



City of Cambridge

12.

IN CITY COUNCIL

May 20, 1974

Councillor Vellucci

WHEREAS:

In retaliation for the Boston Tea Party of December 16, 1774, the British government closed down the port of Boston on June 1, 1774, and

WHEREAS:

In demonstration of their solidarity with and support for the people of Massachusetts, the Virginia Assembly, led by Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry and other prominent leaders of the American cause, passed a resolution declaring June 1, 1774 to be a "Day of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer," in accordance with traditions dating back to the time of the original Puritan settlers of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and

WHEREAS:

The purpose of the June 1st resolution was, in Jefferson's words, "to implore heaven to avert us from the evils of civil war, to inspire us with firmness in support of our rights, and to turn the hearts of the King and parliament to moderation and justice," and

WHEREAS:

The clergy met assemblies of the people on the 1st of June and addressed them on matters suited to the occasion, the effect of the day being, according to Jefferson, "like a shock of electricity," and

WHEREAS:

As a direct aftermath of the June 1st resolution, the First Continental Congress was called for September 5, 1774, in Philadelphia, and

WHEREAS:

On the eve of the Bicentennial of American independence, our nation is undergoing a period of trial and crisis, and

WHEREAS:

As part of the Bicentennial, we observe the anniversaries of many political and military events, therefore be it

RESOLVED:

That June 1st, 1974, be declared "A Day of Fasting and Prayer," in commemoration of an important religious event in the struggle for freedom 200 years ago, and be it further

City of Cambridge

- 2 -

RESOLVED:

That on June 1st, 1974, at 1:00 P. M., the bells in City Hall tower be struck thirteen times to remind us of that fateful day in 1774 and to symbolize the unity of the thirteen colonies which, in the face of oppression, grew out of that and other events, and be it further

RESOLVED:

That bell towers throughout Massachusetts, the original thirteen colonies, and the whole nation be invited to join in a ringing commemoration of "A Day of Fasting and Prayer," and be it further

RESOLVED:

That on Friday, May 31st, schools are requested to devote an hour to discussion of the meaning of liberty and justice 200 years ago and today, and that on Sunday June 2nd, churches are likewise invited to address their congregations on these matters, which are so relevant to these times of crisis.

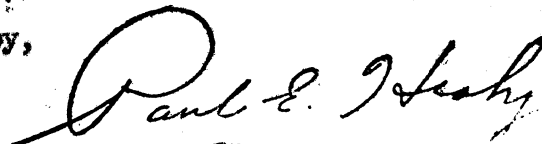
In City Council May 20, 1974.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of 8 members.

Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy,

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK

Councillor Ackermann requested to be recorded in the negative.

By Councilor Vellucci For Steve Nelson - 854 Mass Ave. And
A resolution for

A Day of Fasting and Prayer

Submitted before the Cambridge City Council on May 20, 1974,
by Steve Nelson, 854 Mass. Ave., #6, Cambridge, Mass. 02139.

WHEREAS, in retaliation for The Boston Tea Party of December 16, 1774, the British government closed down the port of Boston on June 1, 1774;

WHEREAS, in demonstration of their solidarity with and support for the people of Massachusetts, the Virginia Assembly, led by Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, and other prominent leaders of the American cause, passed a resolution declaring June 1, 1774 to be a "Day of Fasting, Humiliation & Prayer", in accordance with traditions dating back to the time of the original Puritan settlers of the Massachusetts Bay Colony;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the June 1 resolution was, in Jefferson's words, "to implore heaven to avert us from the evils of civil war, to inspire us with firmness in support of our rights, and to turn the hearts of the King & parliament to moderation & justice";

WHEREAS, the clergy met assemblies of the people on the 1st of June and addressed them on matters suited to the occasion, the effect of the day being, according to Jefferson, "like a shock of electricity";

WHEREAS, as a direct aftermath of the June 1st resolution, the first Continental Congress was called for September 5, 1774, in Philadelphia;

WHEREAS, on the eve of the Bicentennial of American independence, our nation is undergoing a period of trial and crisis; and

WHEREAS, as part of the Bicentennial, we observe the anniversaries of many political and military events:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED:

THAT June 1, 1974, be declared "A Day of Fasting and Prayer", in commemoration of an important religious event in the struggle for freedom 200 years ago;

THAT on June 1, 1974, at 1 p.m., the bells in City Hall tower be struck 13 times to remind us of that fateful day in 1774 and to symbolize the unity of the 13 colonies which, in the face of oppression, grew out of that and other events;

THAT bell towers throughout Massachusetts, the original 13 colonies, and the whole nation be invited to join in a ringing commemoration of "A Day of Fasting and Prayer"; and

THAT on Friday, May 31, schools are requested to devote an hour of discussion to the meaning of liberty and justice 200 years ago and today, and that on Sunday, June 2, churches are likewise invited to address their congregations on these matters, which are so relevant to these times of crisis.

12

233

June 1st "A Day of Fasting and Prayer."

5/20/74

L. Vallocci

Order

Adopted
Voice Vote

Commence Reunion
Required the City
Hall to record
her in the negative
on this order -