



# City of Cambridge

AMENDED ORDER

Calendar Item # 14

~~38.~~

IN CITY COUNCIL

~~June 19, 1995~~

June 26, 1995

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN  
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY  
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO  
VICE MAYOR RUSSELL

WHEREAS: The City Council and the City Manager for the first time were able in the FY 96 Budget to hold the line with the smallest tax levy increase of .8% since 1983 and it is projected that this increase will be fully offset by taxes levied on property entering the tax rolls for the first time in FY 96; and

WHEREAS; This was a responsible start as we begin to focus on expected impacts in the FY 97 Budget; and

WHEREAS: The Commonwealth's revenue and fiscal projections for coming years do not look especially bright and the present revenue flow has failed to meet expected projections and the likelihood of continued growth in local aid in coming years looks dim; and

WHEREAS: There is a need to adjust the City fiscal picture as it relates to the consequences of the present tax rate situation and budget growth in light of the projected fiscal and economic realities; and

WHEREAS: The residential tax rate has approached levels that are making the City too expensive for its long term residents, especially since there will be a direct pass through of the residential taxes to tenants; and

WHEREAS: The commercial tax rate, one of the major considerations for businesses, has like wise approached levels that is making Cambridge too costly for the retention of existing industries and the attraction of new industries, both for much needed job opportunities for our residents as well as support for the tax base; and

WHEREAS: The mechanism to address these important issues needs to be rational and systematic with a sufficient process to insure that appropriate decisions and policies are made with sufficient direction, priorities and guidance given to the City Manger to insure follow through; and

WHEREAS: In order for the City Council and City Manager to fully perform this task, they will need extensive and precise information; and

WHEREAS: the City Council in recent orders has requested information relative to existing programs and has called for a study of its present government operations, and has previously sought some performance-based budgeting analysis; and

WHEREAS: There is a need to start this process in advance of the FY97 Budget; and

WHEREAS: During the FY 96 Budget process, the Finance Committee heard from members of the Community relative to analysis relating to budgetary comparisons with other municipalities and some town; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide the Council with an accounting of all fixed costs which are beyond the control of the City, with an explanation as to why these costs are beyond our control; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide this Council with an analysis of the possible effects cuts would have in each department detailing what City services would be affected and/or personnel; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to extrapolate the effects of various levels of reductions in the property tax levy to the average residential and commercial rate payer; and be it further

ORDERED: That along with this detailed analysis of potential cuts and service impacts, the City Manager will also present a summary of anticipated revenues as a result of the elimination of Rent Control and potential economic development (i.e. new growth for purposes of the 2 1/2 levy limit) in Fiscal Years 1997 and 1998 and how these revenues could impact tax rates; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to notify the City Council, if he believes it is necessary to retain an outside consultant to undertake the analysis requested by the City Council; and that the City Manager request approval from the City Council prior to hiring outside consultants for the purpose of responding to this order; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council and the City Manager will use this information to jointly reduce the tax levied portion of the budget and thus have a significant impact on the tax rates, while seeking to maintain city services.


In City Council June 26, 1995.

Adopted as amended by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury,  
City Clerk



# City of Cambridge

ORIGINAL ORDER  
Calendar Item # 14  
38.

IN CITY COUNCIL

~~June 19, 1995~~  
June 26, 1995

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN  
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY  
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO  
VICE MAYOR RUSSELL

WHEREAS: The City Council and the City Manager for the first time were able in the FY 96 Budget to hold the line with the smallest tax levy increase of .8% since 1983 and it is projected that this increase will be fully offset by taxes levied on property entering the tax rolls for the first time in FY 96; and

WHEREAS: This was a responsible start as we begin to focus on expected impacts in the FY 97 Budget; and

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WHEREAS: There is a need to adjust the City fiscal picture as it relates to the consequences of the present tax rate situation and budget growth in light of the projected fiscal and economic realities; and

WHEREAS: The residential tax rate has approached levels that are making the City too expensive for its long term residents, especially since there will be a direct pass through of the residential taxes to tenants; and

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WHEREAS: The mechanism to address these important issues needs to be rational and systematic with a sufficient process to insure that appropriate decisions and policies are made with sufficient direction, priorities and guidance given to the City Manger to insure follow through; and

WHEREAS: In order for the City Council and City Manager to fully perform this task, they will need extensive and precise information; and

WHEREAS: the City Council in recent orders has requested information relative to existing programs and has called for a study of its present government operations, and has previously sought some performance-based budgeting analysis; and

WHEREAS: There is a need to start this process in advance of the FY97 Budget; and

WHEREAS: During the FY 96 Budget process, the Finance Committee heard from members of the Community relative to analysis relating to budgetary comparisons with other municipalities and some town; and

WHEREAS: Outside independent analysis and review would be of great assistance to the City Council; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to retain an outside consultant to review, study and analysis the City current and projected operating expenditures and governmental operations with this consultant to report back to the City Council and the City Manger; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide the Council with an accounting of all fixed costs which are beyond the control of the City, with an explanation as to why these costs are beyond our control; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide this Council with an analysis of the possible effects cuts would have in each department detailing what City services would be affected and/or personnel; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to extrapolate the effects of various levels of reductions in the property tax levy to the average residential and commercial rate payer; and it be

RESOLVED: That the City Council and the City Manager will use this information to jointly reduce the tax levied portion of the budget and this have a significant impact on the tax rates, while seeking to maintain city services.

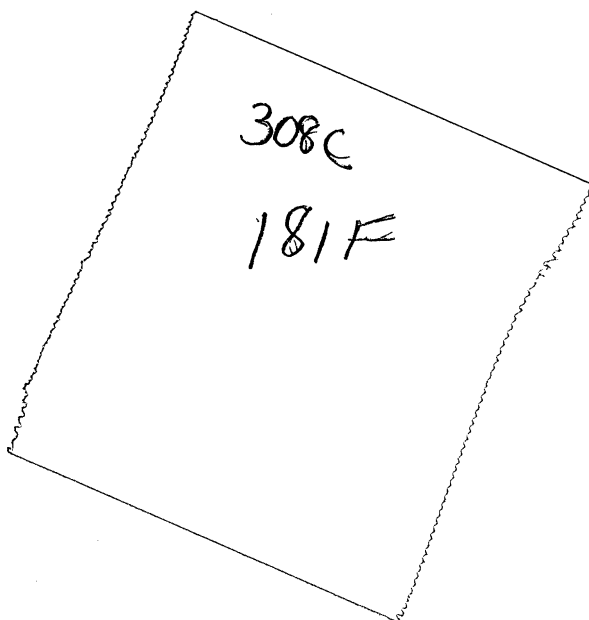
Amendment to Council Order Number 14(on table) dated June 19, 1995

(To be added as the last resolved)

COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO

**ORDERED:**

**RESOLVED:** That along with this detailed analysis of potential cuts and service impacts, the City Manager will also present a summary of anticipated revenues as a result of the elimination of Rent Control and potential economic development (i.e. new growth for purposes of the 2 1/2 levey limit) in Fiscal Years 1997 and 1998 and how these revenues could impact tax rates.



(2)

ORDERED:

That the City Manager  
advise the City Council ~~of the~~ if he believes  
it is <sup>necessary</sup> ~~need~~ to retain an ~~cost~~ outside  
consultant, ~~if the Manager is unable~~  
to undertake the analysis requested  
by the City Council; and that the  
City Manager request approval from the  
City Council prior to hiring outside  
consultants for the purpose of responding  
to this Council order

W/9

Amendment to Council Order Number 14(on table) dated June 19, 1995



(To be added as the last resolved)

COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO

RESOLVED: That along with this detailed analysis of potential cuts and service impacts, the City Manager will also present a summary of anticipated revenues as a result of the elimination of Rent Control and potential economic development (i.e. new growth for purposes of the 2 1/2 levey limit) in Fiscal Years 1997 and 1998 and how these revenues could impact tax rates.

w / 9



# City of Cambridge

38.

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 19, 1995

*LV/9  
as amended*

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN  
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY  
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO  
VICE MAYOR RUSSELL

WHEREAS: The City Council and the City Manager for the first time were able in the FY 96 Budget to hold the line with the smallest tax levy increase of .8% since 1983 and it is projected that this increase will be fully offset by taxes levied on property entering the tax rolls for the first time in FY 96; and

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WHEREAS: There is a need to start this process in advance of the FY97 Budget; and

WHEREAS: During the FY 96 Budget process, the Finance Committee heard from members of the Community relative to analysis relating to budgetary comparisons with other municipalities and some town; and

*C Sullivan  
amend -  
remove →*

~~WHEREAS: Outside independent analysis and review would be of great assistance to the City Council; now therefore be it~~

~~ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to retain an outside consultant to review, study and analysis the City current and projected operating expenditures and governmental operations with this consultant to report back to the City Council and the City Manger; and be it further~~

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ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to extrapolate the effects of various levels of reductions in the property tax levy to the average residential and commercial rate payer; and it be

*① C. Gallucci's amendment*

RESOLVED: That the City Council and the City Manager will use this information to jointly reduce the tax levied portion of the budget and this have a significant impact on the tax rates, while seeking to maintain city services.

TABLED ON THE MOTION OF COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

*② C. Sullivan:*

*Ordered: That the City Manager notify the City Council if he believes it is necessary to retain an outside consultant to undertake the analysis requested by the City Council; and that the City Mgr request approval from the City Council prior to hiring outside consultants for the purpose of responding to this order.*

CM-308

Non Consent ORder #38

Councillors Sullivan, Toomey, Galluccio,  
Russell re: Reduce tax levy portion of  
the budget.

6/26/95. Order adopted  
as amended by  
affirmative vote of  
nine members.

In City COUncil June 19, 1995

Yabled on motion  
of Councillor Sullivan