

## City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

City Manager's Agenda #1

In City Council

5-22

1995

| YEA | NAY | ABSENT | PRESENT |                             |
|-----|-----|--------|---------|-----------------------------|
| ✓   |     |        |         | Ms. Kathleen L. Born        |
| ✓   |     |        |         | Mr. Francis H. Duehay       |
| ✓   |     |        |         | Mr. Anthony Galluccio       |
| ✓   |     |        |         | Mr. Jonathan S. Myers       |
| ✓   |     |        |         | Mrs. Sheila T. Russell      |
| ✓   |     |        |         | Mr. Michael A. Sullivan     |
|     | ✓   |        |         | Mr. Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.  |
| ✓   |     |        |         | Ms. Katherine Triantafillou |
| ✓   |     |        |         | Mayor Kenneth E. Reeves     |

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MS m susp w/9

RF-0-1



Consent Agenda # 1  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

May 22, 1995

INTRODUCED BY CITY MANAGER ROBERT W. HEALY

AN ORDER CONCERNING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 1994

ORDERED: That the following transfer be made from the General Fund of the City of Cambridge:

| -----<br>FROM<br>-----     | AMOUNT<br>----- | -----<br>TO<br>-----        | AMOUNT<br>----- |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Reserve                    | \$2,500.00      | Election Commission         | \$2,500.00      |
| Other Ordinary Maintenance |                 | Other Ordinary Expenditures |                 |

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REASON (S)      To hire a consultant and a technical working subcommittee to explore the  
technical and practice aspects of computerizing Cambridge's elections.  
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In City Council May 22, 1995.  
Adopted by a yeas and nays vote:-  
Yeas 8; Nays 1; Absent 0.  
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

*D. Margaret Drury*

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk



## CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300

FAX 349-4307

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
ROBERT W. HEALY  
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI  
Deputy City Manager

May 22, 1995

To the Honorable, the City Council:

I am hereby requesting the transfer of \$2,500 from the Reserve Budget Other Ordinary Maintenance Account into the General Fund of the Election Commission Other Ordinary Maintenance Account. These funds will be used to hire a consultant to work with the Election Commission and a Technical Working Subcommittee to explore the technical and practical aspects of computerizing Cambridge's elections.

As you may know, in December 1993, the City Council passed an order acknowledging the Center for Voting and Democracy's extensive research into options for computerizing proportional representation election systems, and supporting the Election Commission's inquiry into options that may lead to improvements to the conduct of the count of ballots under the proportional representation election system used in Cambridge. The Center for Voting and Democracy's Worcester Office was awarded a contract (\$5,000) to complete an analysis of the accuracy of a computer count of municipal ballots. This report was submitted to the Election Commission in June, 1994. This report and its testament to the accuracy of computerizing municipal elections serves as the basis for proceeding to the next level of examining the feasibility of computerizing municipal elections. In particular, this examination will explore the technology available to accomplish this computerization.

The Election Commission has requested that the Technical Working Committee complete its work and submit a report to the City Manager by August 31, 1995. The report will subsequently be submitted to the City Council and interested residents to examine the report, and then deal with the broader issue of whether or not Cambridge should choose to computerize its elections. To achieve this, the Commission would like to work with a consultant who is familiar with our system of voting and up-to-date on all the issues related to computerizing Cambridge elections.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy  
City Manager

Consent Agenda # 1 *F-91*

Transfer of \$2,500 to the Election  
Commission.

In City Council,  
May 22, 1995

*Order adopted*  
*8-1-0.*