

To the Mayor & Alderman of
the City of Cambridge Gentⁿ at a
meeting of the Officers of the Cambridge
Fire Department held this Evening it
was unanimously voted to petition
your Hon^e Body to amend the 2^d
Section of the Fire Ordinance in such
manner as to allow Companies to impose
fines upon members for non attendance
of Regular & Special meetings of said
Company

George H. Fowler
secretary

Cambridge Sept 22 1856

In Bd of Aldermen Nov 6, 1856 Ref^d to
Committee on the Fire Department

Henry Truyn City Clerk

Petition of Officers
of Fire Department

Nov 6. 1856

Dear Sirs

T. Dep

For Mayor & Aldermen

Amendments.

Section 1. The Mayor and Aldermen shall in the month of January in each year appoint the several Engine and Hook and Ladder Companies, whose term of service shall continue one year. And every officer or member who shall not serve three months, except in case of sickness, death, or removal from the city, shall forfeit any and all compensation that would otherwise have been due to him at the time when such service ceased, or such removal took place. Provided, however, that nothing in this section contained shall prevent the payment to the Treasurer of the company to which said officer or member belonged, of the sum due such Treasurer according to the fifth section of this Ordinance.

Section 2. Any officer or member may be removed from the Fire Department by a vote of the Chief Engineer and two Assistant Engineers; and said vote shall be final unless the same shall be reversed by the Mayor and Aldermen within fourteen days.

Section 3. No officer once dismissed or removed from the Fire Department shall be reinstated therein, unless by a vote of the Chief Engineer and two of the Assistant

Engineers; and in such case said vote shall not take effect until confirmed by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen; and no member shall be reinstated except by a vote of the Mayor and Aldermen.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Steward to keep the house, the engine, hose, or other apparatus which may belong to the Company, clean and in good order; to clear the snow and ice in winter from the sidewalk in front of the house; to see that the engine and apparatus are ready for immediate use, and to perform such other services appertaining to his office as the Foreman may from time to time direct.

Section 5. No Company shall be allowed to impose fines upon its members; but it shall be the duty of the Clerk of each Company to enter in the Roll-book provided by the City all absences of each officer and member of said Company from all fires and alarms of fire, and from the annual and such special meetings as may be authorized by the Chief Engineer; and to make a monthly return of the same to the Board of Engineers. And for every such absence from a fire or an alarm of fire, except in case of sickness, there shall be deducted from the pay of such officer or member the sum of fifty cents, and for every absence from the annual or any special

meeting, except in case of sickness, the sum of twenty-five cents; and the amount so deducted shall be paid at the end of each quarter to the Treasurer of the Company to which the officer or member so fined shall belong, to meet the incidental expenses of the Company. And if any officer or member shall, except in case of sickness, be absent from more than one third of the fires or alarms of fire occurring during the quarter, such absences, if more than five in number, shall be considered good cause for his discharge from the Department.

Section 6. No Company shall leave the city in case of fire in the neighboring cities or towns except by the consent of the Chief Engineer, or of one of the Assistant Engineers. And no Company shall leave the city on an excursion, with their apparatus, unless by the express sanction and permission of the Mayor and Aldermen. And in case of temporary absence from the city of any officer or member, or inability to perform his duties, he shall provide a substitute, whose name he shall return to the Foreman of the Company for approval, failing in which he shall be liable to all fines which may accrue during such absence or inability.

Section 7. Every person who shall have served according to law in the Fire Department for seven successive years, shall be entitled to receive a certificate thereof, signed by

the Mayor; and all persons who shall receive such Certificate shall be entitled, during good behavior, to wear the badge of the Department, and may enter the lines at any fire by wearing said badge, or such other badge as the Mayor and Aldermen may prescribe.

Section 8. Sections eleven, nineteen, twenty-one, twenty-six, twenty-eight, and thirty-three, of an Act passed December 26. 1854, entitled "An Ordinance Establishing a Fire Department, and Providing for Preventing & Extinguishing Fires," are hereby repealed.

In Common Council Nov. 20. 1856.

Adopted as amendments to the accompanying Ordinances.

Attest, James M. Chase: Clerk.

City of Cambridge
In Board of Aldermen
Nov 19th 1856

The Committee on the Fire Department to whom was referred the petition of the Officers of ^{the} Cambridge Fire Department, asking that the 28th section of the Fire Ordinance be so amended as to allow Companies to impose fines upon members for non attendance of regular & Special meetings, have considered the same, heard the petitioners, and they have respectfully to

Report

That upon examination they find a serious difficulty exists under the present Ordinance which demands an immediate remedy. By the Ordinance of the City it requires a majority of all the members of the Company for the election of an officer, It was stated before the Committee that

frequently two and sometimes
three meetings had to be called
before the attendance of a quorum
could be secured for the transaction
of business, This puts an onerous &
unnecessary duty upon the members
who are punctual in their attendance
and from which they ought if
possible to be relieved, The same
difficulty also exists in regard
to the regularly monthly meetings

It is the unanimous opinion of
the officers of the Department that
the only effectual remedy is to
authorize the Companies to impose
fines upon their members for
non attendance at those meetings

In this opinion your Committee
fully concur, They therefore
recommend the adoption of the
accompanying ordinance

John Sawyer (Sgt)

In the year one thousand
eight hundred and fifty six

An ordinance in addition to
an Ordinance, "Establishing a
Fire Department and providing
for preventing and extinguishing fires"

Be it Ordained by the City Council
of the City of Cambridge (as follows) -

Sec 1 No Company shall be allowed
to impose fines upon its members
for absence from fires or alarms
of fires, but each company may
impose such fines upon its
members for non attendance
at its regular monthly meetings
or meetings for the choice of
officers as shall be established
by a vote of a majority of the
members of the company, which
fines shall be uniform throughout
the department. It shall be the
duty of the Clerk of each company
to enter in the roll book provided

by the City, all absence or tardiness of each officer or member of said Company from all fires or alarms of fires, and to make a quarterly return of the same to the Board of Engineers. And for every such absence or tardiness, except in case of sickness, there shall be deducted from the pay of such officer or member the sum of fifty cents, which amount so deducted shall be paid over ~~to~~ at the end of each quarter to the Treasurer of the company to which ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{officer or} member so fined shall belong, to meet the incidental expenses of the company. And if any officer or member shall have been absent or tardy more than one-third of the fires, or alarms of fires, except in case of sickness, during the quarter, such absence or tardiness shall be considered good cause for ~~the~~ his discharge from the Department, if more than five

Sec^t 2 The twenty eighth section
of the Ordinance to which
this is in addition is hereby
repealed

In Board of Aldermen Nov 19, 1856
Passed to be enrolled
Henry Thayer City Clerk

In Common Council November 20, 1856.

Amended by striking out all after the ordaining clause,
and inserting the accompanying amendments.
As amended, passed to be enrolled.

Attd, James M. Chase. Clerk.

In Board of Aldermen Nov 26, 1856.

Non concurred in the amendments, sent
down for concurrence, Henry Thayer City Clerk

In Common Council Nov 26, 1856.

The Council insists upon its amendments. Sent up for
concurrence. Attd, James M. Chase. Clerk.

(Over)

In Board of Aldermen Nov 26. 1856 This Board
insists it is down for concurrence
Henry Thayer City Clerk

In Common Council Nov. 26. 1856.

This Board adheres to its former action.

In Common Council Dec. 4. 1856. } Att. Jas M. Colver. Clerk
Resolved. This Board insists & requests a Committee
of five members Messrs. Bullock, Clark & Morse are appointed on said Committee

Set up for concurrence. Attest, James Colver. Clerks.

In Board of Aldermen Dec. 1856 Concurred and Debat Whitney
and Official are joined. Henry Thayer City Clerk.

Ordinances. 2

Fire Department

In Common Council Dec. 18. 1856.
This Board adheres to its former
action. Attest. Mr. James Colver. Clerk.

In 6. 16. Nov 20. 1856.
upon the table.
Attest, Jas M. Colver.

In Board of Aldermen Dec 26. 1856.
This Board adheres

Henry Thayer City Clerk