

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

November 15, 1982

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In recognition of the Council's established policy to divest the City of ownership of residential property, as was done with the Lexington Avenue and Lakeview Avenue houses in 1980 and 1982 respectively, the Water Department desires to dispose of the last two residential such structures under its care.

These buildings are located in Weston and Lincoln on peripheral reservoir landholdings acquired by the Water Board in the late 1800's for the exclusive purpose of providing protective buffer zones for the Cambridge drinking water supply. Therefore, the land cannot be disposed of and thus requires that the structures be sold with the understanding that they will be immediately removed off the site.

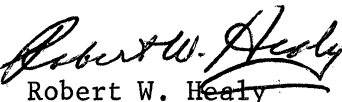
The following factors predicate the decision of the Water Department and Water Board:

- (a) The considerable expense to maintain these eighty-year-old structures has become excessive. Both would require extensive renovation to secure the continued availability of fire insurance.
- (b) With present day travel times, and communication capabilities, current watershed management practices have made the availability and use of so-called caretakers' houses impractical and obsolete.

During the 1981 collective bargaining negotiations, the Water Department and the Union reached agreement that the houses would be vacated. It is, therefore, now the intent of the Water Department to have these structures sold as surplus property.

It is my recommendation that the City Council refer this subject to the Planning Board for their immediate review and comment.

Very truly yours,


Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mbf

Agenda Item Number Eight *S-710*

Re: request from the Water Dept. to dispose
of residential structures in Weston & Lin-
coln.

*copy sent to the Planning Board 11/16/82
mh*

In City Council,

November 15, 1982

*11/15/82
Referred to the
Planning Board
FOR
Report -*