

A History of the Division of the Town of Rushford

From the minutes of June 7, 1869

On the 27th day of February AD 1869, the Legislature of the State of Minnesota passed an act which declared that the W1/2 of Sec 13, the E1/2 of Sec 14, the S1/2 of the SE1/4 of Sec 11, the S1/2 of the SW1/4 of Sec 12, the SE1/4 of the SE1/4 of Sec 11, the E ½ of the NW1/4 of Sec 14, and the E1/2 of the SW1/4 of Sec 14, all of Town 104 North of Range 8 West should be a city by the name of Rushford, and also an Election District.

The people living within the Town of Rushford and without the limits of the above described territory being that the act – incorporating the said described territory a city, created that city a corporation for municipal purposes, and left all the balance of the original Town of Rushford also a municipal corporation and separate from the said City, with the full right to elect the town officers prescribed by law, and refused on the day prescribed for holiday the annual Town Meeting of said Town to act with the people residing in said city in holding said Town Meeting, but on the contrary, on the 6th day of April AD 1869, the legal voters of the said Town held a Town meeting in said Town and Elected the Town Officers prescribed by law, a full account of which meeting will be found recorded on the subsequent page of this book. The people residing within the said City of Rushford, on the Said 6th day of April AD 1869, claiming still the city to be part of the Town of Rushford, and by reason of superior numbers being able to control the balance of the Town, and having residing within the limits of the city all the old officers prescribed law, competed to call, conduct & hold the annual Town Meeting of said Town, did hold a separate Town Meeting within said city and proceeded to elect persons residing wholly within the city to the several offices which the people of any Town in this state lawfully could elect. These persons so elected qualified for their respective offices and entered upon the discharge of the duties thereof. The old officers of the Town of Rushford having on the same day delivered to the officers on said day elected, all the property belonging to the respective offices held by them. An account of the proceedings had & done by the officers elected within the city is recorded on pages 77-78-79-80-81 & 82 of this book (Minute book of the Town of Rushford 1856-1881 held at Rushford Village Clerks Office).

On the 25th day of May AD 1869 Richard A Murray the person who was elected to the office of Town Clerk of the Town Rushford served upon John Larkee, the old Town Clerk, & George W Valentine the new town clerk elected within the city a notice that he would apply to the District Court for a writ of mandamus to compel them to deliver to him all the books, papers, records & property belonging to the office of Town Clerk of the Town of Rushford, they having refused to deliver the same to him upon demand. The cause came on to be heard at a special term of said court, on the third day of May (June) AD 1869 & after argument, the court ordered that the writ of mandamus be allowed & said writ was issued, June 4th 1869 & served June 7th 1869. The said Larkee & Valentine upon service of the writ obeyed the same & delivered the property to R A Murray on the 7th day of June AD 1869.

Richard A Murray
Town Clerk of Rushford, Minnesota
(Now known as Rushford Village, MN)