

4. Access to the Green Room and "inner" Chamber of the Council will be restricted to Council and staff, and in order to achieve this, the Councillors are requested to utilize their key to the Green Room, and to observe the red rope which shall be placed across the entrance to the "inner" Chamber.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

For the Committee,

Mayor Walter J. Sullivan
Chairman.

City of Cambridge

In City Council June 1, 1987

The Rules **Committee** conducted a public hearing on Thursday, May 14, 1987 beginning at 8:00 a.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss the present rules of the City Council, as well as to discuss any proposed changes.

Mayor Walter J. Sullivan, Chairman of the Committee, stated he had called the meeting pursuant to an order introduced by Councillor Graham and further stated that although he believed the meetings were going on too long, it was principally due to the number of public hearings scheduled during the Council meetings.

All members of the Committee agreed and discussed various alternatives to this problem.

Councillor Francis Duehay suggested the City Clerk's Office place sign-up sheets on the table next to the agendas and communications. This, he stated, would provide for a formal structure for identifying all speakers, pro and con.

Mayor Sullivan suggested that no more than one public hearing be scheduled for any Council meeting, unless some extraordinary reason compelled a second one. Should this happen, he stated, the City Clerk would need to obtain approval from the Mayor's Office.

Councillor Thomas Danehy stated that he believed, in most areas, the present rules are sufficient if all members observe same and if the presiding officer enforces them equally and fairly.

Mayor Sullivan stated he would like the rope at the entrance of the inner Council Chamber to be kept across the entrance to preserve decorum and limit interruptions to Councillors.

Further discussion ensued relative to the entrance to the Green Room. The Committee discussed the difficulty of conducting private conversations among the Council, Council staff, City Manager or constituents.

The following have been agreed to by the Committee and are herewith forwarded to the full Council with a favorable recommendation.

1. A sign-up sheet to be placed at the table inside the Council Chamber for all large hearings of the Council.
2. No more than one public hearing will be scheduled at any one meeting of the City Council.
3. Rule 31, allowing a two-hour limit on all hearings will be strictly enforced and if it is the desire of the Council to continue a hearing beyond that time, suspension of the rules will be requested pursuant to Rule 35A.

REPORT**Committee on Rules**

Re: present rules of the City Council &
proposed changes.

In City Council,

June 1, 1987

*Report and Recommendations
accepted
Placed on F. li*