CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

February 1, 1988

**INTRODUCED BY CITY MANAGER ROBERT W. HEALY**

**AN ORDER CONCERNING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 1987**

**ORDERED: That the following transfer be made in the General Fund of the City of Cambridge:**

| FROM | AMOUNT | TO | AMOUNT |
|---|---|---|---|
| Employee Benefit<br>Salaries and Wages | $85,000 | Finance<br>Assessors-Other Ordinary Maint. | $85,000 |

**REASON(S)**

Consultant/legal fees

In City Council February 1, 1988.
Adopted by a yea and nay vote:-
Yeas 8; Nays 0; Absent 1.
Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- Joseph E. Connarton

C. C. 106

# City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council February 1, 198 8

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

RE: TRANSFER OF $85,000. FROM EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SALARY & WAGES TO FINANCE DEPT.-ASSESSING OTHER ORDINARY MAINTENANCE

| | YEA | NAY | ABSENT | PRESENT |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mr. Thomas W. Danehy | ✓ | | | |
| Mr. Francis H. Duehay | ✓ | | | |
| Ms. Saundra Graham | | | ✓ | |
| Mrs. Sheila T. Russell | ✓ | | | |
| Mr. David E. Sullivan | ✓ | | | |
| Mr. Walter J. Sullivan | ✓ | | | |
| Mr. William H. Walsh | ✓ | | | |
| Ms. Alice K. Wolf | ✓ | | | |
| Mayor Alfred E. Vellucci | ✓ | | | |
| | 8 | 0 | 1 | |

C.W. 1.5

MS

NF

2.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
TEL. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

January 28, 1988

To the Honorable, the City Council:

Recommendation:
Transfer $85,000 from Employee Benefits Salary & Wages to Finance Department-Assessing,Other Ordinary Maintenance account to provide additional funds for professional services.

Background:
During the current fiscal year the Assessing Department has had to prepare for two significant real estate tax appeals cases before the State Appellate Tax Board. The first of these cases, vs. the Hyatt Hotel has been heard and is awaiting a decision. The second, vs. Star Market is scheduled for a hearing in the near future. The total exposure for the City in these two cases is over $850,000 in tax rebates for previous years and additional hundreds of thousands of dollars in future years. In both cases, the City feels strongly that its assessments of the properties in question are fair and just. However, in preparing for the cases the City has had expenses which were not originally budgeted for in the Assessor's budget. Those expenses include $28,000 for the Hyatt Hotel and $10,000 for an appraisal of the Star Market. While these bills have been paid, the payments were made from funds originally budgeted for legal fees. The board also requests $15,000 for additional legal fees.

In addition to the costs related to the defense of the Hyatt and Star Market assessments, the Board also requests the sum of $25,000 for the employment of a consultant that the City intends to contract with at the request of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. The consultant will review the methodology used by the Board in determining residential assessments.

The final $7,000 requested by the Assessor's is for a software maintenance contract on the residential appraisal program.

Passage of this request is strongly recommended.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy,
City Manager

RWH/dls

Agenda Item No. 2 F-54

Re: transfer of $85,000. from Employee Benefits Salary & Wages to Finance Dept.- Assessing Other Ordinary Maintenance.

In City Council,

February 1, 1988

C.W.J.S.
MS
MY

Order Adopted
Roll Call
8-0-1