

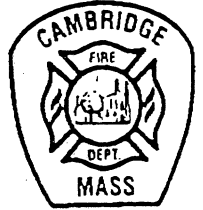


CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

FIRE DEPARTMENT

HEADQUARTERS

491 BROADWAY, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138



KEVIN J. FITZGERALD
CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT

(617) 349-4921
FAX (617) 349-4912

WALTER J. ELLIS
ASSISTANT CHIEF

May 28, 1996

Robert W. Healy, City Manager
City Manager's Office

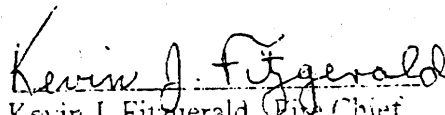
Dear Mr. Healy:

Re: Council Order No. 070 dated May 20, 1996

Attached is a memo from D.F.C. Francis E. Murphy III concerning removal of the fire hydrant on St. Paul Street. Deputy Chief Murphy is the fire department liaison to the Water Department.

I agree with Deputy Chief Murphy on the limited value of hydrants near the end of dead end streets.

Respectfully,


Kevin J. Fitzgerald, Fire Chief

Cambridge Fire Department

May 24, 1996

From: Deputy Fire Chief Francis E. Murphy III *F.E.M. III*
To: The Chief of Department
Subject: Hydrant removal on St. Paul Street

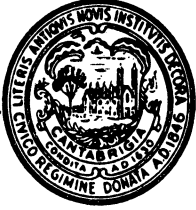
Sir:

I authorized the Cambridge Water Department to remove the hydrant formerly located in front of # 10 St. Paul Street. A 12 inch water main was installed on Prospect Street in 1993 with a new hydrant installed on St. Paul Street at Prospect Street. The purpose of this hydrant was to replace the hydrant located at 10 St. Paul Street. Flow data from the hydrants collected during the 1994 hydrant testing program indicated a flow of 370 gallons per minute from 10 St. Paul Street and 1135 gallons per minute from St. Paul St. at Prospect Street.

Our hydrants are rated from best to worst using the NFPA standard color code. Hydrants which flow in excess of 1000 gallons per minute are colored green (best) and those less than 500 gallons per minute are colored black (worst). For firefighting purposes we have designated all hydrants which flow less than 500 gallons per minute as deficient for firefighting. These are not to be utilized for building fires unless there are no other hydrants of greater capacity in the immediate area.

The hydrant at 10 St. Paul Street did not drain properly which resulted in it freezing during the winter, thereby making it unusable. It was poorly located for both fire and water department purposes. It would only be usable for a fire located around the corner on the dead end section of the street. A pump could hook up to the hydrant but access for other vehicles, such as a ladder truck could be hindered. For dead ended streets with hydrants located near the dead end of the street we, with very few exceptions, do not utilize the hydrants for fire protection. Through my direction as liaison to the Water Department, a hydrant replacement and relocation program is in effect. Hydrants are evaluated for their location, flow rate and capacity of the water main to which they are attached. Whenever a hydrant is scheduled to be installed or replaced a joint review is made by myself and Water Department personnel. Hydrants are located with consideration given to but not limited to underground utilities, above ground utilities, driveways, handicap ramps, access ways to properties, trees, and on street parking.

St. Paul Street has a tremendous amount of automobiles parked in every available spot on the street, including parking in front of driveways with other vehicles parked in the driveway. It does not appear that there is anyone on the street willing to sacrifice a spot for a fire hydrant.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL. 349-4300
FAX. 349-4307

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

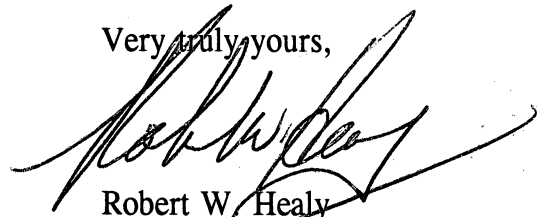
RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

June 10, 1996

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 32, regarding restoring the fire hydrant on St. Paul Street, received from Fire Chief Kevin Fitzgerald.

Very truly yours,



Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
attachment

Consent Agenda #3

S-315

Relative to Awaiting Report Item
Number Thirty-two, regarding
restoring the fire hydrant on
St. Paul Street.

In City Council June 10, 1996

Placed on file