

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appointment of the following Cambridge Police Officers assigned to the Traffic Division as public weighers for the calendar year 2009 to operate portable truck scales citywide: Lt. John Albert, Sgt. Michael Maffei, Officer William Arthur, Jr., Officer Anthony Cacciola, Officer David Szeto, Officer Timothy O'Brien
2. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appointment of the following persons as public weighers to operate scales for the calendar year 2009 at MICH-LIN transfer station, 45 Mooney Street: Stacey Walkinshaw Vossmer, Kimberly I. Mochi, Jo Ann Del Vecchio, Daniel Pasquarosa, Charles Wainwright, Charles J. Mabardy, Joseph Mabardy, Jr., James J. Mabardy, Theodore Barry & Michael Guerriero
3. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appointment of the following persons as public weighers to operate scales for the calendar year 2009 at Boston Sand & Gravel Co., 500 Front Street: Jake Howe, Dave Riccardi, Alan Carbone, Mike Ferguson, George Bento, Dave Theborge, Charlene Bourque, Scott Prentiss, Jody Staples, Joseph Olsen, Ray Broderick, Steve O'Keefe, Bob Ferguson, Roland Baris & John Lyons
4. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Notre Dame Education Center grant in the amount of \$10,300.00 funded by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to the Grant Fund Human Services Salary and Wages account (\$9,533.00), to the Grant Fund Human Services Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$665.00), and to the Grant Fund Human Services Travel and Training account (\$102.00) which will supports the salaries of a part-time teacher to work with the students, assist with orientations, and to score writing assessments and covers a portion of the salary of a counselor and administrative staff person, as well as the cost of educational and office supplies and materials.
5. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the Shelter Plus Care for Families with HIV/AIDS grant funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in the amount of \$133,308.00 to the Department of Human Service Programs Other Ordinary Maintenance account which will allow the City of Cambridge to subcontract with the Cambridge Housing Authority who will then issue housing subsidies to support families with HIV/AIDS in Cambridge.
6. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of the S-C Management grant in the amount of \$2,199.00 received from the S-C Management Corporation to the Grant Fund Human Services Salary and Wages account (\$1,839.00) and the to the Grant Fund Human Services Other Ordinary Maintenance account (\$360.00) and will one ESOL class at the 402 Rindge Avenue Apartments from Feb 1 to June 1, 2009.
7. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the transfer of \$13,000 from the Employee Benefits Salary and Wages account (Insurance) to the General Fund Electrical Travel and Training

(Judgments & Damages) account to cover medical services and/or prescription reimbursement costs for electrical personnel injured in performance of their duties.

8. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appropriation of a NSTAR energy incentive payment for \$34,252 to the Public Investment Fund Police Extraordinary Expenditures account which is an incentive payment for energy efficient measures incorporated in the new Public Safety Building as part of NSTAR's Construction Solution Program and will be used to offset construction costs.
9. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the transfer of \$175,000 from the Employee Benefits Salary and Wages account (Insurance) to the General Fund Police Travel and Training (Judgments & Damages) account to cover medical services and/or prescription reimbursement costs for police personnel injured in performance of their duties.
10. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the Planning Board recommendation on the Alexandria Petition to amend the zoning map and ordinance in the East Cambridge neighborhood along Binney Street.
11. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 08-155, regarding a report on the feasibility of launching a campaign similar to New York's Safe Streets for Seniors.
12. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 08-121, regarding a report on whether the new Berkeley, California program to give city-backed loans to property owners who install rooftop solar-power systems is applicable to Cambridge.
13. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 09-01, regarding a report on Cambridge greenhouse gas reduction goal.
14. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 08-157, regarding a report on sending opposition to Channel 25's actions to switch from analog early.
15. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 08-149, regarding a report on a review of Article XXIV Special District Parking Regulation.
16. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the Governor's Proposed Budget for FY2010 as it relates to Cambridge.

City Manager Letter

Feb 2, 2009

To the Honorable, the City Council:

I am enclosing the complete package of the Governor's Proposed Budget for FY2010 as it relates to Cambridge.

First, however, the Governor also has reduced the FY2009 Local Aid to Cambridge, upon which the City Budget was based in the amount of \$2,605,447. This means that with only 5 months left in the fiscal year, serious expenditure reductions need to occur, as all other revenue sources are "flat" during this economic downturn.

The “net impact” of the FY2010 Proposed Budget from the Governor is more complicated to provide a simple analysis. Most importantly, none of these numbers are final until the House and Senate complete their budget deliberations, and reconcile differences and have the Governor’s signature on a final FY2010 budget. This will not occur until late Spring, I surmise.

For Cambridge, the “best case” loss of State Aid for FY2010 is \$5,628,010 or 14.1%. That assumes, however, the adoption of a 1% Meals Tax increase, and a 1% Room Tax increase that means over \$3 million for Cambridge. As you know, this proposal has generated vocal opposition from the “hospitality industry.” Without these, and other new revenues, the net loss to Cambridge for FY2010 is \$8,665,954 or 21.7%.

It is clear, that any final budget will result in less State revenue to Cambridge. This means appropriate reductions in all areas, as the City is limited in its revenue sources other than State Aid and Property Taxes. Building permit revenues are down dramatically this year. Hotel/Motel Tax and Excise Tax will, most likely, barely make estimates, and water usage is down 4%, thus water and sewer revenues reflect a matching decline.

All City agencies must closely examine their expenditure plans for the remainder of this year, and anticipate reductions in the upcoming proposed budgets.

Very truly yours, Robert W. Healy, City Manager

ON THE TABLE

1. Opposition to the closing of the Oliver Farnum Senior Health Center. [Placed on Table on motion of Councillor Maher on Order Number Fourteen of Nov 3, 2008.]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., Co-Chair of the Ordinance Committee, for a meeting held on Nov 18, 2004 for the purpose of considering proposed amendments to Chapter 2.74 of the Cambridge Municipal Code, the Police Review and Advisory Board Ordinance. The question comes on passing to be ordained on or after Feb 14, 2005. [Four sections of the proposed amendment were passed to be ordained as amended. Ordinance #1284. The remaining proposed amendments to chapter 2.74 remain on Unfinished Business.]
3. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Numbers 06-87, 07-83 and 07-138, regarding the status of putting the City’s self-evaluation on the website. [Charter Right exercised by Councillor Kelley on City Manager Agenda Item Number Sixteen of Dec 10, 2007. Dec 17, 2007 - Referred to 2008-2009 City Council as Unfinished Business on motion of Councillor Kelley.]
4. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Vice Mayor Brian Murphy and Councillor David Maher, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee, for a meeting held on Jan 6, 2009 to continue to discuss a petition filed by the City Council to amend the Zoning Ordinance in Section 20.88-Memorial Drive Overlay District. The question comes on passing to be

ordained on or after Jan 26, 2009. Planning Board hearing held Dec 2, 2008. Petition expires Feb 17, 2009.

5. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Vice Mayor Brian Murphy and Councillor David Maher, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee, for a meeting held on Jan 6, 2009 to continue to discuss a petition to amend the zoning in the East Cambridge area filed by Alexandria Real Estate Equities. The question comes on passing to be ordained on or after Jan 26, 2009. Planning Board hearing held Nov 18, 2008. Petition expires Feb 17, 2009.

APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS

1. An application was received from Zing Pizza, requesting permission for two tables and four chairs for restaurant seating in front of 1925 Massachusetts Avenue.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. A communication was received from John Pitkin, regarding the current proposal for renovating the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School in the area between Cambridge Street, the CRLS media wing and CRLS Arts Building.
2. A communication was received from Representative William N. Brownsberger, transmitting thanks for the City Council resolution opposing the proposed toll hikes.
3. A communication was received from John Igo, EOPS Grant Request Receiver for Alewife vicinity, requesting a grant for a neighborhood walking tour and discussion of the area north of the red line from Magoun Street to Alewife Station.
4. A communication was received from Lenora Jennings, transmitting thanks for the kind expression of sympathy on behalf of her mother, Myrtle Johnson.
5. A communication was received from Carolyn Shipley, regarding the city’s snow clearing policies.
6. A communication was received from the Figueiredo family, transmitting thanks for the expression of sympathy on the loss of Emilia Figueiredo.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Retirement of Meredith Thompson from the School Department. Councillor Maher
2. Resolution on the death of Michael J. McDermott Sr. Councillor Toomey, Councillor Maher
3. Retirement of Joseph McElroy from the Public Works Department. Mayor Simmons
4. Retirement of Janet McGann from the Cambridge Hospital. Mayor Simmons
5. Retirement of Loretta Saint-Louis from the Cambridge Hospital. Mayor Simmons
6. Retirement of Carol Bresnahan from the Cambridge Hospital. Mayor Simmons
7. Get well wishes to Stash Horowitz. Councillor Maher, Vice Mayor Murphy
8. Congratulations to Benjamin Barnes on his nomination to serve as a judge in the Malden district. Councillor Toomey
9. Retirement of Meta Williams from the Cambridge Housing Authority. Mayor Simmons
10. Resolution on the death of Eva Markarian. Councillor Toomey
11. Happy 60th Birthday to a special person. Councillor Toomey

12. Resolution on the death of Shirley (MacDonald) Piccione. Councillor Toomey
13. Resolution on the death of Patricia A. (O'Connor) Keegan. Vice Mayor Murphy, Councillor Maher, Councillor Davis
14. Resolution on the death of Robert "Bo" Ahern Sr. Councillor Maher, Councillor Toomey
15. Resolution on the death of Howlett E. "Howly" Chandler. Councillor Maher
16. Congratulations to Professor Eric Lander on the occasion of being chosen to serve as co-chair of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology. Councillor Davis
17. Congratulations to Professor John P. Holdren on being chosen to serve as Assistant to the President for Science and Technology. Councillor Davis
18. Resolution on the death of Edward J. Graham. Councillor Toomey
19. Congratulations to Rachel Evelyn Jean-Louis on being named a Posse Scholar and wish her success in her future studies at Denison University. Councillor Toomey
20. Resolution on the death of Sergeant Kyle J. Harrington. Councillor Decker
21. Resolution on the death of Specialist Matthew M. Pollini. Councillor Decker
22. Resolution on the death of Staff Sergeant Roberto Andrade Jr. Councillor Decker
23. Resolution on the death of Senior Airman Omar J. McKnight. Councillor Decker
24. Resolution on the death of Pfc. Ricky L. Turner. Councillor Decker
25. Resolution on the death of Private Sean P. McCune. Councillor Decker
26. Resolution on the death of Sergeant Marquis R. Porter. Councillor Decker
27. Resolution on the death of Staff Sergeant Justin L. Bauer. Councillor Decker
28. Resolution on the death of Staff Sergeant Anthony D. Davis. Councillor Decker
29. Retirement of Brian J. Dee from the Human Services Department. Mayor Simmons
30. Best wishes to Robert J. McCarthy as he leaves his position as President of North Cambridge Catholic High School. Councillor Toomey
31. Congratulations to Roger Boothe on receiving the 2009 Thomas Jefferson Award by the American Institute of Architects. Councillor Toomey
32. Congratulations and thanks to the retirees of the Cambridge School Department for their service to the children of Cambridge. Councillor Maher
33. Resolution on the death of Geneva Tallman Malenfant on Jan 25, 2009. Councillor Davis, Councillor Maher
34. Resolution on the death of Clark "Jay" Deaver. Mayor Simmons
35. Condolences to Mayor Sue Kay, Weymouth, on the loss of her husband Frank Kay. Mayor Simmons
36. Congratulations to Maximilien Yelbi on his scholarship to Hamilton College and appreciation to Adam Travis and Akshata Kadagathur for their work with the Harvard Square Homeless Shelter. Mayor Simmons
37. Congratulations to Robert K. and Shirley A. Johnson on their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Jan 31, 2009. Mayor Simmons
38. Congratulations to Genzyme on the occasion of winning the J. Halston Parker Medal. Mayor Simmons
39. Resolution on the death of Bridgette "Breda" (Landers) Pacheco. Councillor Toomey
40. Thanks to the TTT Mentor Program of TTT Foundation, Inc. for their dedication to the children of Cambridge and Boston. Mayor Simmons
41. Congratulations to the students who participated in the TTT Mentor Program of TTT Foundation, Inc. Mayor Simmons
42. Congratulations to Professor Daniel J. Meltzer on his appointment as Principal Deputy Counsel to the President in the administration of President Barack Obama. Councillor Davis
43. Resolution on the death of Gabriel S. Ferreira. Councillor Toomey
44. Resolution on the death of Frances A. Merra. Councillor Toomey
45. Resolution on the death of Maria dos Anjos (Andrade) Vidinha. Councillor Toomey
46. Resolution on the death of Clare B. Dewart. Councillor Toomey
47. Resolution on the death of Domenic J. DePrimio. Councillor Toomey
48. Resolution on the death of Philip A. "Tippy" Teeven. Councillor Toomey
49. Resolution on the death of Marie (Witkin) Kargman. Councillor Toomey
50. Best wishes to South Africa Partners for a successful 10th Anniversary Gala Celebration on Feb 7, 2009. Councillor Davis
51. Thanks to all City staff and volunteers who helped make the "Harlem Children's Zone Report Back" a success. Councillor Reeves
52. Congratulations to the Cambridge Community Chorus and their new Artistic Director Jamie Andrew Kirsch on their 2008 December Concert. Councillor Reeves
53. Thanks to the Department of Public Works for the creative effort that went into the artistry of the 2008 holiday lighting. Councillor Reeves

ORDERS

1. Support for the goals and ideals of Go Direct and the Direct Express card and hereby proclaim February 2009 as "Go Direct/Direct Express Month" in Cambridge. Mayor Simmons
2. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate City department to explore ways to make raised sidewalks more visible to drivers. Councillor Decker
3. That the City Council meeting of Mar 16, 2009 be cancelled due to the attendance of the City Councillors at the National League of Cities Conference. Mayor Simmons
4. That the City Manager is requested to report back to the City Council with an update on the sale of Northpoint. Councillor Toomey
5. That the City Manager is requested to prepare the necessary regulations to implement the recommendations of the Green Building/Zoning Task Force regarding the proposed zoning framework for wind energy systems in Cambridge. Councillor Davis
6. City Council support of H.R. 5113, a bill that would authorize the operation of low-speed vehicles on some Massachusetts public roads. Councillor Davis

7. That the City Manager is requested to report to the City Council on the effect of the new Bicyclist Safety Law on Cambridge. Councillor Davis
8. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Commissioner of Public Works on the possibility of acquiring cameras and printers that take pictures of unshoveled sidewalks to assist in our efforts for snow removal compliance. Councillor Toomey
9. Authorizing the City Clerk to file Home Rule Petition entitled "An Act authorizing the City of Cambridge to place municipal charge liens on real property in the City of Cambridge for nonpayment of any local charges, fees or fines". Councillor Toomey
10. That the City Manager is requested to appoint appropriate staff in the city to be assigned to a Complete Count Committee to discuss, research, and advise the city on ways to increase the number of census surveys completed by Cambridge residents. Mayor Simmons
11. Opposition to the US Census Bureau's proposed invalidation of US Census 2010 same sex data and commits to lobbying state and national leaders to understand that the only Complete Count possible validates all people and recognizes all legal marriages in its collection and reporting. Mayor Simmons
12. Urging low-income working individuals and families to access the Earned Income Tax Credit cash refund and thanks to CEOC for their efforts to inform and assist the public in filing. Mayor Simmons
13. That the City Manager is requested to create a plan for implementing a citywide customer service campaign and training program. Mayor Simmons
14. That the City Manager is requested to investigate the matter of the Westley Avenue access to Linear Park being closed off and the possibility of re-opening it. Councillor Kelley
15. That the City Manager is requested to ask the Planning Board to postpone issuing permits to MIT's 650 Main Street and the lot on the corner of School Street and Cherry Street until a satisfactory community process is organized. Mayor Simmons
16. That the City Manager is requested to prepare a comprehensive packet of information about the Cambridge Energy Alliance including a cover letter and "lessons learned." Councillor Seidel
17. Dedication of a location in the vicinity of Sargent Street in honor of the Earle Family. Councillor Maher
18. City Council opposition to the installation of these eight Department of Homeland Security surveillance cameras in Cambridge. Councillor Decker and Councillor Seidel
19. Urge residents of Cambridge to compose Messages of Peace, Hope, and Change addressed to President Barack Obama, and to be collected and forwarded to the President by the Cambridge Peace Commission. Mayor Simmons
20. That the City Manager is requested to provide information regarding the circumstances under which the Fusion Center would receive data from Cambridge City Departments. Councillor Decker
21. That the City Manager is requested to halt all work on the Department of Homeland Security camera network, to

include supporting infrastructure, until the City Council and relevant City agencies have developed an appropriate regulatory framework to install and utilize this equipment. Councillor Kelley

22. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the appropriate City agencies to contact building owners on Richdale Avenue between Walden and Upton Streets to ask the owners to work with the City to install lights on the side of their buildings for safety. Councillor Decker

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Kenneth E. Reeves, Chair of the Human Services Committee, for a meeting held on Dec 9, 2008 to discuss the recent 2½ day Practitioners' Institute with the Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) and plan for a forum on the HCZ and next steps for supporting early childhood services.
2. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Vice Mayor Brian Murphy and Councillor David Maher, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee, for a meeting held on Dec 11, 2008 to consider a petition by Lesley University to create a new Lesley Porter Overlay District in the area of Porter Square with a base Business C zoning district.
3. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, Deputy City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Chair of the Public Safety Committee, for a meeting held on Jan 21, 2009 to discuss crime trends and a Hazardous Mitigation Plan for Cambridge.
4. A communication was received from Donna P. Lopez, Deputy City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Henrietta Davis, Chair of the Health and Environment Committee, for a meeting held on Jan 13, 2009 to discuss opportunities to grow fresh fruits and vegetables in Cambridge.
5. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor David Maher and Vice Mayor Brian Murphy, Co-Chairs of the Government Operations and Rules Committee, for a public meeting held on Jan 27, 2009 to finalize the draft City Council objectives and rules for recommendation to the City Council.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS

1. A communication was received from Councillor Craig A. Kelley, regarding budget priorities.

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, Feb 2

5:00pm Special Presentation for Black History Month (Sullivan Chamber)

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Feb 3

5:00pm The Health and Environment Committee will conduct a public meeting to discuss the distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables. (Sullivan Chamber)

Wed, Feb 4

5:30pm The Transportation, Traffic and Parking Committee will conduct a public meeting to follow up on the meeting held on Sept 10, 2008 on red light camera enforcement. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 9

5:00pm Special Presentation for Black History Month (Sullivan Chamber)

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Feb 10

5:30pm The Transportation, Traffic and Parking Committee will conduct a public meeting to discuss traffic enforcement data analysis. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 23

5:30pm Roundtable Meeting with NSTAR. No public comment. No votes will be taken. Meeting will not be televised. (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Feb 24

5:00pm The Health and Environment Committee will conduct a public meeting to discuss outdoor lighting. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 2

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Mar 3

5:30pm The Transportation, Traffic and Parking Committee will continue discussions on analysis of traffic enforcement data. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 9

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 16

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 23

5:00pm Special Presentation for Women's History Month (Sullivan Chamber)

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 30

5:30pm Roundtable Meeting with School Committee. No public comment. No votes will be taken. Meeting will not be televised. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 6

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 13

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 27

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, May 4

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, May 11

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, May 18

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 1

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 8

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 15

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 22

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 29

5:30pm Regular City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Feb 2, 2009

MAYOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: The U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Federal Reserve Banks have launched a national campaign to encourage people to use direct deposit or the Direct Express prepaid debit card for the receipt of Social Security and other federal benefits; and

WHEREAS: Electronic payments are safer, easier and more convenient than paper checks and save taxpayers money; and

WHEREAS: The Treasury issued 70,000 checks in 2008 that fell prey to endorsement forgeries, totaling more than \$64,000,000; and

WHEREAS: When there's a problem with a Social Security payment, nine times out of 10 it's with a paper check; and

WHEREAS: More than 231,000 Social Security and SSI income checks are issued in Massachusetts each month which, if converted to electronic payments, would save taxpayers more than \$2.4 million annually; and

WHEREAS: Electronic payments are more secure, reliable, and cost effective than paper checks because they: help protect against identity theft and fraud; provide easier access to funds during emergencies and natural disasters; and provide citizens of Cambridge with more control over their money

WHEREAS: By working with the Cambridge Council on Aging and others, the sponsors of Go Direct/Direct Express are educating the people of Cambridge about the advantages of electronic payments and assisting people during the enrollment process; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council go on record expressing their support for the goals and ideals of Go Direct and the Direct Express card and hereby proclaim February 2009 as "Go Direct/Direct Express Month" in Cambridge; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to send a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the organizers of the National Go Direct/Direct Express program on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-2 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: There have been reports that the raised crosswalks designed to slow traffic, such as those on Oxford, Walden, and Raymond Streets, are not visible enough to drivers, especially when the streets are covered with snow; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate City department to explore ways to make these raised sidewalks more visible to drivers.

O-3 Feb 2, 2009

MAYOR SIMMONS

ORDERED: That the City Council meeting of Mar 16, 2009 be cancelled due to the attendance of the City Councillors at the National League of Cities Conference.

O-4 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council with an update on the sale of Northpoint.

O-5 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR DAVIS

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to prepare the necessary regulations to implement the recommendations of the Green Building/Zoning Task Force regarding the proposed zoning framework for wind energy systems in Cambridge.

O-6 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR DAVIS

WHEREAS: H.R. 5113, currently awaiting Governor Patrick's signature, is a bill that would authorize the operation of low-speed vehicles on some Massachusetts public roads; and

WHEREAS: These vehicles meet an alternative Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard which allows them to go at least 20 mph, but no more than 25 mph, on roads where the speed limit is 35 mph or less; and

WHEREAS: The law would allow electric vehicles, which have a smaller carbon footprint than the cleanest gas-powered cars, to be

drive on city streets and as the grid gets greener, electric vehicles will become an even better alternative to fossil-fuel powered vehicles; now therefore be it
RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record supporting H.R. 5113; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a copy of this resolution to the Cambridge legislative delegation as soon as possible.

O-7 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR DAVIS

WHEREAS: Governor Deval Patrick signed the Bicyclist Safety Bill into law on Jan 15, 2009; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report to the City Council on the effect of the new Bicyclist Safety Law on Cambridge.

O-8 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: The City of Boston has equipped their snow removal enforcement staff with special cameras and printers that can take pictures of unshoveled sidewalks and print the picture on the citation; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge has increased its efforts for snow removal compliance; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Commissioner of Public Works on the possibility of acquiring the same equipment as the City of Boston to assist in our efforts for snow removal compliance.

O-9 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record authorizing the City Clerk to file on its behalf the attached Home Rule Petition entitled: "An Act authorizing the City of Cambridge to place municipal charge liens on real property in the City of Cambridge for nonpayment of any local charges, fees or fines"

O-10 Feb 2, 2009

MAYOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: National, state and local planning efforts are currently underway for the US Census 2010 which will take place in April of 2010; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge is reported to have a 62% return on Census surveys in 2000, a lower rate of return than Worcester, Springfield, Lowell, New Bedford, Quincy and All River - and lower than the national average of 67%; and

WHEREAS: The importance of collecting accurate census data is critical to planning, budgeting, and allocation of national funding to state and local municipalities; and

WHEREAS: The US Census 2010 is asking the City of Cambridge to support their efforts by forming a Complete Count Committee that will oversee recommendations for outreach and other measures that will increase the percentage of surveys returned by residents of Cambridge; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to appoint appropriate staff in the city to be assigned to a Complete Count Committee to discuss, research, and advise the city on ways to increase the number of census surveys completed by Cambridge residents.

O-11 Feb 2, 2009

MAYOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: National, state, and local planning efforts are currently underway for the US Census 2010 which will take place in April of 2010; and

WHEREAS: In order for the US Census Bureau to be consistent with the data requirements of the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), it is currently being planned that the US Census 2010 data collected from Cambridge (and other Massachusetts) residents

reporting as a "same sex spouse" will be changed to unmarried partner which in effect invalidates their legal marriage; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge is a national leader in support for same sex marriage and strongly disagrees with discriminatory legislation that denies equal rights to any person, class, or group of individuals; and

WHEREAS: It is incumbent upon local leaders to petition state and national level leaders to respond to discriminatory practices and work for swift and sweeping change toward equality and inclusion; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council go on record in opposition to the US Census Bureau's proposed invalidation of US Census 2010 same sex data and commits to lobbying state and national leaders to understand that the only Complete Count possible validates all people and recognizes all legal marriages in its collection and reporting; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a copy of this resolution to state and national legislators, as well as key personnel at the US Census Bureau, on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-12 Feb 2, 2009

MAYOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is both a federal and state benefit for low-income working families that provides direct cash refund to households; and

WHEREAS: A family with two or more qualifying children who earns less than \$38,646 or \$41,646 if married filing jointly, is eligible for up to \$4,824; and

WHEREAS: A family with one qualifying child who earns less than \$33,995, or \$36,995 if married filing jointly is eligible for up to \$2,917; and

WHEREAS: Single workers between the ages of 25-64 who earn less than \$12,880, or \$15,880 if married filing jointly, and have no qualifying children are eligible for \$438; and

WHEREAS: CEOC - the Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee is a certified IRS VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) site and provides a Free Tax Preparation Program - *Get What's Coming to You!*; and

WHEREAS: CEOC provides free tax preparation, electronic filing, assistance in applying for the EITC and other tax credits, and can return the taxpayers' refund in 14 days or less; and

WHEREAS: CEOC provides this service at its 11 Inman Street office and in sites throughout the Cambridge community to make the filing process easy for taxpayers providing services in the following languages: Spanish, Haitian Kreyol, and Portuguese; and
WHEREAS: Last year CEOC returned over \$2.2 million in earned income and child tax credits and state and federal refunds to over 1,500 tax filers; and

WHEREAS: Friday, Jan 30, 2009 is National EITC Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS: CEOC will sponsor Cambridge EITC days on Saturdays Jan 31st and Feb 7th, at which time CEOC will provide free tax preparation on a walk-in basis; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council recognizes the efforts of CEOC to inform the public and assist Cambridge and other area low-income working individuals and families to access the Earned Income Tax Credit and avoid for-profit tax preparer fees and encourages Cambridge individuals to take advantage of CEOC's - *Get What's Coming to You!* Free Tax Preparation Program; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Elaine DeRosa at the CEOC on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-13 Feb 2, 2009

MAYOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: Many cities across the country have applied sound business philosophy and practice and in doing so have

implemented cost-efficient and cost-saving customer service training for all appropriate personnel; and
WHEREAS: Everyone would benefit from a citywide campaign that recognizes the importance of providing excellent customer service to all who call, visit, or seek the services of the city, including internal constituents and colleagues as well as external constituents, citizens and consumers; and
WHEREAS: Cambridge has long been a leader in creating best practice models and it is well proven in the non-municipal sector that investing in customer service training for personnel creates heightened efficiency and customer experiences that translate to satisfaction and savings; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to create a plan for implementing a citywide customer service campaign and training program.

O-14 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR KELLEY

WHEREAS: Westley Avenue provided an accessible entrance to Linear Park for many members of the North Cambridge community, allowing easier commutes to and from the MBTA station and other park amenities; and
WHEREAS: The access to Linear Park has recently been closed off, either by the MBTA or by some private party; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to investigate this matter and report back to the City Council on the status of this park access area and the possibility of re-opening it.

O-15 Feb 2, 2009

MAYOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: MIT is seeking Planning Board permits relevant to the development of property at 650 Main Street which is in Area 4; and
WHEREAS: The Area 4 Coalition has expressed several concerns to the City Manager and City Council about adherence to green space requirements, traffic, proposed design of the building, and possible tenancy and usage after construction of 650 Main Street; and
WHEREAS: The Area 4 Coalition has also expressed concerns about the intended development or usage of the MIT-owned property at the corner of School Street and Cherry Street in Area 4; and
WHEREAS: The Area 4 Coalition is requesting they be allowed to participate in a wider conversation with the neighbors of Area 4 before the Planning Board makes final permitting decisions about 650 Main Street, and about proposed usage for the lot on the corner of School Street and Cherry Street; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to ask the Planning Board to postpone issuing permits to either of these properties until a satisfactory community process is organized.

O-16 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR SEIDEL

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Energy Alliance is an innovative approach to achieve carbon emissions reductions at the municipal level by working with residents and businesses to increase energy efficiency in their buildings; and
WHEREAS: Secretary Steven Chu, the new Secretary of Energy in the U.S. Department of Energy, has publicly stated that municipal efforts to reduce carbon emissions through increased efficiency in buildings is the "low hanging fruit" in combating climate change; now therefore be it
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to prepare a comprehensive packet of information about the Cambridge Energy Alliance including a cover letter and "lessons learned;" and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to ensure that this packet of information is sent to Secretary Chu at the U.S. Department of energy in a timely manner.

O-17 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR MAHER

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record dedicating a location in the vicinity of Sargent Street in honor of the Earle Family; and be it further
ORDERED: That the Assistant to the City Council be directed to confer with the family regarding a suitable dedication ceremony and communicate with the Department of Public Works to arrange for the sign.

O-18 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR DECKER

COUNCILLOR SEIDEL

WHEREAS: As part of a Department of Homeland Security grant the City of Cambridge received funds to install eight security cameras throughout the city for the stated purposes of monitoring evacuation routes; and
WHEREAS: At the Jan 22nd Civic Unity hearing it was learned that these grants were made available to cities and towns across the country; and
WHEREAS: The Department of Homeland Security grant application was very flexible allowing communities to write their own application making it nearly impossible for the Department of Homeland Security to reject the application; and
WHEREAS: In the grant guidelines, communities must install the technology infrastructure along with the cameras; and
WHEREAS: Public safety officials were hard pressed to convincingly illustrate why these eight cameras would enhance and significantly expand their abilities to keep Cambridge residents safe (belief being that they already have the capacity to do this job); and
WHEREAS: The City Council has only recently learned of the existence of these surveillance cameras, although the planning and infrastructure installation has been going on for a long time (4-6 years according to some sources) and the cameras are scheduled to be turned on at the end of the month; and
WHEREAS: Cambridge is 6.2 square miles. Under extraordinary circumstances there would be a heavy increase in traffic - public safety officials already know where the traffic log jams will occur and can already identify alternative routes based on the eight locations of the cameras; and
WHEREAS: At this time, the potential threats to invasion of privacy and individual civil liberties outweigh the current benefits - which do not seem significant in improving public safety; now therefore be it
RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record opposing the installation of these eight Department of Homeland Security surveillance cameras; and be it further
ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to ensure that these cameras not be installed in Cambridge.

O-19 Feb 2, 2009

MAYOR SIMMONS

WHEREAS: The citizens of Cambridge and their representatives on the Cambridge City Council have a strong tradition of communicating their ideas, beliefs, and hopes to their representatives in the United States Congress and to the President of the United States; and
WHEREAS: Our nation is facing both serious challenges and real opportunities for positive change; and
WHEREAS: On Nov 4, 2008, Barack Obama became the first African-American to be elected President of the United States based on a campaign that emphasized hope and change; and
WHEREAS: President Barack Obama said in his Inaugural Address that, "we gather because we have chosen hope over fear, unity of purpose over conflict and discord" and that, like Cambridge, our nation is "shaped by every language and culture, drawn from every end of this Earth"; and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Peace Commission is soliciting messages of peace, hope, and change from residents of Cambridge to be delivered to President Barack Obama; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council urges residents of Cambridge to compose Messages of Peace, Hope, and Change addressed to President Barack Obama, and to be collected and forwarded to the President by the Cambridge Peace Commission; and

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to President Barack Obama; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge Peace Commission be and hereby is requested to collect the said messages and forward them along with a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Office of Public Liaison & Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House, through which everyone can participate and inform the work of the President, together with a request that the President reply to each individual who has forwarded a message through the Cambridge Peace Commission.

O-20 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: As part of the Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Response, the Commonwealth Fusion Center in Maynard, Massachusetts, collects and analyzes information from all available sources to produce and disseminate actionable intelligence to stakeholders for strategic and tactical decision-making in order to disrupt domestic and international terrorism; and

WHEREAS: This Fusion Center was the first of its kind created under the leadership of Governor Romney - without the approval of the State Legislature; and

WHEREAS: There are now 66 of these centers around the country; and

WHEREAS: The goal of the Fusion Center is to collect data from a variety of sources for example, – traffic departments, libraries, for the purposes of analysis and identification of potential threats; and

WHEREAS: The City of Cambridge may have contributed, either voluntarily or by request, information to the Fusion Center; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager is hereby requested to inform the Council as to what City Departments contribute, or have contributed, whether voluntarily or otherwise, information to the Fusion Center, and the nature of that information; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide information regarding the circumstances under which the Fusion Center would receive data from Cambridge City Departments.

O-21 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR KELLEY

WHEREAS: The City has installed surveillance cameras acquired as part of a grant from the Department of Homeland Security; and

WHEREAS: The City Council and City agencies have not formalized a policy around the use of these surveillance cameras nor is it clearly understood what might happen to recorded data in the future; and

WHEREAS: Many members of the public are concerned about how these cameras might intrude upon their reasonable expectations of privacy; and

WHEREAS: It is difficult to discuss this issue without a better understanding of the underlying grant that provided the cameras and related infrastructure; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to put the grant that provided these surveillance cameras in a prominent place on the City's website; and be it further

ORDERED: That if security concerns preclude such placement of the grant, that the City Manger be and hereby is requested to post on the website what information is allowed and to report back to the

City Council on why any parts of the grant could be shared with the public and to explain, to the extent allowed, what those parts of the grant state; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to halt all work on the Department of Homeland Security camera network, to include supporting infrastructure, until the City Council and relevant City agencies have developed an appropriate regulatory framework to install and utilize this equipment.

O-22 Feb 2, 2009

COUNCILLOR DECKER

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the appropriate City agencies to contact building owners on Richdale Avenue between Walden and Upton Streets to ask the owners to work with the City to install lights on the side of their buildings for safety.