

CHAP. 540

General  
powers  
granted.

by-laws and ordinances not contrary to law for the preservation of the health, comfort, convenience, morals, cleanliness, peace and good order of the community, and for the protection of the lives and property of the citizens of said town, and for the suppression, abatement and discontinuance of nuisances within the limits of said town; and for the purpose of carrying out the foregoing powers the Mayor and Council may pass any and all ordinances and by-laws from time to time deemed necessary, and may enforce and insure the observance of such by-laws or ordinances in addition to the usual action of debt or such other civil remedies as may exist in such cases by law for the recovery of fees, fines and penalties thereto affixed; they may affix thereto reasonable fine for default of payment of any fine and cost imposed for a violation of any ordinance or by-laws; they may provide for the imprisonment of the offender for a period not to exceed thirty days in the town lockup or the county jail, or for his commitment to the custody of the policeman under sentence to hard labor upon the streets of the town, not to exceed ten days. And whenever in any such ordinance or by-law a fine or penalty is imposed for the doing of any act forbidden to be done by such ordinance or for omitting to do any act required to be done by such ordinance, the doing of such act in the first case or the omission to do such act in the second case, shall be deemed to be a criminal offense; and all such offenses shall be prosecuted by the arrest of the offender and by holding him to bail to appear in or committing him for trial in the Circuit Court for Worcester county, unless upon being brought before a justice of the peace, and having been informed of his right to a jury trial, as elsewhere provided in this charter, he shall waive said right and elect to be tried before a justice of the peace; and if any person shall be adjudged guilty of any such offense under any ordinance or by-law passed in pursuance of the powers hereby given or any of them, by the Circuit Court aforesaid or by a justice of the peace, a person so found guilty shall be sentenced to pay the fine or penalty prescribed by the said ordinance or by-law, and also the costs of prosecution, and in default of the payment thereof the person so found guilty shall be committed to jail for the length of time required by said ordinance or by-laws, not to exceed the thirty days' limit above provided;