



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS

1493 CAMBRIDGE STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

93 MAR 25 AM 9:16
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Melvin H. Chalfen, M.D.
Commissioner

March 24, 1993

Robert W. Healy, City Manager
Executive Department
Cambridge City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: Council Order #30
March 15, 1993

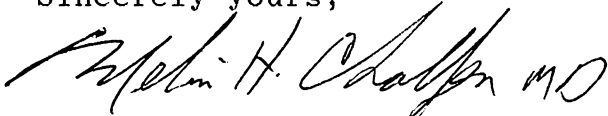
Dear Mr. Healy:

On March 24, 1993, Mr. Kevin Doherty of my staff and Mr. Michael Nicoloro of the Department of Inspectional Services investigated the matter of possible contaminated soil as mentioned in the above-referenced Council Order.

The site in question is Al's Auto Service 277 Broadway. The owner of the service station is Alfred Martins. Mr. Doherty and Mr. Nicoloro met with Mr. Martins at the site on this date. In October, 1990 Mr. Martins had leaking underground gasoline storage tanks removed and replaced. The removal was conducted with proper Fire Department procedure and Mass. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) notification. As is common in these instances, the soil surrounding the original tanks was contaminated with gasoline. This soil is considered to be a hazardous waste. As such Mr. Martins had two options. The first was to have the material removed by a licensed hazardous waste transporter to a secure landfill if one could be found to accept it, at considerable expense to Mr. Martins. The second option, and by far the more common, was to not remove the soil and store it on-site in a responsible manner to allow for aeration of the soil and evaporation of the contaminants. After a period of time the contaminants levels will be reduced to an acceptable level. The soil can then be disposed in a safe manner after DEP approval at considerable less expense. Examples of use of the soil include daily cover for a sanitary landfill and backfill.

Mr. Martins has agreed to contact his environmental engineering firm to test the soil again for contaminant levels and to report those levels to DEP and to seek guidance from DEP as to its ultimate disposal. At this time the soil in its present location and condition does not present a health or environmental hazard to the neighborhood or city. Mr. Doherty and Mr. Nicoloro will monitor the situation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Melvin H. Chalfen MD". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Melvin H. Chalfen, M. D.

KD/vs

cc: Mike Nicoloro, Inspectional Services
Mr. Martins, Al's Auto Service

10.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL. 349-4300
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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

March 29, 1993

To The Honorable, The City Council:

With reference to Awaiting Report Item No. 32, regarding possible contaminated soil at the service station at the corner of Broadway and Columbia Street, please find attached a response from Dr. Melvin H. Chalfen, Commissioner of Health & Hospitals, relative to this matter.

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

Consent Agenda # 10

S. 147

Awaiting Report Item No 32 regarding
a report on possible contaminated soil
at service station.

In City Council,

March 29, 1993

Placed on file