



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To James L. Sullivan, City Manager

Date June 10, 1981

From Paul E. Healy, City Clerk

Reference

Subject

In reference to Agenda Item Number 5 of June 8, 1981, the same being a user fee on commercial television sent in hotels/motels/inns, Councillor Graham requested that the City Manager direct the City Solicitor to draw up home rule legislation for consideration by the City Council and filing with the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth.

In reference to Agenda Item Number 7 of June 8, 1981, the same being a gift of an ultra violet full body irradiation chamber for treatment of dermatological problems by Dr. George Wilgram, the City Council has requested that a letter of thanks be sent to Dr. Wilgram on behalf of the City Council.

Your kind attention in these matter will be greatly appreciated by the City Council.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

• (617) 498-9020

LAW DEPARTMENT

RUSSELL B. HIGLEY
CITY SOLICITOR

MICHAEL C. COSTELLO
ASSISTANT CITY SOLICITOR

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LEGAL COUNSEL

CHARLES A. WATSON
LEGISLATIVE AGENT

May 28, 1981

Mr. James L. Sullivan
City Manager
City Hall
Cambridge, MA

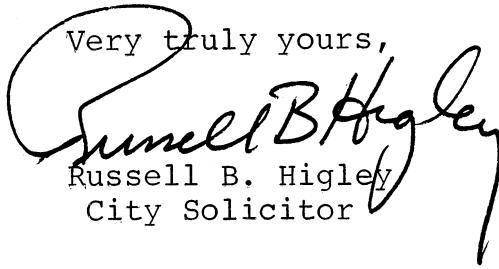
Re: Council Order No. 4 dated May 4, 1981
Assessing user fee on commercial television
sets used in hotels/motels/inns within
Cambridge

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

The State Legislature has authorized cities and towns to issue permits for various activities which come under the jurisdiction of the local municipality, i.e., the Health Department, License Commission, Public Works Department, etc. In these instances, the City is responsible for monitoring these various activities which require a permit. The subject matter of this Order is not presently authorized by State statute.

It is my opinion that this Order is imposing a tax upon hotels/motels/inns, and in order for this tax to be imposed, the City of Cambridge would have to submit a Home Rule Petition to the Legislature, the purpose of which would be to authorize the City to impose a tax on televisions in hotels/motels/inns, and not on televisions located in residential homes.

Very truly yours,


Russell B. Higley
City Solicitor

RBH:jl



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JAMES L. SULLIVAN
City Manager

June 1, 1981

To the Honorable, the City Council:

With respect to City Council Order No. 4 of May 4, 1981 relative to assessing user fees on commercial television sets in hotels/motels/inns in Cambridge, enclosed please find copy of the opinion of Russell B. Higley, City Solicitor.

Very truly yours,

James L. Sullivan
City Manager

JLS/mbf
Enc.

Response to Council Order # 4 of 5/4/81
re: assessing user fees on commercial
television sets in hotels/motels/inns in
Cambridge.

*Request sent to C. Mgr.
re: C. Solicitor to draw
up home rule bill
6/10/81 (all)*

In City Council,

~~June 1, 1981~~

June 8, 1981

6/8/81

Placed on File.

*Deborah Friedman
Requests Engr to draw
City Solicitor to draw
up Home Rule Bill*