

8.

6 May 1995, 54 Fayette St., Cambridge 01239 MA.

To: Cambridge City Council, Letter To Editor Cambridge Chronicle

Subject: Will Healy continue as Cambridge's #1 Pol. —

1995 CITY Budget

The characteristics that make for excellence and longevity in the local political arena are:

1. satisfying the current constituency
2. prescience with respect to the constituency of the future.

Bob Healy has shown himself to be the master of this art in the city of Cambridge. He was ahead of the council when it was dominated by "the more government is better," CCA. He saw the Rent Control demise handwriting on the wall and moderated a needed counsel consensus transition.

National and state politicians are showing signs that they understand the ordinary taxpaying citizen expectation of government to down-sizing while providing the same or better services to them with fewer employees at lower cost. The logic is clearly why can't the public business down-size just like private business has. The demise of rent control is gradually but irreversibly changing the majority constituency from transient renters to home owner/taxpayers. The recent 1995 budget discussions attempts to hold the line rather than addressing the critical problem of how to do the job with fewer people. It reflects the current council constituency with a perceived need for a city subsidized \$10,000/ student, \$50,000/year "Peace Commission" and the \$850/kid summer job.

Healy has previously discounted the complaint of the homeowner tax payers as not being significant players because they are a minority constituency and contribute only one third of the booty. He saw the commercial taxpayers who have no political clout as the primary contributors, and therefore, justifiably, milked to satisfy the majority "renter" constituency. It appears that the manager and his bureaucrats have about a 2-year grace period to come up with cuts in the bloated services sector which include but are not limited to education and the hospital. External forces may even solve his hospital problem.

Will the manager understand the inevitable historical trend and continue to be Cambridge's number one politician? Watch the council elections and tune in next year.

Sincerely,



Arnold Schutzberg, 868-8190

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1995 MAY 11 AM 9:27
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Consent Communication #8

Comm. was received from Arnold Schultzberg
regarding his letter to the editor of the Cambridge
Chronicle regarding City Manager Robert Healy
as Cambridge's #1 politician.

In City Council May 15, 1995

Placed on file.