



City of Cambridge

Communication # 2

IN CITY COUNCIL

March 24, 1980

COUNCILLOR VELLUCCI

- ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to immediately appoint a Blue Ribbon Committee for the sole purpose of examining the needs of Cambridge residents for long-term health care services as well as to describe needed changes or additions in services provided by private or non-profit agencies so that they may meet their service obligations more completely; and be it further
- ORDERED: That in conjunction with this committee, the City Manager be and hereby is requested to instruct the Administrator of the Neville Manor and the Director of the Hospital to take the appropriate steps to insure that a comprehensive financial feasibility study is done to determine what the net cost to the taxpayer would be should the City determine to expand its present level of nursing home beds beyond the additional thirty (30) beds to which this City Council has already committed itself; said feasibility study should include these thirty (30) beds; and be it further
- ORDERED: That this Blue Ribbon Committee be and hereby is requested to report its findings to this City Council as soon as possible.

In City Council March 24, 1980.

Adopted by a voice vote of eight members.

Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul E. Healy".

City of Cambridge

The City Council Committee on Health and Hospitals, with Councillor Alfred E. Vellucci, Chairman, Councillors Leonard Russell, Walter Sullivan and Dayid Wylie present, held a meeting of the Committee on Monday, March 10, 1980 at 8 a.m. in the Board Room of the Hospital.

Councillor Vellucci requested a status report on the establishment of thirty (30) additional beds at the Neville Manor, stating his concern over the fact that these beds were not already functional.

Mr. William Lynsky, Administrator of the Manor, responded by stating that preliminary plans for the thirty (30) bed expansion had been submitted by the City to the Department of Public Health of the Commonwealth on March 1, 1980 in accordance with the state deadline. He further stated that he had met with the Assistant City Manager for Administration, Mr. Healy, and that they were staying on top of this project. Furthermore, Mr. Lynsky indicated that the City Manager has some concern regarding the financing of the expansion due to the rapidly changing economic conditions of the country and the difficulty in the bond market. The projected cost at this time is approximately \$314,000.

Ms. Elsa Stern, Health Policy Board, stated that the Neville Manor only received the Certificate of Need for the additional beds in October from the Department of Public Health and the Health Policy Board had been following up on this issue.

Councillor Vellucci questioned what the next step would be in the process.

Mr. Lynsky responded by stating that final plans and architectural drawings had to be submitted to the Department of Public Health by September 1, 1980.

Mr. Robert Healy stated that the Architectural Selection Committee is scheduled to meet during the week of March 17, 1980 and an architect could be selected within three weeks.

Both Councillors Russell and Wylie stated their concern regarding any delay on this project since the need for these additional beds is so pressing. Councillor Wylie further stated that the City of Cambridge, unfortunately, is caught in the financial crunch all cities are in and priorities must be set to determine where money will be expended.

Mr. MacLeod, Hospital Director, stated that since the Neville Manor does generate revenue, the cost of the additional beds, less debt and interest, would be returned to the city over an extended period of time. He further suggested that a comprehensive financial feasibility analysis be undertaken to determine what the actual cost for such expansion would be to the taxpayer.

Councillor Wylie agreed with the suggestion and requested that said study, should one be undertaken, should take into consideration the possibility of the construction of a second nursing home facility somewhere between the Neville Manor and Concord Avenue without taking any conservation land. This facility should be able to address long-term health care needs for a minimum of one hundred and fifty (150) patients.

At this time the Committee agreed to sponsor the following resolution at the Council meeting to be held that evening:

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ORDERED: That this Blue Ribbon Committee be and hereby is requested to report its findings to this City Council as soon as possible.

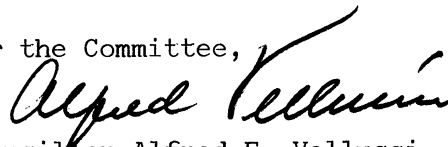
Councillor Vellucci questioned the relationship of the Neville Manor to the Cambridge Hospital in terms of administrative and medical services.

Mr. Lynsky responded by stating that medical services are provided to approximately one hundred and twenty-five (125) patients through a contractual agreement with Cambridge Medical Associates which is comprised of doctors from the Cambridge Hospital. He further stated that in the absence of a Health Commissioner, he has been reporting to Mr. Healy.

Councillor Vellucci stated that he believed the time had arrived for the appointment, through the establishment of a city ordinance, of a Hospital Board of Trustees to monitor both the Hospital and Neville Manor. He further stated that he would discuss this further with the members of the City Council.

The hearing was adjourned at 8:30 A. M.

For the Committee,



Councillor Alfred E. Vellucci
Chairman

6-139

Comm. from Councillor Alfred Vellucci, Chairman, Committee on Health and Hospitals, transmitting report of committee meeting held on March 10, 1980.

In City Council,
March 24, 1980

*M/D
Report and
order contained
therein adopted
in voice vote -*