

City of Cambridge

Mayor Vellucci

In City Council,

March 8, 1971.

ORDERED:-

That the contents of this letter be adopted by the City Council and forwarded to the City Manager for action and report back to this City Council on next Monday.

City Council March 8, 1971

Adopted by the affirmative vote

of 9 members

Paul E. Healy
City Clerk

1-1-76

and the owner of the building, who is a tenant in the building, has been told by the Health Department that the building is unsafe and that the owner should be removed from the building.

On the other hand, the owner of the building, who is a tenant in the building, has been told by the Health Department that the building is unsafe and that the owner should be removed from the building.

In December, 1970, we formed our own committee and asked the Health Department to inspect the property. Since then, we have had three inspections by the Health Department and one by the Building Department.

Some of the violations which the inspectors found were:

1. There are bad roof leaks in most of the buildings. In some apartments, water leaks down through the electrical fixtures in the ceilings.
2. The outside doors of the buildings have no locks and the hallways are poorly lighted. Tenants are afraid to go into the hallways after dark because there are often strangers hanging around the doorways.
3. The stove in one apartment has to be turned on with a pair of pliers because the knobs have broken off. It has been this way for over five years, since before the present tenants moved in.
4. Almost all the windows are loose, making the apartments cool and drafty. This is an added burden for the tenants since they pay for the heat.
5. The buildings are infested with roaches, mice and rats.

These are just a small sample of the health and safety violations that the inspectors have found.

The last Health inspection of our apartments was in August, 1970. No work has been done by the owner to correct any of the violations that were found at that time, even though that was over six months ago and the owner was given thirty days by the

Health Inspectors to make the repairs.

We are now asking for the Council's help in getting these code violations corrected. We are not transients or troublemakers; Cambridge is our home, and all we want is the chance to live and bring up our children here in decent, safe, and sanitary housing. All we are asking is that the existing laws of the City of Cambridge be enforced.

In order to get this property repaired as quickly as possible, we are asking that the City Council request the City Manager to form a committee made up of the Health Commissioner, Building Commissioner, Fire Chief, and any other appropriate city officials who will work directly with our tenant union to find ways of bringing these buildings to code standards.

May Villucci
Ordered for Villucci

That the contents of this letter be adopted by the City Council and forward to the City Manager for action and report back to this City Council on next Monday.

VS:df
3-8-71

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cc. 10

MAYOR

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ORDER

Elm Street Tenant Union

March 8, 1971