



1992 DEC 28 PM 4:36

CAMBRIDGE MA.

614 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02139

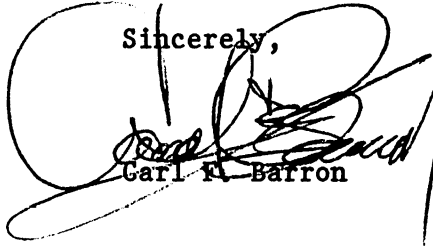
December 28, 1992

Ms. Margaret Drury, City Clerk
City of Cambridge
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Ms. Drury:

Enclosed, you will please find a letter which I would appreciate your placing on the matters for review at the next meeting of the Cambridge City Council.

Sincerely,



Carl F. Barron



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CAMBRIDGE MA.

614 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02139

December 28, 1992

TO: Honorable Members of the Cambridge City Council

RE: REVIEW PROCESS FOR EVALUATION OF CITY MANAGER,
ROBERT W. HEALY

I have read the four-page report, dated December 9, 1992, from the City Council Committee on Government Operations.

I believe that there should be an evaluation of City Manager, Robert W. Healy. I also believe, most firmly, that that evaluation be a fair one, conducted by those people who are responsible to the entire City of Cambridge for their actions and to whom the City Manager is responsible, i.e.: the nine members of the Cambridge City Council. You ran for office on the basis that you felt you were competent to guide the City, you are paid to do that job, and it should not be delegated to others who may or may not have the kind of experience with the official duties of the City Manager which might bring him into conflict with others of the general public who are looking after special interests.

A fair and impartial decision is due to all of the residents and taxpayers in the City of Cambridge. The business community is equally entitled to consideration in view of the fact that it pays approximately 70% of the property taxes. Therefore, good government is essential for the survival of business, as well as providing a good home for residents. Both should be equally considered.

When we take into account the fact that Cambridge has one of the best financial positions of any community in New England, and possibly in the entire United States, plus providing a high quality of social services to those in need, the facts are most evident. Selecting small items which constitute a very minor part of the overall picture is petty, demeaning to the City, and to the

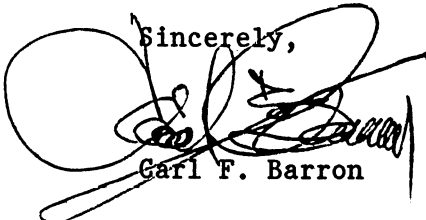
Honorable Members of the Cambridge City Council
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City Manager and to the entire City Council who deserves highest praise for maintaining the quality of life here. Yes, he can make a mistake, which indicates that he is human, and that is why, on an international basis, pencils have erasers on the end of them. When you consider the total picture therein, we have a top-notch operating community.

Furthermore, and extremely important, I am absolutely appalled that Councilors Wolf and Myers would request consideration for the public "to receive input from citizens who will sign but don't want their names made public" or "whether the names could be deleted before the questionnaires are made public."

I thought that the days of McCarthyism were over in the United States. I thought that the accused is entitled to have the right to know who his accusers are, in our democratic country which I sincerely hope includes Cambridge. Why anyone should feel that they are entitled to hide their identities so that anonymous or concealed accusations might be made is beyond my understanding of moral dignity or fair play. Since the people who would praise Mr. Healy would have no hesitancy in having their names published, this ploy can only be for the purpose of being hopeful that more critical questionnaires might be sent in than otherwise.

For the most part, there appears to be a small group of extreme radicals who overlook the fact that good City Government provides the social services needed by also providing the funds to pay for them. Mr. Healy has provided these funds to maintain social services at a high level and, at the same time, maintain fiscal stability. I would hate to see Cambridge turned into another Chelsea. Therefore, we emphatically request that any questionnaires that may be used require the disclosure of the name of those who fill them out.

Sincerely,

Carl F. Barron

CFB/b.0399

Consent Comm. # 5

S-3

Comm. from Carl F. Barron, President,
Central Square Business Association,
regarding the review process for
evaluation of City Manager.

In City Council,

January 4, 1993

Placed on file