



City of Cambridge

2.
IN CITY COUNCIL

March 19, 1990

COUNCILLOR WALSH

- WHEREAS: Evidence has been provided which indicates that early in the morning on March 3, 1990, the owners/occupants of a family home on Upland Road were not only in danger of a potential gas explosion within the heating system of their residence, but this danger was exacerbated when their Emergency Call to "911" at 1:58 a.m. was given an arbitrary and apparent judgmental response by the person who received the call, with the result that no emergency response was forthcoming from either the Fire or Police Department; and
- WHEREAS: At 2:18 a.m., the owner telephoned the Fire Department directly and was told that the Police Department had advised that there was no real emergency. At 2:25 a.m., the Fire Department arrived simultaneously with Commonwealth Gas personnel who had been called, and all gas was shut off until an essential part of the heating system was replaced later in the day. Obviously, a blueprint for potential disaster was in place; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to request Chiefs of both Police and Fire Departments to provide copies of respective reports regarding this incident; and be it further
- ORDERED: That the Police Chief explain why, on what basis and how frequently the person who receives the "911" Emergency Call is permitted to decide arbitrarily whether a real emergency is present or not; and be it further
- ORDERED: That, within one week, the City Manager report back with the requested material for review and response by this Council.

In City Council March 12, 1990.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.
Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Joseph E. Connarton

Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.



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MAR. 19 1990

City Council

Adopted by the affirmative vote

of 9 members

Joseph E. Conerton
City Clerk

Order # 2

F-134

Councillor Walsh re: incident on March 3,
1990 at an address on Upland Road.

In City Council,

March 19, 1990

Order adapted