



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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June 20, 1994

Robert W. Healy
City Manager
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: Council Order #02, dated June 6, 1994
Issues with Continental Cablevision

Dear Mr. Healy:

This opinion is in response to an order from the City Council requesting a summary letter on several issues concerning Continental Cablevision.

The Massachusetts Cable Commission confirms that Continental Cablevision of Cambridge is one of the 22 cable operators subject to rate regulation, mentioned in their Cable Bulletin dated May 16, 1994.

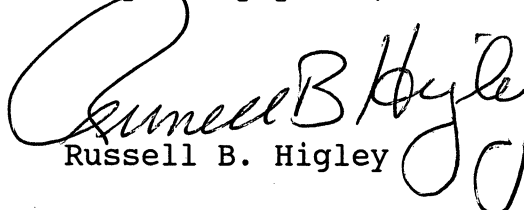
Information was requested from the commission regarding a comparison of rates among communities. There is no statewide assessment of how cable operator rates compare to each other, since the new FCC regulations are meant to deal with each operator individually. The state commission does regularly monitor all operators for compliance with regulations for basic tier service

and equipment. Continental Cablevision decided to make all of their equipment costs uniform, statewide. It is their program costs that may vary from community to community.

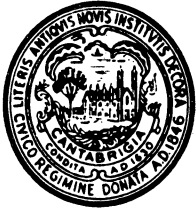
In March, the state commission concluded its hearings regarding basic tier rates for those operators opting for a streamlined benchmark review. Continental Cablevision of Cambridge exercised its option for a cost of service review of rates with hearings scheduled for late August or September. Under this process any costs that they wish to pass through to consumers such as taxes, franchise fees, or other external costs and increases beyond their control, must be justified by a cost of service analysis. Please note that the Cable Bulletin dated May 16, 1994, states that a cable operator can select this option "if it feels that the benchmark rate will not afford the company a reasonable return."

The Law Department has requested from Continental Cablevision, a copy of all forms filed with the state cable commission since the implementation of the Cable Act. These forms will be submitted to the City Council when they are received.

Very truly yours,



Russell B. Higley



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

September 12, 1994

To The Honorable, The City Council:

With reference to Awaiting Report Item No. 19, regarding issues with Continental Cablevision, please find attached a response received from Russell B. Higley, City Solicitor.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mev
attachment

Consent Agenda # 3

S-328

Response to Awaiting Report Item
Number Nineteen, regarding issues
with Continental Cablevision.

for original order
see 1994 City Manager
Requests # 201.

In City Council,

Sept. 12, 1994

Placed on file