



City of Cambridge

20.

VICE MAYOR VELLUCCI

IN CITY COUNCIL
May 19, 1986

- WHEREAS: Congressman Joe Moakley (D) - of Massachusetts joined with other members of Congress in demanding a "public apology" from Ted Turner, President of the the Turner Broadcasting System, for a negative comment he made about Italians; and
- WHEREAS: In an interview on the CBS news program, "60 Minutes", Turner stated "Italians, Italians, imagine the Italians at war. I mean what a joke. They didn't belong in the last war; they were sorry they were in it. They were glad to get out of it, you know. They would rather be in crime and just making wine, having a good time."; and
- WHEREAS: Congressman Moakley called Turner's comment "thoughtless and disrespectful." It conveys an attitude of insensitivity to the Italian American community which endures enough problems with its image on both network and cable television; and
- WHEREAS: Congressman Moakley sent a telegram to Turner expressing his outrage at Turner's comments. The Massachusetts Congressman also joined U.S. Representative Biaggi (D-NY) and several other Congress members in sending a letter to Turner asking that he issue a public apology to the Italian American community. The letter also urges that the apology be issued "in a forum which would be visible to the same millions who have watched that particular "60 Minutes" program; and
- WHEREAS: Congressman Moakley said "as the head of a national broadcasting firm, Mr. Turner should be ashamed of his slur against Italians. An apology is the very least he should provide"; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED: That this Cambridge City Council go on record endorsing the comments and actions of Congressman Joe Moakley of Massachusetts and Mario Biaggi of New York and further demands that said Ted Turner, President of the Turner Broadcasting System, issue a public apology to the Italian American community; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be sent to President Ted Turner of Turner Broadcasting System and to all members of the Massachusetts Congressional and Senate Delegation in Washington.

In City Council May 19, 1986.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of 7 members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, Acting City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Joseph E. Connarton

Joseph E. Connarton, Acting City Clerk.

Order #20

S-355

VM Vellucci re: resolutions endorsing the
comments & actions of Congressmen Joe Moakley
& Mario Biaggi requesting that Ted Turner,
Pres. of the Turner Broadcasting System
apologize for a negative comment he made
about Italians in an interview broadcast on
"60 Minutes".

In City Council,

May 19, 1986

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A v/v
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