



City of Cambridge

Agenda Item No. 45

IN CITY COUNCIL

~~August 4, 1997~~

August 18, 1997

- WHEREAS:** By vote of March 25, 1996, the City Council ordered: that the City Council authorize adoption of a precinct-based optical scanning system using "Marksense" paper ballots for all state, federal, and municipal elections; and
- WHEREAS:** By vote of May 20, 1996, the City Council ordered: that the City Council approve the selection of the Accuvote ES-2000 for the September, 1996, State Primary Election, according to the procurement requirements of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30B; and
- WHEREAS:** On August 1, 1997, the City received written approval from the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the Director of Elections for the field testing of the Accuvote ES-2000 combined with the proportional representation (PR Master) software in the November 4, 1997 municipal election; and
- WHEREAS:** Subsequent to this formal State approval, General Laws Chapter 54, Section 34 (second paragraph) requires a vote by a majority of the City Council to use the Accuvote ES-2000 voting system combined with the proportional representation software known as PR Master in order for such system to be used by the City in the next municipal election of occur on November 4, 1997; now therefore be it
- ORDERED:** That the City Council hereby approves the use of the Accuvote ES-2000 voting system combined with the proportional representation software known as PR Master in order that such system will be used by the City in the next municipal election to occur on November 4, 1997.

In City Council August 18, 1997

Adopted by a ye and nay vote:-

Yeas 7; Nay 2; Absent 0.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Secretary of the Commonwealth
State House, Boston, Massachusetts 02133

William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth

August 1, 1997

Ms. Theresa Neighbor
Executive Director
Cambridge Election Commission
362 Green Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Ms. Neighbor,

Enclosed please find the approval for field testing PR Master at the Cambridge City Election on November 4, 1997. My office will also provide representatives from the Elections Division to observe the election and count that day.

Please take cognizance of the mandatory voter instruction program that is part of the approval. It is important when changing voting equipment that additional preparations be taken in order to ensure that all voters using this system will have their votes counted easily and accurately. For that reason, I am asking that you place a special emphasis on training procedures which would include demonstrations of the new voting system throughout areas in the City for all voters.

I would like to thank you and the Commission for your demonstrations and cooperation necessary for this testing approval.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William Francis Galvin".
William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Elections Division

APPROVAL OF VOTING EQUIPMENT IN MASSACHUSETTS FOR PURPOSES OF FIELD TEST ONLY

Name of Vendor: LHS Associates, Inc.
13 Branch Street
Methuen, MA 01844
508-683-0777

Local Agent: LHS Associates, Inc.
13 Branch Street
Methuen, MA 01844
508-683-0777

Type of Product: Vote tabulating system for proportional representation combining the Accu-Vote 2000 voting system and proportional representation software (PR Master). Specifically this approval is for the testing of PR Master.

Submission of Detailed Specifications: On July 21, 1997, the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth received specifications for PR Master.

Office Demonstration of Equipment: On May 21, 1997 and July 30, 1997, John Silvestro and Gerry Bergeron (only July 30) of LHS, the Cambridge Election Commission, their counsel (only July 30) and consultant, Lee Valentine presented office demonstrations of the system in the Elections Division, One Ashburton Place, Boston.

Field Test: Cambridge City Election, November 4, 1997.
Tentative - Cambridge City Election, November 2, 1999.

Page 2

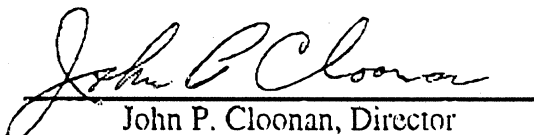
Reason for Approval:

The System is in substantial compliance with the requirements of Massachusetts laws, rules and regulations, and with the new Federal Elections Commission requirements and includes the following:

- 50.02 (2) (b) The system is designed to maximize accuracy and prevent fraud. When correctly programmed and tested, this machine registers the number of votes cast for each candidate and question, transfers votes appropriately through to final results.
- (e) The system prevents registering votes prior to and after the election.
- (f) Double voting or voting twice for the same position is precluded.
- (4) The system is adequate to the demands of an average election. An audit trail that can be printed out is maintained.
- (6) Service is available from LHS Associates, Inc., 13 Branch Street, Methuen, MA 01844
- 53.02 (13) (d) 2. Allows write-in voting.
- 3. Produces a zero tape that can be initialed by election officers and posted for public view.
- (6) (a) Allows for each precinct to be tabulated separately.
- 54.07 (8) Drives printer to produce printout of election results.

The Cambridge Election Commission shall submit to the Secretary of the Commonwealth for his approval a detailed plan for voter education in the use of the new system of PR no later than August 11. Said plan shall be implemented for use upon approval by the Secretary and shall be used at each city election utilizing proportional representation. Any amendments to the plan or deviations must be approved by the Secretary.

The Cambridge Election Commission shall file a final copy of any rules and guidelines they shall use in any PR election and attest that any revised PR Master software confirms with their rules and guidelines.


John P. Cloonan, Director

Date: August 1, 1997



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

August 4, 1997

To the Honorable, the City Council

Enclosed is a supplemental agenda item for consideration at tonight's City Council meeting. It is submitted pursuant to Council Rule 20. The item concerns approval of the City's use of computerized voting equipment at the next local election. It is a legally required reaffirmation of Council votes taken March 25, 1996 and May 20, 1996 (copies attached).

Council Rule 20 authorizes the City Manager to submit Supplemental Agenda items on short notice when exigent circumstances for the short notice exist. In this case, the Council vote could not have been requested sooner, and cannot wait until the next regular Council meeting on September 8, because G.L.c.54, s.34 (second paragraph) requires that not later than sixty days prior to a municipal election at which an electronic voting system is first to be used, a majority of the City Council must vote to use a system approved by the Secretary of State's office. The required approval (attached) came on Friday August 1. The September 8 meeting is within sixty days of the November 4 election. Therefore, a vote at tonight's meeting is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert W. Healy

By Hand

Supplemental

S-496(c)

Consent Agenda #45

Relative to approval of the use of the Accuvote ES-2000 voting system combined with the proportional representation software known as PR Master in order that such system will be used by the City in the next municipal election to occur on November 4, 1997. August 1, 1997 the City received written approval from the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the Director of Elections.

In City Council August 4, 1997

Charter Right was
exercised by
Councillor Toomey

August 18, 1997
Order Adopted

7-2-0