



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To Joseph Cellucci, Commissioner of
Inspectional Services
Chief Thomas Scott, Fire Department

Date September 3, 1987

From John E. Flynn, Deputy City Clerk JEF

Reference

Subject City Council hearing on reports of
hazardous waste at 151 Putnam Avenue

Please be advised that the City Council is in receipt of a communication from Karen Dobak and C.T. Lawrence Butler (a copy of which is enclosed) with regard to reports of hazardous waste found at the old Charlesbank Laundry site at 151 Putnam Avenue. Pursuant to this communication, the City Council has scheduled a public hearing for Monday, September 14, 1987 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Sullivan Chamber.

Your presence or that of your appropriate designee is requested at this time. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

JEF/mh

Enclosure

July 27, 1987

RECEIVED BY
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK

1987 JUL 30 AM 10:16

Dear Honorable City Council:

On Thursday, July 2, we read in the Boston Globe that barrels of hazardous waste were found at the old Charlesbank Laundry site at 151 Putnam Avenue. Naturally, as neighbors, we became concerned about this report, so we sought information. That day, we called the DEQE, state and local police, the fire department, the Department of Public Health and Safety, and Sandra Graham's office. The day before, the DEQE had stopped the destruction of the existing building to investigate the site, and removed several barrels of contained hazardous waste. They also took soil and run-off samples. Their analysis has yet to be made public, despite repeated requests.

Did any hazardous material leak into the ground?
What about the (illegal) underground storage tanks?
What was the bright blue run-off that ran into the city sewers?
Why were not signs erected or fences put up to protect the neighborhood? How did the city allow this site to get this way (despite resident complaints for many years and the fact that it is in a dense residential neighborhood)?

Having received constant reassurances but very little concrete information from city or state officials, we feel it is necessary that the City Council look into this matter at the next meeting on August 3rd.

Based on what we know, it appears certain information has been covered up. In addition, this site was recently involved in another incident not related to hazardous waste but definitely related to public safety. We feel it is appropriate for the city to investigate this property and live up to its responsibility to the community. On August 3rd, we would like to ask these questions and present our chronology of events to the City Council.

Sincerely,

Karen Dobak

Karen Dobak
Environmental Chemist
195 Harvard Avenue

C.T. Lawrence Butler

C.T. Lawrence Butler
Peace Commissioner
165 Putnam Avenue



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

(617) 498-9017

JOSEPH E. CONNARTON
CITY CLERK

JOHN E. FLYNN
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

September 2, 1987

Mr. C. T. Lawrence Butler
165 Putnam Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Butler:

Pursuant to your communication with regard to reports of hazardous waste found at the old Charlesbank Laundry site at 151 Putnam Avenue, please be advised that the City Council has scheduled a public hearing in order to discuss your concerns. Said hearing has been scheduled for Monday, September 14, 1987 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Sullivan Chamber, second floor, City Hall, Cambridge. Your presence or that of your appropriate designee is requested at this time.

Your kind cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated, both by this office and the City Council.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "John E. Flynn". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "F".

John E. Flynn
Deputy City Clerk.

JEF/mh



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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(617) 498-9017

JOSEPH E. CONNARTON
CITY CLERK

JOHN E. FLYNN
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

September 2, 1987

Ms. Karen Dobak
195 Harvard Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Ms. Dobak:

Pursuant to your communication with regard to reports of hazardous waste found at the old Charlesbank Laundry site at 151 Putnam Avenue, please be advised that the City Council has scheduled a public hearing in order to discuss your concerns. Said hearing has been scheduled for Monday, September 14, 1987 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Sullivan Chamber, second floor, City Hall, Cambridge. Your presence or that of your appropriate designee is requested at this time.

Your kind cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated, both by this office and the City Council.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John E. Flynn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

John E. Flynn
Deputy City Clerk.

JEF/mh



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To Robert W. Healy, City Manager

Date August 6, 1987

From Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk

Reference

Subject Requests for report

Please be reminded that the City Council has requested a report relative to the communication from Robert J. LaTremouille regarding the height of residential construction in Business A zoning districts.

Furthermore, the City Council has referred for your review and action Communication No. 13 relative to a request for a permit for a non-alcoholic Oktoberfest to be held on Sunday, October 11th, 1987.

Furthermore, the City Council has referred to you for report Communications 25 relative to alleged hazardous waste at the premises numbered 151 Putnam Avenue and No. 26 from William S. Noble.

Also, the City Council has referred to the Animal Commissioner Communication No. 32 relative to current animal control laws regulating pit bulls. Please be reminded the City Council has scheduled a public hearing on this matter for Monday, September 14, 1987 beginning at 7:00 p.m. and has requested the City Solicitor and Animal Control Officer to be present.

Finally, the City Council has referred Communication No. 35, relative to Carl Barron's concern regarding the rubbish and garbage at 580 Massachusetts Avenue.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

JEC/mh

July 27, 1987

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Sincerely,

Karen Dobak

Karen Dobak
Environmental Chemist
195 Harvard Avenue

C.T. Lawrence Butler

C.T. Lawrence Butler
Peace Commissioner
165 Putnam Avenue

Comm. from Karen Dobak, Environmental Chemist
& C.T. Lawrence Butler, Peace Commissioner
requesting the Council look into reports of
barrels of hazardous waste found at the old
Charlesbank Laundry site at 151 Putnam Ave.
& for permission to address the Council to
present a chronology of events.

Sept. 14, 1987

Hearing Held

See Orders Adopted

Mr. Cellucci + Chief Scott notified of
+ invited to hearing 9/3/87 mb - copy within

In City Council,

August 3, 1987

Ms. Dobak + Mr. Butler notified of the
scheduling of this hearing for September 14th
hearing. 9/2/87 mb - copy within

Copy sent to the City Manager
8/6/87 mb (see letter within)