



Ralph E. Dunphy
Commissioner

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OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

To: Robert W. Healy
City Manager

From:  Ralph E. Dunphy
Commissioner

Date: April 3, 1998

Subject: Council Order #010, dated 3/16/98
Re: Report on the "Sick Building"
Syndrome of the Police Station

A meeting was held on Tuesday, March 24, 1998 at Police Headquarters to access indoor air quality issues at that location. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Police Command Staff, Police Unions, Public Works and Inspectional Services.

Enclosed is a letter from Commissioner Watson summarizing the results of that meeting. All parties decided to continue with the measures agreed upon in the letter. In addition, the group will meet on a regular basis to access results and make recommendations for continued actions.

I will report the results of future meeting to your office.

C: Gerald Boyle, Supervisor of Public Construction





City of Cambridge Police Department

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Ronnie Watson
Police Commissioner

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Officer Frank Pasquarello
Public Information Officer

Mr. Ralph Dunphy
Commissioner of Public Works
147 Hampshire Street
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Dunphy:

Pursuant to the meeting of Tuesday, March 24th, the newly formed users group, as mutually agreed, identified the following maintenance/repair needs of the police building:

A. Air Quality in the building/alleged sick building syndrome

1. Mr. Boyle of the Public Works Department will coordinate air quality checks of the building over the next month(s) to assess the air quality levels. He distributed the results of the most recent check. All in all, most of the areas were in conformance to required standards.

B. Windows

1. Recent request for replacement of the deteriorated windows in the building was rejected. Funds were not appropriated in the Public Works Department budget for such repairs.

C. Plumbing Problems

1. CPPOA President Stephen Hall cited the foul odor from the drains in the Women's Locker Room. Officer Hall was informed that work order(s) have been given to Public Works for required repair.

2. Officer Hall also cited the poor hygiene condition in the men's shower stalls. All were in agreement that personnel should clean up after his/her self to assist in the maintenance of the facilities. However, new curtains will be installed and custodial staff will scour and maintain the area.
3. Mr. Boyle stated that the bidding process is in effect for installation of required hot water plumbing.

D. Exhaust Fans in Basement

1. Mr. Nicoloro of Inspectional Services emphasized the need to replace the fire door at the bottom of the stairwell to facilitate air flow. The exhaust fans in the garage must be retrofitted with new timers and detectors. Mr. Boyle will coordinate the installation.

E. Gas Pump

Mr. Boyle stated that he has received two bids for repairs and is awaiting the third bid to complete processing. However, when the gasoline level descends to 1,000 gallons, the tank will be shut down. Police personnel will utilize the pumps at the Department of Public Works. The logistics for the fueling of police vehicles will be developed in anticipation of the tank shutdown.

F. Security System

The procurement of a new identification/station security system is being pursued. The system would be modeled after the Emergency Communication Center System which George Fosque installed in the new center.

G. Ramp

Mr. Boyle stated that the basement ramp is structurally sound, and can continued to be used.

Given the myriad of areas which require constant maintenance and inspection, Mr. Boyle will conduct a walk-through with representatives from the city departments and agencies. Mr. Boyle informed the Deputy this date that he is awaiting word from the HVAC representative as to when he will be available for the first "walk through" in the department.

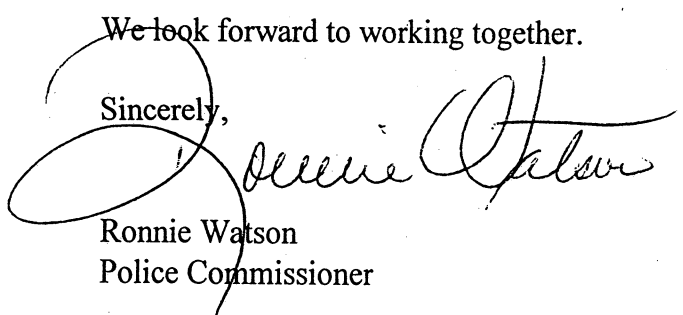
Following the meeting in response to an inquiry from Deputy Pimentel, Mr. Boyle stated that he only obtained two bids for the completion of the required venting in the Identification Unit. He

apologized for the delay and reaffirmed to the Deputy and Mr. Nicoloro of Inspectional Services that he will address the problem immediately.

As discussed, Captain Breen will be the point person in the department for matters relating to building maintenance. All agreed that the "users group" will meet on a monthly basis to address cooperatively and in a logistically sound manner concerns related to the building. The next meeting of the users group is scheduled for Thursday, April 23rd at 10:00 a.m. in the Grainger Room of the Cambridge Police Department.

We look forward to working together.

Sincerely,



Ronnie Watson
Police Commissioner



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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

April 13, 1998

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 13, regarding a report on the "sick building" syndrome of the Police Department, received from Public Works Commissioner Ralph Dunphy and Police Commissioner Ronnie Watson.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachments

Consent Agenda #10

S-250

Relative to a report on the
"sick building" syndrome of the
Police Department.

In City Council April 13, 1998

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