



City of Cambridge

O-13.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 11, 2002

VICE MAYOR DAVIS

ORDERED: That the issue of gas powered scooters, which appeared as Calendar Item #3 on February 11, 2002, be referred by the City Manager to the Law Department for review and clarification of city ordinances and whether there are currently any city regulations regarding motorized vehicles; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Council be provided a report on this matter and that said report also be referred to the Public Safety Committee.

In City Council February 11, 2002.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "D. Margaret Drury". The signature is written in a cursive style.

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

SEE CALENDAR ITEM #3.

REPORT REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.

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Nicholas Churchill
29 Essex Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

Tel. 617-864-2903

2002 JAN 22 P 4: 27

CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

To the City Clerk,

Hello. I am requesting permission to speak at the next City Council meeting and request that the following topic be on the agenda: Gas-powered scooters.

There is no city ordinance pertaining to these according to the police dept. These are used by neighbor children on my street as toys. They sound like chain saws. The kids ride them in the middle of the street, on sidewalks, on one way streets the wrong way, at night without lights of any kind, and with two people riding at the same time.

Traffic frequently comes to an abrupt halt because of these kids and their scooters.

My main complaint is about the noise, which will be louder in the summer when the windows are open. I called the police once about this noise after about 2 hours of hearing it. 30 minutes later they still hadn't come and the kids had gone.

I am a quiet, considerate neighbor. I don't understand why I must be the one who has to stand on his head in order to keep this "play" noise out of my home. People who make recreational noise like this are not required in any way to get "permission" or an okay from the city to do so. People like me must make phone calls, write letters and go to meetings to attempt to eliminate an intrusion into my home, via the chain saw sound that these scooters make. This is backwards.

At least people with motorcycles finally LEAVE the area after a while. These kids just go back and forth, hour after hour. I don't wish to speak to the parents directly for fear of having them or their kids giving me "grief". I have lived at this address for 12 years.

Sincerely,



Nicholas Churchill

Cal 3

Consent Communication #5

Two communications were
received from Nicholas Churchill,
regarding gas-powered scooters.

In City Council January 28, 2002

*Tabled on motion
of Vice Mayor Davis.*

In City Council February 11, 2002

**REFERRED TO LAW
DEPARTMENT FOR
CLARIFICATION OF CITY
ORDINANCE AND REPORT
BACK IN THREE WEEKS AND
REFERRED TO PUBLIC
SAFETY COMMITTEE ON
VICE MAYOR DAVIS.
SEE ORDER #13.**

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1-20-02
29 Essex Street, #2
Cambridge, MA 02139
Tel. 617-864-2903
email: cianlugh@hotmail.com

2002 JAN 24 A 10: 21
CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Members of the City Council,

A neighbor child of about 10 or 12 years of age recently obtained a new "toy", it being a gas powered scooter (the kind you stand on rather than sit on). We've noticed that it brings the user hours of fun by doing the following:

1. makes a lot of noise
2. pollutes the air
3. makes a lot of noise
4. goes rather fast
5. can be ridden anywhere
6. makes a lot of noise

In addition, the rider doesn't wear a helmet. He goes down our one way street the wrong way, often in the middle of the street. On one occasion he was seen riding at night (during a snow storm) without having headlights. The police informed me that there are no rules governing the use of this new and great technological benefit to mankind. The boy can apparently, with impunity, ride all over the streets and sidewalks at will, cutting off pedestrians, motorists, etc., while adding yet another source of noise to an already overly noisy world, so that he and others like him can have "fun". (We'll get to share more in this fun when summer returns and the windows are open!) The scooter does go quite fast, has small wheels and is steered by the typical upright handle, all of which indicate poor vehicle control to me given the way the child rides it.

Is the City Council considering taking any sort of position on recreational "vehicles" like this in regards to noise, air pollution and the safety of pedestrians and motorists?

Sincerely, with thanks,

Nicholas Churchill

Nicholas Churchill

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In City Council January 28, 2002

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of Vice Mayor Davis.

In City Council
February 11, 2002

Referred to Law
Department for clarification
of city ordinance and
report back in three
weeks and referred
to Public Safety
Committee on motion of
Vice Mayor Davis.
See Order #13.