



City of Cambridge

39.

IN CITY COUNCIL
August 7, 1991

MAYOR WOLF

- WHEREAS: It has recently been alleged that between the years 1987 and 1990 some nineteen thousand tickets were unaccounted for in the Police Department; and
- WHEREAS: If true, the disappearance of these tickets would represent, at minimum, an accountability problem and certainly a violation of the public trust; and
- WHEREAS: Questions have arisen as to whether the "loss" of these tickets represents administrative incompetence or ticket-fixing and, in either case, the open and long standing rumors of ticket-fixing have been reinforced in the eyes of Cambridge residents; and
- WHEREAS: Progress has been made in several City departments in automation and improved accounting practices making the City of Cambridge among the most technologically advanced municipalities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and
- WHEREAS: It is very important that the enforcement policies of both the Police Department and the Traffic and Parking Department must be beyond reproach, and that all residents can be assured of equality in enforcement of *all* City traffic regulations; and
- WHEREAS: In order to restore the trust of residents in enforcement of traffic regulations by the Police Department and the Parking and Traffic Department and, thus, in its city government, we must improve accounting practices and fully investigate the allegations around the "missing" nineteen thousand tickets between 1987 and 1990; therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager is hereby requested to have an outside and independent review of the ticketing practices of the Police Department and the Traffic Department conducted at the earliest possible time; and be it further
- ORDERED: That the audit investigate the validity of the charges that nineteen thousand tickets are missing, the percentage of the missing tickets that may have actually been issued, the percentage of tickets that were lost in clerical error, the percentage of tickets that were issued for parking violations and for moving violations, and the number issued and invalidated and for what reasons; and be it further

ORDERED: That, at the completion of the independent audit, the City Manager report to the City Council the outcome of the audit's findings; the measures that will be undertaken by the Police Department and the Traffic and Parking Department to improve accountability; and whether there was any wrong doing or impropriety around the allegedly missing tickets.

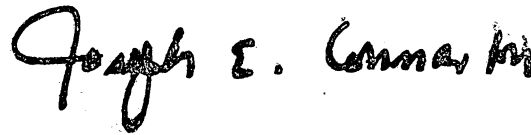
In City Council August 7, 1991.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joseph E. Connarton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some capitalization.

Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.



City of Cambridge

39.

IN CITY COUNCIL

August 7, 1991

MAYOR WOLF

WHEREAS: It has recently been alleged that between the years 1987 and 1990 some nineteen thousand tickets were unaccounted for in the Police Department; and

WHEREAS: If true, the disappearance of these tickets would represent, at minimum, an accountability problem and certainly a violation of the public trust; and

WHEREAS: Questions have arisen as to whether the "loss" of these tickets represents administrative incompetence or ticket-fixing and, in either case, the open and long standing rumors of ticket-fixing have been reinforced in the eyes of Cambridge residents; and

WHEREAS: Progress has been made in several City departments in automation and improved accounting practices making the City of Cambridge among the most technologically advanced municipalities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS: It is very important that the enforcement policies of both the Police Department and the Traffic and Parking Department must be beyond reproach, and that all residents can be assured of equality in enforcement of *all* City traffic regulations; and

WHEREAS: In order to restore the trust of residents in enforcement of traffic regulations by the Police Department and the Parking and Traffic Department and, thus, in its city government, we must improve accounting practices and fully investigate the allegations around the "missing" nineteen thousand tickets between 1987 and 1990; therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager is hereby requested to have an outside and independent review of the ticketing practices of the Police Department and the Traffic Department conducted at the earliest possible time; and be it further

ORDERED: That the audit investigate the validity of the charges that nineteen thousand tickets are missing, the percentage of the missing tickets that may have actually been issued, the percentage of tickets that were lost in clerical error, the percentage of tickets that were issued for parking violations and for moving violations, and the number issued and invalidated and for what reasons; and be it further

ORDERED: That, at the completion of the independent audit, the City Manager report to the City Council the outcome of the audit's findings; the measures that will be undertaken by the Police Department and the Traffic and Parking Department to improve accountability; and whether there was any wrong doing or impropriety around the allegedly missing tickets.

City Council AUG. 7 1991

Adopted by the affirmative vote

of 9 members

Joseph E. Conner

City Clerk

NON-CONSENT ORDER # 39 *f-442*

Mayor Wolf re: outside and independent
review of the ticketing practices of
the Police Department.

In City Council,

August 7, 1991

Order adopted

NC