



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

449 BROADWAY, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138 • TEL. ~~XXXXXXX~~
349-4296

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY
OFFICE OF CABLE TELEVISION

2 January 1991

TO : Robert W. Healy, City Manager
FROM : Ned Casey, CATV
SUBJECT: COUNCIL ORDER #7, 9/24/90

RECEIVED
91 JAN -3 AM 9:25
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

This order refers to a situation that has come up several times over the past few years. Although it has been addressed previously it seems that this particular situation can be easily misunderstood and I will attempt to dispel any remaining fuzziness on this issue.

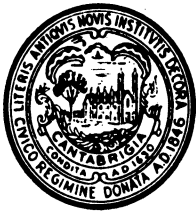
The complaint stems from a subscriber's inability to videotape one channel while watching a separate channel. This subscriber seems to feel that an additional converter (the box on top of the TV which receives the cable signal) should not be required. Quite simply, it is.

In order to view one cable signal and videotape another (which is another way of "watching" a separate signal) subscribers need two separate signal sources. These sources come from individual and separate cable boxes or converters.

This, of course, does not prevent one from watching an off-air channel on TV while using the cable box to feed a signal to the VCR (provided the VCR is equipped, as many are these days, with its own TV tuner -- often referred to as "cable ready"), or vice-versa. In areas of poor off-air reception, however, this option is less than desirable.

Under the City's License with CONTINENTAL, the cable operator has no obligation to provide a free additional converter. CONTINENTAL views an additional converter as a separate service outlet, although they do provide a discount rate for each additional service in a single household.

42.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

January 7, 1991

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 55, regarding complaints on Cable TV from residents on Rice Street, please find attached a report from Ned Casey, Director of Cambridge Cable Television.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mev
attachment

Agenda # 42

S. 57

Awaiting Report Item Number 55 regarding
complaint on Cable TV from residents on
Rice Street.

In City Council,

January 7, 1991

Placed on file