



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To Robert Healy, City Manager Date September 13, 1982

From Chester E. Hallice, Civil Defense Director Reference Progress Report

Subject Installation of Steam Whistle at Kendall Square of the Cambridge Electric Light Company for Emergency Signals to be activated for Emergency purposes as required by Federal Warning System.

We obtained this steam whistle from the Boston Woven Hose Company formerly located at Broadway and Portland St. as a gift which City Manager Robert Healy accepted in April, 1982.

Ed Kimball of Cambridge Electric received permission from his company to rebuild and install on their premises at their Kendall Square Plant at no cost to City of Cambridge. The reason for some delay was obtaining the correct parts and other electric components, some parts had to be made in their machine shop. We again thank Mr. Kimball and his assistants for all their efforts and labors. The steam whistle will be in better shape than a new whistle.

Mr Kimball reports that as of today, September 13, 1982, most everything has been overhauled on the whistle and controls and the whistle will be ready to test in the next few days.

Capt. Hallice, Lt. Hodgdon and Bill Crocker, City Electrician met with Mr. Ed Kimball at the plant location of the steam whistle, with final plans being made. Bill Crocker will contact the telephone company for the purpose of connecting a telephone line with the control system at the most convenient and appropriate location. Also finalizing the electric power line for control.

Mr. Kimball also requested that before the test if we could notify the public that the old curfew horn would be tested at a certain time so that it could help prevent numerous telephone calls to the Electric Light Company.

Another reason for this location was because of the steam or air pressure required to sound warning was available at this particular plant, and none on city control.

In the old days up to 1970 or so this whistle was also used for No School Signals, 9:30 P.M. Curfew, 2nd, 3rd & General Alarm of fire in our city and other emergencies in our city.

cc: William Crocker, Electrical Dept.
William Ryan, D.P.W.
Ed. Kimball, Cambridge Electric Light Co.



City of Cambridge

8.

IN CITY COUNCIL

September 13, 1982

COUNCILLOR WALTER SULLIVAN

- WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of this City Council that the Cambridge Electric Light Company has recently volunteered to install a steam whistle on behalf of the Civil Defense Department as an Emergency Warning System; and
- WHEREAS: This steam whistle formerly located and operated by the Boston Woven Hose Company was utilized for many years as a curfew warning for the citizens of Cambridge, but since Boston Woven Hose has closed its operations, this emergency service has not been available; and
- WHEREAS: Civil Defense Director Chester Hallice has worked out an arrangement between the City Manager and Mr. Edward Kimball, Chief Engineer for the Cambridge Electric Light Company whereby this Emergency Warning System will once again be operative; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record extending its sincere appreciation to the Cambridge Electric Light Company for their gracious offer to install this system; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Mr. Kimball on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council September 13, 1982.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members.
Attest:- Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Order # 8 | 5-550

CW Sullivan Re: Installation by the Camb.
Electric Light Co. of a steam whistle on be-
half of the Civil Defense Dept. as an emer-
gency warning system.

In City Council,

September 13, 1982

9/13/82

MK
Order
Adopted