 1991

291-Acts of 1990	Enhanced 911 Service - May 7, 1991
44-53F 1/2	Waterways Management Department (Div. of Harbor Master & Natural Resources - May 7, 1991
653-Section 41 Acts of 1989	Quarterly Tax Bills (November 19, 1991)
Petition	Petition to Great & General Court - Establishing a Landfill Capping Expense Fund - November 19, 1991
138, Section 123 of Acts of 1991 40-Section 22F	Reasonable fees for licenses, permits, etc. February 11, 1992
40-Section 21D	Non-Criminal Disposition - February 11, 1992
Petition	Petition to Great & General Court - An act Increasing members of Board of Selectmen from 3 to 5 - February 11, 1992
83-Section 16A-16G	Lien on Real Estate if Sewer not paid - May 12, 1992
60-Section 2 (Amended thru Chapter 182 of Acts of 1990)	Abatement of Unpaid Taxes of less than \$10.00 - October 27, 1992
Petition	Petition to Great & General Court - Amendment to 2-11-92, Increasing Board of Selectmen - October 27, 1992 (Was not submitted to Legislature in time for 1992 Town Election)
Petition	Petition to Great & General Court - Establishing the position of Executive Administrator - October 27, 1992
652-Acts of 1987	Relative to the N.B. Reg. Refuse Management District - May 25, 1993
7-Section 40E-40J	Enabling Legislation - Acceptance Easement Jail - June 14, 1994
40-Section 21D	Non-Criminal Disposition - Waterways Management - Oct. 26, 1994
238-Acts of 1994	Youth Commission increase to nine members - March 9, 1994
41-Section 100G $\frac{1}{4}$	Police & Fire funeral and burial expense - May 23, 1995
32-Section 3	Harbor Master (Enabling Legislation) - May 23, 1995
85-Section 11	Bicycle Law Violations (Non-Crim. Ch.40, Sec.21D)

October 29, 1996 STM	Change Harbor Master to Natural Resources Officer
40-Section 13C	Workers' Comp. Ins. Fund - Establish Reserve Fund - May 27, 1997
Election April 6, 1998	Establish Charter Commission
40C-Section 3	Historic District – June 9, 1998 ATM (7 members)
June 9, 1998 ATE	Agricultural Preservation Trust Fund & Council (9 members) (Contingent on Nov. 3, 1998 State Election – passed Nov.3, 1998)
Ch.166 – Acts of 1998 Ch.60-Section 3C	Est. Town Aid to Elderly & Disabled Tax Fund – May 25, 1999
Act	Est. Agricultural Preservation Trust Fund in Town of Dartmouth – May 25, 1999 (from 1998 ATM)
May 25, 1999	Agriculture Development Commission (from 5 to 9 members)
Ch.40-Section 22D	Designated Parking Spaces for handicapped – May 25, 1999
Nov. 9, 1999 STM	Establish Library Building Committee for northern portion of Town
Ch.33-Section 59	Military Leave – 34 days – November 9, 1999 (Personnel By-Law)
April 3, 2000 ATE	Charter accepted – (Acts of 1927 no longer apply)
May 24, 2000 ATM	Take Police Chief off Civil Service
Nov. 14, 2000 FATM	Est. Municipal Land Committee
Ch. 127, Sec. 59 Acts of 1990 MGL Ch. 59 Sec. 5K	Senior Citizen property tax work-off abatement – 5-15-01 FATM
Ch. 32B A 7A	Contribution to Emp. Health Insurance (50%) 11-13-01 FATM
Ch. 44B S. 3-7	Community Preservation Act. (Contingent on Apr. 02 Election Voted to accept Apt. 1, 2002 ATE)
Ch. 59 S 5 (4ID)	Elderly Exemption Taxes 5-28-02 SATM Art. 4
Ch. 60 S 23B	Municipal Lien Certificate Fees