

L. Clinton Amendment
City of Cambridge

to hold MEETING MASSACHUSETTS on Monday AFTER
The Election -

In City Council

Sept 16 19*74*

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT
Mrs. Ackermann		✓		
Mr. Clinton	✓			
Mr. Danehy	✓			
Mr. Duehay		✓		
Mrs. Graham		✓		
Mr. Russell	✓			
Mr. Vellucci		✓		
Mr. Wylie		✓		
Mayor Sullivan	✓			
	4	5	0	

- Amendment Fails -

City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

Sept. 161974*- C. FRANKLIN order -*

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT
Mrs. Ackermann	✓			
Mr. Clinton		✓		
Mr. Danehy		✓		
Mr. Duehay	✓			
Mrs. Graham	✓			
Mr. Russell		✓		
Mr. Vellucci		✓		
Mr. Wylie	✓			
Mayor Sullivan		✓		
	4	5	0	

City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

Sept 16

1974

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT
Mrs. Ackermann	✓			
Mr. Clinton	✓			
Mr. Danehy	✓			
Mr. Duehay	✓			
Mrs. Graham	✓			
Mr. Russell	✓			
Mr. Vellucci	✓			
Mr. Wylie	✓			
Mayor Sullivan	✓			
	9	0	0	

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RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

SEP 9 4 25 PM '74

CAMBRIDGE, MASS. \ + "

SEPTEMBER 9, 1974

TO: Cambridge City Council
FROM: THE COALITION TO COMBAT RACISM
RE: POLICE BRUTALITY AND RACIAL CONFLICTS AROUND
THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

We, the Coalition to Combat Racism would like
to be included on the agenda for the Cambridge
City Council Meeting on Monday September 9, 1974.

Coalition to Combat Racism requesting a hearing.

Sept 23 /74
Hearing held -
- fee order adopted -

In City Council,
Sept. 9, 1974

9/9/74
Hearing assigned
for
Sept 16 at 8 PM
9/16/74
New Hearing set
for Sept 23rd
at 8 PM

Finally we consider the issue of racism of sufficient importance that there is no one so powerful or so removed that they can stand on the sidelines and watch as some citizens in this city literally go through hell. We intend to approach the mayor of the city, the state and local representatives, the senators, Brooke and Kennedy, the Attorney General and others in our effort to get to the bottom of this problem, here in our city.

We have already started to act. We have been in touch with Senator Brooke and the American Civil Liberties Union pursuant to the filing of a suit against the police department and city officials, charging denial of civil rights under the 14th amendment to the Constitution.

We demand that the city council empower a public citizens investigative unit to look into the practices of the Police Department of this city. This Citizens Investigative Committee would have the following powers in order to make it effective and capable of delivering the kind of report and recommendations that will deal with the question of racism and brutality in the Cambridge Police Department:

1. A directive from the City Manager to all personnel in all city agencies ordering them to fully cooperate with the committee.
2. That the committee have a free hand in the investigation.
3. That the committee be composed of 12 people a majority of whom come from the Committee to Combat Racism. The Committee to Combat Racism will choose from its membership their own representatives.
4. That the investigative committee will have a staff of its own choosing, including court reporters, secretarial help and legal aid. These shall be provided for by the City of Cambridge.

The Coalition to Combat Racism is presently made up of representatives from the following organizations:

BLACK TEACHERS ASSOCIATION	RIVERSIDE PLANNING TEAM
BLACK CONCERNED PARENTS	BLACK LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
NEW AMERICA MOVEMENT	NAACP (NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE)
MASS. ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION	BOSTON COMMITTEE IN SOLIDARITY WITH PUERTO RICO
CONCERNED BLACK CITIZENS	BCON
CAMBRIDGE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY COMMITTEE	THE HARD TIMES

issued: 9/7/74

STATEMENT OF THE COALITION TO COMBAT RACISM

The primary problem facing all of the citizens of Cambridge is racism. This issue has surfaced most critically in recent weeks in the activities of the Police Department of Cambridge. The Price and Anderson cases are but two of the most flagrant examples of racist police behavior. There have been others in the past for the problem of racism is of long standing.

The death of both John Moree and Jay Price can be attributed to the racism that exists in Cambridge and Cambridge's inability to deal with that. When racism is coupled with police brutality the result is explosive. One example is the failure of Cambridge agencies to respond to requests of one Black family for aid. Racism in the form of a brutal beating administered by police officers of this city is responsible for the permanent loss of eyesight of one Black man, Clarence Anderson.

We hold the Police Chief accountable for the conduct of his police officers. It is apparent that Police Chief Reagan is not chief of a police department which either protects or respects all of the citizens of Cambridge. He should be removed for cause.

The Police Chief is answerable to the City Manager. We hold the City Manager responsible for the activities of his Police Chief. We call upon the City Manager to fire the Police Chief or to admit he is incapable of managing the city and resign.

In the past several years there have been many examples of police brutality and racism. Always the same police officers are involved. The racist brutal police behavior that we find objectionable and reprehensible is typified by police officers like Burns, Hallice, DeLuca, McCarthy, Boyle, Loder, and Hussey. These officers should be removed from the city payroll for cause.

When complaints have been made to the police department about police behavior, Captain Kusick as head of the bureau of Internal Affairs has been responsible for investigating these charges. 74 cases have passed across his desk this past year. The same police officers that we have named were involved in many of these cases. Yet not a single police officer was disciplined. The gross failure on Captain Kusick's part to discipline his police officers, in short, to do his job, has resulted in a situation where the same officers are freed time and time again to engage in brutal beatings and arrests. Captain Kusick should be removed for cause.

We are not unmindful of the role other city agencies have played in maintaining racist attitudes and practices in this city. For the moment we are concentrating on the police department, but the School Department, the Welfare Department, The Cambridge Housing Authority, and others also bear responsibility. We will be looking to see what other city agencies are doing to eliminate racism and racist practices in this city. The police department does not bear sole responsibility for the racism in Cambridge.

(OVER)

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

SEP 13 12 01 PM '74

5 Callender Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts
September 11, 1974

CITY CLERK
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Sir:

We request that the hearing scheduled for Monday, September 16th at 8 o'clock concerning both the Price and Anderson incidents and the issues of police brutality and racism be changed to Thursday, September 19th at the Martin Luther King School.

Furthermore we request that the City council hold its regular council meeting on Monday, September 23rd at the Martin Luther King School.

We feel that the City Manager, the Police Chief, and Captain Kusack should be present at both meetings.

Sincerely,

The Coalition to Combat
Racism

Black Teachers Association
Black Concerned Parents
New America Movement
Mass. Alliance Against Racist and
Political Repression
Concerned Black Citizens
Cambridge Economic Opportunity
Committee

Riverside Planning Team
Black Lawyers Association
NAACP (National Association
for the Advancement of
Colored People
Boston Committee in Solidarity
With Puerto Rico
BCON
The Hard Times

cc: Attorney General Quinn, Governor Sargent, Senator Brooke, Senator Kennedy, Editors of the Chronicle, Real Paper, Globe, Phoenix Bay State Banner, WCAS, WGBH, WBCN, WILD, WTBS, WBUR, WCVB, WNAC, WBZ.

16 370

Comm. from the Coalition to Combat Racism
requesting meeting to be transferred to
the Martin Luther King.

In City Council,

Sept. 16, 1974

9/23/74
Henry Hill