



City of Cambridge

37.

IN CITY COUNCIL

January 23, 1995

COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR MYERS
MAYOR REEVES
VICE MAYOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: Among American teenagers, firearm deaths rank only behind motor vehicle related deaths; and

WHEREAS: A recent national survey conducted by the Harvard School of Public Health revealed the following startling statistics: and

15% of children in grades 6 through 12 said they had carried a handgun at least once in the previous 30 days

39% of these children said they knew someone who had been killed or injured by a gun

13% of these children said they had been threatened with being shot in the past year

59% of these children said they could get a gun if they wanted one and

WHEREAS: A number of different shootings in Cambridge, including one on Raymond St last summer, have made it clear that, although Cambridge has been spared the violence which afflicts many less fortunate cities, we are by no means immune from these national trends; and

WHEREAS: Constitutionally, the issue of state or municipal legislation restricting the sale or possession of firearms is very difficult. Restriction on a national level has been politically impossible and the trend seems to be that the impossibility is building; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge has often been in the vanguard of municipal legislation. We should leave no stone unturned in addressing the issue of the inappropriate possession and use of firearms; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to ask the Commissioner of Police and the City Solicitor to prepare a synopsis of current laws governing the use of firearms in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, penalties for infractions of those laws, what regulations a municipality under the current state and federal Constitutions can possibly enact to regulate use or possession of firearms (including examples of initiatives from other cities, what special penalties a municipality can assign to infractions, in short: what legislative remedies (city or state) are possible, even if not probable politically) to prevent any further injuries by firearms in our city; now be it further

ORDERED: That the results of this report be presented at a televised public hearing for public comment.

In City Council January 23, 1995
Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- *D. Margaret Drury*

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to ask the Commissioner of Police and the City Solicitor to prepare a synopsis of current laws governing the use of firearms in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, penalties for infractions of those laws, what regulations a municipality under the current state and federal Constitutions can possibly enact to regulate use or possession of firearms (including examples of initiatives from other cities, what special penalties a municipality can assign to infractions, in short: what legislative remedies (city or state) are possible, even if not probable politically) to prevent any further injuries by firearms in our city; now be it further

ORDERED: That the results of this report be presented at a televised public hearing for public comment.

Entire membership

Consent Order #37.

CM 22

Councillor Born re: Prepare a synopsis of current laws governing the use of firearms in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In City Council January 23, 1995

Order adopted