



City of Cambridge

13.

IN CITY COUNCIL

Councillor William H. Walsh

June 27, 1988

- WHEREAS: We are confronting the convergence of a crisis both of finding and funding the presence of affordable housing in Cambridge, a crisis due, in part, to realities beyond our control at the state and federal levels; and
- WHEREAS: This crisis is due, in no small part, to the enormous amount of property which Harvard University has and continues to purchase in various areas of the city, a large amount of which property is managed by Harvard Real Estate Inc. (HRE) and rented as apartments to graduate students and other University affiliates at prevailing market rates, this, with the approval of the Faculty Advisory Committee on Affiliated Housing; and
- WHEREAS: In view of its tax exempt status, Harvard gives an annual financial gift to the City which is much appreciated. On the other hand, given the quality and quantity of services which the city provides to Harvard and given the fact that Harvard's buying up of property has exacerbated the impact of the diminishing base of affordable housing in Cambridge, a very serious doubt and question arise as to whether Harvard's Affiliated Housing Complexes are entitled to be included under the tax exempt umbrella. If it is determined that the continued entitlement is not valid or applicable, and in as much as the Agreement of October 28, 1968, between Harvard and the City of Cambridge concerning the married-student housing known as Peabody Terrace, 900 Memorial Drive, stipulates that said agreement "...shall terminate, in any event, on December 31, 1988", then Harvard Affiliated Housing Complexes within the City of Cambridge should be registered with the Cambridge Assessors Office and all tax revenue received thereby shall be deposited into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and/or be used to fund the addition of 30 new police officers whose presence has been approved by this Council and requested by 17,000 voters in the November 1987 election; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager invite the appropriate representatives from Harvard University, including legal counsel and Harvard Real Estate Inc. to come before this Council at its Session on September 19, 1988 for the purpose of responding to the above question and proposal and discussing same with the members of this Council.

AW/V



City of Cambridge

COUNCILLOR WALSH

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June 27, 1988

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WHEREAS: The crisis is due, in no small part, to the enormous amount of property which Harvard University has and continues to purchase in various areas of the city, a large amount of which property is managed by Harvard Real Estate Inc. (HRE) and rented as apartments to graduate students and other University affiliates at prevailing market rates, this, with the approval of the Faculty Advisory Committee on Affiliated Housing; and

WHEREAS: In view of its tax exempt status, Harvard gives an annual financial gift to the City which is much appreciated. On the other hand, given the quality and quantity of services which the city provides to Harvard and given the fact that Harvard's buying up of property has exacerbated the impact of the diminishing base of affordable housing in Cambridge, a very serious doubt and question arises as to whether Harvard's Affiliated Housing Complexes are entitled to be included under the tax exempt umbrella. If it is determined that the continued entitlement is not valid or applicable, and inasmuch as the Agreement of October 28, 1968, between Harvard and the City of Cambridge concerning the married-student housing known as Peabody Terrace, 900 Memorial Drive, stipulates that said agreement " shall terminate, in any event, on December 31, 1988 ", then Harvard Affiliated Housing Complexes within the City of Cambridge should be registered with the Cambridge Assessors Office and all tax revenue received thereby shall be deposited into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and/or be used to fund the addition of 30 new police officers whose presence has been approved by this Council and requested by 17,000 voters in the November 1987 election; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager invite the appropriate representatives from Harvard University, including legal counsel and Harvard Real Estate Inc. to come before this Council at its Session on September 19, 1988 for the purpose of responding to the above question and proposal and discussing same with the members of this Council.

In City Council June 27, 1988.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Joseph E. Connarton

Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

1-308

C. Walsh order re: that the City Manager be requested to invite appropriate representatives of Harvard University, including legal counsel & Harvard Real Estate, Inc. to come before the Council on September 19, 1988
Re: question of whether Harvard's Affiliated Housing Complexes are entitled to be under the tax exempt umbrella, the married-student housing Known as Peabody Terrace at 900 Memorial Drive & the October 28, 1968 agreement between Harvard & the City concerning same.

In City Council,

June 27, 1988

6-27-88

C. Walsh

Order Adopted

9-0-0-0.

10-17-88

Hearing Held.