



City of Cambridge

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IN CITY COUNCIL

Councillor William H. Walsh

October 24, 1988

WHEREAS: Upon application by a building's owner, the City of Cambridge may grant what is called " a facade preservation easement " whereby the owner of a specific building relinquishes the freedom to change the building's exterior, and in exchange therefor, the building's property value is decreased as are the property taxes assessed thereon; and

WHEREAS: It has come to the fore that such facade preservation easements have been signed between the City of Cambridge and at least four all-male social clubs at Harvard University, which raises the question of whether, in fact, the City is subsidizing these student social clubs at the expense of the City's citizens; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager direct the Board of Assessors to provide this Council with a report by November 28, 1988 which will contain a specific breakdown of the number of these facade preservation easements in the City, the manner by which the tax reduction in assessment of same is computed and the annual total amount in property taxes which presently is lost to City revenue as a result of this policy.



City of Cambridge

3.

IN CITY COUNCIL

October 24, 1988

COUNCILLOR WALSH

- WHEREAS: Upon application by a building's owner, the City of Cambridge may grant what is called " a facade preservation easement " whereby the owner of a specific building relinquishes the freedom to change the building's exterior, and in exchange therefor, the building's property value is decreased as are the property taxes assessed thereon; and
- WHEREAS: It has come to the fore that such facade preservation easements have been signed between the City of Cambridge and at least four all-male social clubs at Harvard University, which raises the question of whether, in fact, the City is subsidizing these student social clubs at the expense of the City's citizens; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager direct the Board of Assessors to provide this Council with a report by November 28, 1988 which will contain a specific breakdown of the number of these facade preservation easements in the City, the manner by which the tax reduction in assessment of same is computed and the annual total amount in property taxes which presently is lost to City revenue as a result of this policy.

In City Council October 24, 1988.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 8 members.
Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

Order #3

F-469

C. Walsh order re: that the City Manager direct the Board of Assessors to provide the Council with a report by November 28, 1988 containing a specific breakdown of the number of facade preservation easements in the City & the manner by which the tax reduction in assessment of same is computed & the total amount of revenue this represents.

In City Council,

October 24, 1988

10-24-88

C. Walsh

order - Adopted

✓
J