



# City of Cambridge

13.

IN CITY COUNCIL

September 20, 1993

COUNCILLOR WALSH  
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL  
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: The attached letter was forwarded to the City Manager and members of the City Council from members of the Cambridge Fire Department; and

WHEREAS: The letter raises serious policy issues and additional costs to the City of Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: The firemen have been on a promotional list since 1990; and

WHEREAS: They are now being required to take another exam; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to consult with the Chief of the Fire Department and provide this City Council with a response to the attached letter by September 27, 1993.

In City Council September 20, 1993.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

Certified Mail  
Return Receipt Requested

August 20, 1993

Mr. Robert W. Healy  
City Manager  
795 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Healy:

We, the undersigned, request that there not be another exam for Fire Lieutenant held this fall as announced by the Fire Department on July 30, 1993. We feel that we the present members on the now active list have not been given a fair opportunity for promotion. The law to keep lists active (no time limit) was changed in 1986 for just this type of circumstances.

Please consider the following:

- A. Only 15 Fire Fighters out of over 100 passed the exam. The list went into effect in the fall of 1990.
- B. Only 4 promotions to Fire Lieutenant have been made since that time. This is the lowest number of promotions from a Lieutenant's list in over 20 years.
- C. Cambridge has for the first time in the history of Fire Service closed one of its Stations (#7). Now with a reduced number of promotional opportunities available and very few expected retirements over the next few years the chances for advancement from the existing list of eligible candidates is also reduced.
- D. The constant cost to the City for unnecessary exams to be held, as well as the cost to Fire Fighters to take exams and purchase study materials with so few possible openings.
- E. Unlike most of the exams in recent years, there are 4 Fire Fighters 50 years or older as well as 3 minority candidates among the remaining 11 Fire Fighters on the current list.

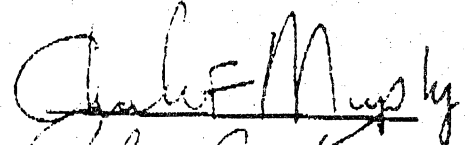
The majority of members on this list have 10 years or more experience and could prove invaluable on the fire ground. Too many times in the past, lists have been topped by Fire Fighters with 10 or less years and these lists have died before getting to the veterans of the Fire Service. This is the city's opportunity to promote these Fire Fighters.

Tests have been cancelled in the past and we would like to see the City extend the current list until the remaining Fire Fighters are appointed to the rank of Lieutenant.

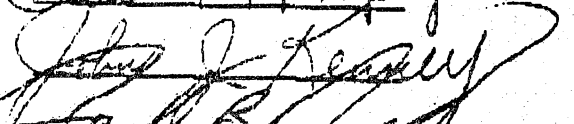
We appreciate your taking time in reviewing this situation and anxiously await your reply to this matter.

Sincerely,

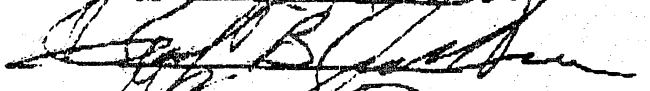
FF. Charles F. Murphy



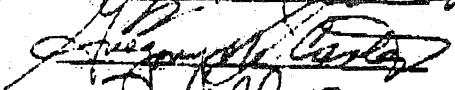
FF. John J. Kenney



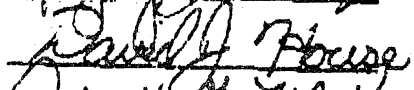
FF. Roger B. Johnson



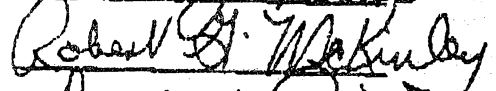
FF. Gregory M. Carter



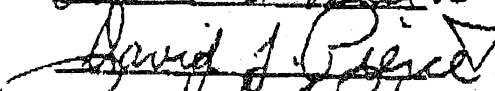
FF. David J. House



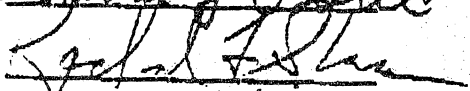
FF. Robert G. McKinley



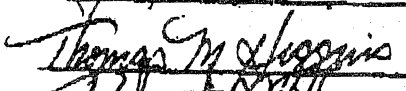
FF. David J. Pierce



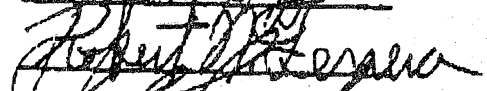
FF. Richard F. Shea



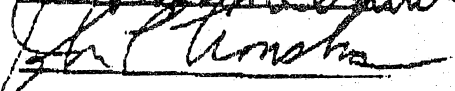
FF. Thomas N. Higgins



FF. Robert N. Ferrera



FF. John C. Cronshaw



cc:

Mayor Kenneth E. Reaves

Chief Kevin J. Fitzgerald

B

September 16, 1993

## COUNCILLOR WALSH

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- WHEREAS: The letter raises serious policy issues and additional costs to the City of Cambridge; and
- WHEREAS: The firemen have been on a promotional list since 1990; and
- WHEREAS: They are now being required to take another exam; now therefore be it
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The majority of members on this list have 10 years or more experience and could prove invaluable on the fire ground. Too many times in the past, lists have been topped by Fire Fighters with 10 or less years and these lists have died before getting to the veterans of the Fire Service. This is the city's opportunity to promote these Fire Fighters.

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Sincerely,

- FF. Charles F. Murphy
- FF. John J. Kenney
- FF. Roger B. Johnson
- FF. Gregory M. Carter
- FF. David J. House
- FF. Robert G. McKinley
- FF. David J. Pierce
- FF. Richard F. Shea
- FF. Thomas N. Higgins
- FF. Robert N. Ferrera
- FF. John C. Cronshaw

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*John J. Kenney*  
*Roger B. Johnson*  
*Gregory M. Carter*  
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cc:

- Mayor Kenneth E. Reaves
- Chief Kevin J. Fitzgerald



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*Russell Goney*  
Consent Order #13  
Councillor Walsh RE: Fireman required  
to take another fire exam.

*CM 282*

In City Council,  
September 20, 1993

*Order adopted*