

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

147 HAMPSHIRE STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • TEL. 349-4842
FAX: 349-4868
TDD: 349-4805

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

David B. O'Connor
Director

November 7th, 1997

Mr. Robert W. Healy
City Manager
City Hall
Cambridge, MA

Re: Council Order Number 18 of November 4th, 1996

Dear Mr. Healy:

At your request, I am responding to the above captioned council order. The Cambridge Auxiliary Fire Department truck used as a lighting plant unit was originally a 1000 gpm pumper. After its purchase it was converted to a lighting plant by removing the hose bed and the 500 gallon booster tank installed under the hose bed. This area was then covered with reinforced diamondplate steel and a 15,000 watt diesel powered alternator was installed.

When the conversion was completed, we were informed by the Fire Chief that he would not agree to having the Lighting Plant garaged in a firehouse unless the pumping equipment was disconnected. Needing a place to keep the lighting plant, I agreed to this. The disconnection of the pump was performed by the CFD mechanic.

The City Council in their order refer to "emergency pumping" which I presume to mean pumping out cellars and flooded areas. It is possible that the pumping capability could be restored by reconnecting the pump, but there is some question of it's pumping capability if this were to be done. Reconnecting the pump would clearly allow pumping from hydrants but might not enable the pump to draught from flooded areas. When pumping from a hydrant, the hydrant pressure primes the pump. The conversion to a lighting plant required the removal of the booster tank. It was my understanding that the water in the booster tank is required to prime the pump. Whether the pump could be restored so as to permit draughting is a technical question that should, perhaps, be addressed by Chief Fitzgerald or Deputy Chief Reardon. The extent and location of any emergency pumping performed is really a policy issue to be addressed by you and the City Council. If the pump could be restored so as to permit draughting, I am sure that the members of the CAFD would be willing to perform any emergency pumping as directed.

Respectfully submitted,

David B. O'Connor



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL. 349-4300
FAX. 349-4307



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

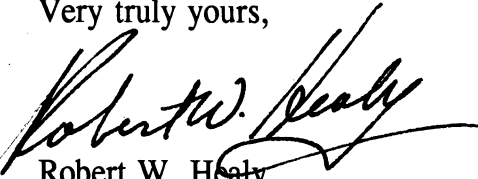
RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

February 24, 1997

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item Number 7, regarding the possibility of using the Emergency Management 1,000 gallon lighting plant truck to do emergency pumping, please find attached a report submitted by David O'Connor, Director of Emergency Management.

Very truly yours,



Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/dls
attachment

Consent Agenda #17

S-93

Relative to Awaiting Report
Item number Seven, regarding a
report on the possibility of using the
Emergency Management 1,000 gallon
lighting plant truck to do
emergency pumping.

In City Council February 24, 1997

PLACED ON FILE