

City of Cambridge

The Government Operations Committee held a public meeting on February 28, 1997, beginning at 10:50 a.m. in the Ackermann Room for the purpose of considering the contract between the City Council and the City Manager and any other business before the committee.

Present at the hearing were Councillor Michael A. Sullivan, Chair of the Committee, Vice Mayor Kathleen L. Born, Councillor Francis H. Duehay, Councillor Anthony D. Galluccio, Councillor Kenneth E. Reeves, Mayor Sheila T. Russell, Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., Councillor Katherine Triantafillou and City Clerk D. Margaret Drury. Also present was Richard Rossi, Deputy City Manager.

Councillor Sullivan convened the hearing and explained the purpose. Discussion began with a review of the current contract. Robert W. Healy distributed a draft with his proposed revisions.

Councillor Sullivan suggested a revision to eliminate the malfeasance clause in the eighth "whereas" paragraph. Mr. Healy pointed out that his proposed draft eliminates this clause.

Councillor Sullivan also suggested eliminating or changing the provisions of Section 6 (B) relative to goals and objectives.

Councillor Duehay said that the City Council made some progress this year on finding a workable structure to set goals and objectives, and he believes that the City Council should continue these efforts. Mr. Rossi said the timing set out in the current contract is a problem. Councillor Duehay said that goal-setting should be done in the fall, but that cannot happen in an election year in the fall. Mr. Healy agreed that October would be ideal. Vice Mayor Born suggested bi-annual goal setting. Councillor Reeves suggested a more collaborative process of the City Manager and City Council in January, a facilitated session.

Councillor Sullivan asked why have a contract at all?

Councillor Duehay replied that it stabilizes the City government.

Councillor Triantafillou asked what contract length the City Manager is looking for. Mr. Healy said the draft proposes three years. Councillor Triantafillou asked if he had retirement plans. Mr. Healy said that he does not have retirement plans. His retirement benefits max out in 2 1/2 years but that does mean not that he wants to retire then.

Councillor Sullivan asked what changes are in the new document aside from the six month notice provision and the three year term. He requested a red-lined draft of the changes.

Councillors Duehay and Reeves asked for a record of Mr. Healy's accrued benefit time.

Councillor Reeves asked about the date for action.

Councillor Sullivan stated that the date is April 30, 1997.

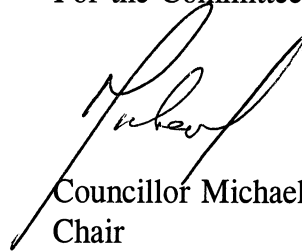
Councillor Reeves asked about the compensation. Mr. Healy said it is \$130,265, including longevity of \$1500, and is set by ordinance.

Mayor Russell said she would like to have the contract settled soon and suggested another meeting by the end of the March.

It was agreed that there will be a meeting during the week of March 24, and that Mr. Healy will provide a red-lined version of this proposed contract, to highlight the changes he is requesting, along with information regarding his accrued benefits.

The hearing was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

For the Committee,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Sullivan", is written over a diagonal line that extends from the signature down to the printed name below.

Councillor Michael A. Sullivan
Chair

Committee Report #1

S-183

A report was received from the
Government Operations Committee,
for the purpose of considering the
contract between the City Council and
the City Manager and any other business
before the committee.

In City Council March 31, 1997

*Report accepted
&
placed in file*