

Introduced by City Manager Robert W. Healy

An order concerning the rescinding of Appropriation for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 1982.

ORDERED: That a rescission to sums previously appropriated by the City Council for the Fiscal Period 1982-83 the following sum is hereby rescinded in the Hospital and Ambulatory Care Fund of the City of Cambridge:

Function	Department or Program	Salaries & Wages	Training & Travel	Other Ordinary Maintenance	Extraordinary Expenditures	Appropriations
Human Resource Development	Hospital & Ambulatory Care			(625,000)		(625,000)

In City Council April 25, 1983.  
Adopted by a yea and nay vote:-  
Yeas 8; Nays 0; Absent 1.  
Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-



Dr. Chalfen stated he has put together a long-range planning committee to determine the profit and loss position of each unit within the hospital in order to determine what changes if any will have to be made if the hospital gets into a major deficit situation. He further stated that although reluctant to do so, the possibility exists that some units may have to be closed.

Councillor Graham stated she was extremely concerned over the protracted vacancy in the position of a hospital director and the lack of any outreach work in the community in terms of marketing the services of the hospital and the neighborhood health clinics.

City Manager Healy responded by stating that it has been a long time since a director has been on board but that he hoped to be able to make an appointment very soon.

On a motion by Councillor Danehy, the committee agreed to forward the request for recession of \$625,000 from the hospital budget for FY82-83 be referred to the full City Council for favorable action.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

For the Committee,

Councillor Thomas W. Danehy  
Chairman

TWD/smc

#18 Comm hist

# City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

4/25

1983

*Concordia  
Danehy*

*MOTION TO RESCIND THE AMOUNT  
OF 625<sup>TH</sup> FROM Hospital FY 82-83*

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT	PRESENT
Mr. Daniel J. Clinton	✓			
Mr. Thomas W. Danehy	✓			
Mr. Francis H. Duehay	✓			
Ms. Sandra Graham			✓	
Mr. Leonard J. Russell	✓			
Mr. David E. Sullivan	✓			
Mr. Walter J. Sullivan	✓			
Mr. Wylie	✓			
Mayor Vellucci	✓			

*8 0 1*

*epsk  
pp  
n*

*Order Rescinded -*

# City of Cambridge

---

*In City Council*..... April 25, 1983.....

**The** Committee on Health and Hospitals conducted a meeting on Thursday, April 21, 1983 beginning at 9:00 AM in the Board Room of the Cambridge Hospital. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the request of City Manager Robert W. Healy to the City Council relative to the recession of \$625,000 from the hospital budget for FY82-83.

City Manager Healy stated that in order to set the tax rate for 1983 it is necessary to bring all departments into balance and a revenue shortfall of \$625,000 exists at the hospital. Essentially, he continued, this shortfall is a result of an overall reduction in patient bed activity. He further stated that some financial savings did occur this year at the hospital specifically in fuel and food services.

The Manager further stated that the combinations of Chapter 372 of the Acts of 1982 and the reduction of medicare/medicaid reimbursements, some long-range financial planning must be done in order to make adjustments in both service and personnel in the future. He further stated that "enterprise accounting" for the hospital is a possible alteration.

Councillor Danehy questioned why patient bed activity was down and was it unique only to Cambridge. Dr. Chalfen, Health Commissioner, responded by stating that there is an overall decrease throughout the greater Boston community, partly due to the decrease in reimbursement allowances to patients.

Councillor Danehy requested a report from the Commissioner outlining the number of patient referrals by the chiefs of service and other physicians in the hospital staff.

At this time John O'Brien, Comptroller and Alfred Vellucci, Senior Assistant Director for Fiscal Affairs at this hospital, gave those present a breakdown of the self-payer and hospital cost mix mandated by Chapter 372 and recent federal guidelines. They further stated that the current hospital deficit is \$2.5 million and its projected to be in the area of \$3.1 million for FY83-84.

Councillor Graham stated that a policy should be formulated by the city administration and supported by the City Council which would deal with the issue of non-payment by patients, caused by financial hardship and/or their refusal to pay. She further stated that this policy should be brought to the legislative delegation and governor for some action.

# REPORT

**Committee on** Health & Hospitals

Re: recission of \$625,000. from the hospital budget for FY82-83.

In City Council,

April 25, 1983

*4/25/83*  
*Report Received*  
*and*  
*Accepted*  
*See Roll Call Resolving*  
*Order as Recommended*  
*P-0-1*