

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

250 FRESH POND PKY., CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138 • TEL. 498-9070

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

OFFICE OF THE WATER BOARD

Thomas J. Begley
President

Walter Conlon

Ruth C. Birkhoff

Donald Hornig

Timothy F. White

Jon M. Beekman
Clerk of the Board

12 January 1981

Honorable Mayor Frank Duehay
City Hall
Cambridge, Mass. 02139

Dear Mayor Duehay;

The enclosed is provided per your discussion with President Thomas Begley at the 11 December 1980 Water Board Meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact President Begley at 494-4333.

Sincerely,

Jon M. Beekman
Jon M. Beekman
Clerk of the Board



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John H. Seites
Clerk of the Board

April 28, 1980

James L. Sullivan, City Manager
Cambridge City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Ma. 02139

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Pursuant to the Federal Clean Drinking Water Act and current State drinking water standards, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Quality Engineering is requiring that open public water supply reservoirs be covered in order to prevent contamination, to reduce substantially excessive chemical treatment as well as to ensure the delivery of the finest quality product for the water consumers of this City. The Payson Park Reservoir, which is presently operated by the Water Department, is considered an open reservoir by the State authorities that is required to be covered by virtue of current State law.

After considering the scope, magnitude and cost of such a project, the Water Board has contracted for the services of the environmental engineering consulting firm of Camp, Dresser & McKee of Boston to provide a study of alternatives and recommendations of the most cost effective measures that would satisfy required compliance levels. Subsequently, the consulting engineers have recommended that the Payson Park Reservoir be covered by a floating cover consisting of a rubber composition material. The recommended cover appears to be the most efficient alternative in terms of cost and durability over the projected life of the product. Purchase and installation costs of this floating cover at the Payson Park Reservoir is estimated at two million, one hundred thousand dollars (\$2,100,00).

In order to finance this project it would require the City to arrange for a bond issue for costs of purchase and installation of the floating cover. At this time, the Water Board considers that a bond issue, given the current status of extremely high interest rates extended over a period of twenty years, would be extremely costly to the City.

Accordingly, the Water Board recommends that you consider the following as a possible financial plan to treat this project:

April 28, 1980

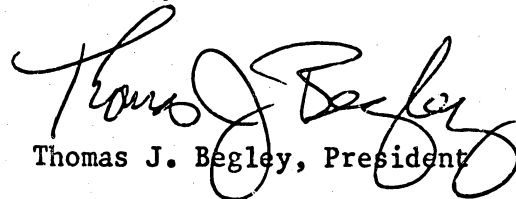
- a. Obtaining the necessary short term financing to fund this project through the least costly method available;
- b. Recommend to the City Council that a special assessment be levied to every water connection in the City for a period of four years;

or

- c. Recommends to the City Council to increase the current water rate by 10¢/100 cu. ft. for a period of four years; (projecting that a 10¢ increase in water rates would return approximately \$515,000 per year).

The Board would be pleased to meet with you or your staff to discuss further details and answer any questions that you may have relative to this matter. Your prompt attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated, given the present urgency and necessity of compliance to State directives.

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Begley, President

TJB:jd

Comm. from Jon M. Beekman, Clerk of the
Water Board, relative to the Federal Clean
Drinking Water Act and current state
drinking water standards.

In City Council,

March 30, 1981

3/30/1981

Referred to the
City Manager for

~~Review~~ Report
copy sent to City mgr.

3/31/81 (dl)