

May 2, 1975

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MAY 5 10 01 AM '75

Committee on Claims
Cambridge Law Department
Cambridge City Hall
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.
759 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

To The Committee on Claims:

On Thursday morning, April 24, 1975, at 9:00 A.M., I went to the Pearl Street laundromat. I put my money into the machines to start them, but noticed that although the motors were running, no water was flowing into the three machines I was using. A few minutes later, Mr. Eon, the owner, entered and tried to determine what was wrong. He couldn't find anything wrong with the machines, but noticed some workmen just down the block on Pearl Street. We walked down to ask them if the water had been turned off. They informed us it had been, but it would be back on in just five minutes. They did tell us they had not been able to inform the owner of the laundromat before starting the work, although Mrs. Eon, the owner's mother, told me she had been in the laundromat from 7:00 until 8:30 to open it up. They did not bother to offer any warning as to the condition the water would be in when it was turned on again. When I returned an hour later, I discovered my clothes were being washed with grime, mud, and rusty water!

After some confusion as to what should be done, I returned home to call the Water Department. A Mr. Closson was nice enough to offer to send down the city chemist with a chemical that is supposed to remedy this type of situation. I couldn't stay any longer since I was already late for an appointment, but Mrs. Eon said she would work with the chemist and try to get the stains out of my clothes. Unfortunately, the chemical did not work very well, and my clothes are still stained and frayed from the several washes it took just to get the grime, mud and rusty water off them. In other words, they're ruined.

Mr. Eon refuses to take responsibility because he was not informed by the Water Department that the water was being shut off. On Friday, April 25, 1975, I called Mr. McGinnis, head of the Water Department. He informed me it was not his responsibility either, and referred me to Mr. Cunningham in your Legal Department. Mr. Cunningham, realizing my predicament, kindly suggested that I should send a request for reimbursement to your committee before taking further steps.

What happened was a lack of foresight and communication on the part of the Water Department, which unfortunately resulted in a major inconvenience and financial disaster. Knowing therefore that you can understand this request, I have enclosed an itemized list of the destroyed items and their prices. I look forward to hearing from you within the week.

Sincerely,

Maura Paul Walsh

Maura Paul Walsh
2 William Street
Cambridge, Ma. 02139

May 2, 1975

To The Committee on Claims
Itemized List

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CITY OF TAMPA

1. Quilt - King size	\$ 75.00
2. 2 sheets	18.00
3. 1 pillow case	5.00
4. 3 full size towels	24.00
5. 1 full-length robe	30.00
6. 5 shirts	50.00
7. 3 blouses	37.00
8. 2 pants	40.00
9. 4 bras	28.00
10. 6 knee socks	9.00
11. 4 pair tights	12.00
12. 8 pair underpants	16.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$344.00

HELP! HELP!

Copies of letter and price list sent to:

Committee on Claims
Mayor's Office
City Council
Superintendent of Water Department
Mr. Cunningham of Legal Department

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Comm. from Moira Paul Walsh requesting
reimbursement for articles of clothing.

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CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

In City Council,

May 12, 1975

*Referred to Committee
on Claims*

*Copy sent to Claims
Committee 5/14/75 dl.*