

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

January 12, 1998

INTRODUCED BY CITY MANAGER ROBERT W. HEALY

AN ORDER CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 1997

ORDERED: That in addition to sums previously appropriated by the City Council for the fiscal period 1997-98 the following sum is hereby appropriated in the Public Investment Fund the City of Cambridge:

FUNCTION	DEPARTMENT OR PROGRAM	SALARY & WAGES	OTHER ORDINARY MAINTENANCE	TRAVEL & TRAINING	EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES	APPROPRIATIONS
General Government	Finance Development				\$350,000	\$350,000.00

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED: That the above appropriation in the Public Investment Fund to be financed by estimated revenues drawn from the following sources:

FINANCING PLAN	REVENUE
Free Cash	\$350,000.00

In City Council January 12, 1998.

Adopted by a ye a and nay vote:-

Yeas 8; Nays 0; Absent 1.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-


D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council 1/12/, 199

Consent Agenda # 9

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT
Ms. Kathleen L. Born	✓			
Ms. Henrietta Davis	✓			
Mr. Francis H. Duehay	✓			
Mr. Anthony Galluccio	✓			
Mr. Kenneth E. Reeves	✓			
Ms. Sheila T. Russell	✓			
Mr. Michael A. Sullivan			✓	
Mr. Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	✓			
Ms. Katherine Triantafillou	✓			

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9.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

January 12, 1998

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Recommendation: Appropriate \$350,000 to the Finance Department's Capital account to provide funds for a consulting group to conduct a financial system needs analysis, assist in the creation of an R.F.P., and assist in the selection of a new financial system for the City. The selection of a new financial system will in turn dictate the selection of a compatible Windows based development language for the creation and conversion of non-financial systems applications. Funds for this appropriation will be from free cash.

Background: The City's current financial system has been in place for 11 years. According to the R.F.P. which was developed in 1986, the financial system to be selected at that time was to:

1. "Provide a cornerstone system for the long range (5-10 years) computer requirements of the City."
2. "Meet the immediate fiscal/administrative system short range (1-2 years) computer requirements of the City."

Clearly, the current system has met and exceeded the original timeline expectations. With rapid changes in technology, the current system no longer provides the compatibilities to meet current City demands for analysis, management reporting, data compatibility with desktop applications, rapid application development and enhanced user interface.

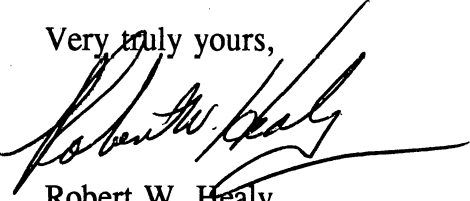
In August of this past year, the City Council made a preliminary appropriation of \$40,000 to begin the selection process of a vendor to assist in the first phase of this project. During the fall, an R.F.P. was developed and sent out to numerous management consulting firms to solicit their interest in this project. In December, the Financial System Selection Committee reviewed 5 proposals and determined that two met the expectations of the R.F.P. The Selection Committee selected the Hunter Group as its preferred consulting group. The Hunter Group's fee for the financial system needs analysis, R.F.P. development and new system selection is \$390,000. The committee's second choice, another major consulting firm, had required fees of over \$680,000. As the City Council has already appropriated \$40,000 for this project a net of \$350,000 is being requested now.

The Honorable, The City Council
January 12, 1998
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It is expected that the timeline to select a new financial system is approximately 6 months with a conversion period of 18 to 24 months to follow. Funds for the new financial system will be requested in the FY1999 Capital Budget if adequate cost estimates are available. If adequate cost estimates are not available, an appropriation will be sought later in a supplemental budget request.

Passage of this appropriation is strongly recommended.

Very truly yours,



Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

Consent Agenda #9

4-F

Relative to an order requesting the appropriation of \$350,000 to provide funds for a consulting group to conduct a financial system needs analysis, assist in the creation of an R.F.P., and assist in the selection of a new financial system for the City.

In City Council January 12, 1998

ORDER ADOPTED

8-0-1