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Mrs. John J. Mc Grane

On behalf of the McGram
Family, and myself, I
wish to extend to you,
to Mayor Walter H. Reynolds,
and to the members of
the City Council, my heart-
felt thanks for the Resolutions
passed by them, and for
the receipt of same by me.

Sincerely
William G. McGram



CITY OF PROVIDENCE • RHODE ISLAND • Walter H. Reynolds • Mayor

Office of the Public Service Engineer

Peter J. Hicks, Jr.
Public Service Engineer

112 Union St. Providence 3, R. I.

May 9, 1958

Mr. D. Everett Whelan
City Clerk
City Hall
Providence, Rhode Island

Dear Mr. Whelan:

I enclose herewith the bill of the Narragansett Electric Company for the Street Lighting of the City of Providence for the month of April, 1958.

The total net amount of the bill is \$41,460.63.

Yours very truly,


PETER J. HICKS, JR.
PUBLIC SERVICE ENGINEER

PJH, JR/pc
Enclosure

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAY 15 1958

APPROVED:


D. EVERETT WHELAN
CLERK

Sent to Controller 5/16/58

FILED

MAY 13 10 57 AM '58

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
PROVIDENCE, R. I.



Office of the Port Agent -- Harbor Master

James J. Fisher
Port Agent
Harbor Master

CITY HALL

April 15, 1958

FROM: Harbor Master
TO: The Honorable City Council
SUBJECT: Harbor Master's report for the three months
beginning January 1, 1958 ending March 31, 1958.

NUMBER OF VESSELS ARRIVED

Steamers	136	
Motor Vessels	115	
Tug Boats	100	
Barges	77	
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>428</u>
Bituminous	171,630	Tons
Gasoline	427,215	"
Oil	1,233,693	"
Lumber	21,086	"
Chemical	3,300	"
Asphalt	560	"
Cement	1,418	"
Nails	85	"
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>1,858,987</u> "

IN CITY COUNCIL
MAY 15 1958

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

Robert L. Helaw
CLERK

Respectfully Submitted

James J. Fisher
James J. Fisher
Port Agent

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REPORT OF THE CITY MESSENGER

For the month of M A R C H
 1958

To the Honorable the City Council of the City of Providence:

Complying with the provisions of the City Ordinances the undersigned reports to your honorable body the following statement of "the expenditures and liabilities incurred in the care and superintendence of the City Hall and adjacent sidewalks," for the months of

For lighting City Hall,.....	\$ 1,040.14
" power,.....	213.12
" fuel,.....	644.65
" pay-roll of clerks, engineer, fireman, janitors, elevator men, watchman, etc.,.....	8,127.85
" supplies,.....	303.53
" salary of City Sergeant and Deputy,.....	1,043.76
" new furniture,.....	
" furnishings and repairs,.....	
" telephone service, excess calls.....	2,201.33
Rental - 49 Westminster Street	300.00
" 112 Union Street	<u>900.00</u>
	\$14,774.38

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAY 15 1958

READ:

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

D. Everett Whelan
CLERK

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. Rowley

City Sergeant
Acting as City Messenger.

FILED

MAY 9 4 12 PM '58

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
PROVIDENCE, R. I.**

To the Honorable The City Council and The
Heads of the various City Departments.



FRED A OTIS
ATTORNEY AT LAW
605 HOSPITAL TRUST BUILDING
PROVIDENCE 3, R. I.

GASPEE 1-5010

May 14, 1958

Mr. D. Everett Whelan, City Clerk
City Hall
Providence, R. I.

Dear Mr. Whelan:

Referring to telephone conversation which I had yesterday with your Deputy Assistant, Mr. Vincent Vespia, I am pleased to extend through you a cordial invitation to all of the members of the City Council to be present at the ceremony in connection with the formal acceptance by the City of the statue of Abraham Lincoln at Roger Williams Park on Sunday, May 25th, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. It will be held at the site of the statue which is on the triangular shaped plot of land about 200 yards, more or less, in a northerly direction from the Museum. I regret that unfortunately Mayor Reynolds, on account of a prior engagement, cannot be present, and has designated Mr. Charles R. Wood to represent him. The program will not be very long. It will include an address by a Lincoln scholar from Washington, D.C. which is supposed not to last over twenty minutes. It is planned to have enough seats for the few persons and their wives who have received special invitations; including of course the members of the City Council.

By way of a brief background, I might add that this statue is being erected in accordance with the terms of a trust set up in the will of Henry W. Harvey, who died a resident of Providence in 1921, as a memorial to his wife and because of his admiration for Lincoln. The life tenant died about three years ago, and ever since then the Industrial National Bank, Trustee, with the assistance of a Committee consisting of John R. Frazier, President of the Rhode Island School of Design, Bradford F. Swan, Art Critic for the Providence Journal, and myself, have been working on the matter. Gilbert A. Franklin, head of the Division of Arts and Sciences in the Rhode Island School of Design, is the sculptor. More details will be set forth in the publicity which will be given the matter next week by the Press.

I might add that by a joint resolution of the City Council, No. 619, approved November 17, 1922, that honorable

Mr. D. Everett Whelan ... 2

May 14, 1958

body expressed its appreciation of the gift, and more recently, after consultation with your Honorable City Solicitor, William E. McCabe, Esq., the matter was taken up with the Board of Park Commissioners and that body appointed as its representative Martin F. Noonan, Superintendent of Parks. During the progress of the making of the statue Mr. Noonan has seen and approved the several models made by the sculptor, including the final one from which the bronze casting has been made.

Please pardon this informal manner of extending the invitation to the members of the Council. It was necessary because of the short period between the time when the Committee learned that the statue would be ready and the ceremony on May 25th, which date had to be selected because of certain reasons more or less beyond the control of the Committee.

Very truly yours,

Fred A. Otis

Chairman of Committee.

FAO:HA

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAY 15 1958

READ:

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

D. Everett Whelan
CLERK

FILED

MAY 14 4 19 PM '58

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
PROVIDENCE, R. I.**



CITY OF PROVIDENCE
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
PROVIDENCE, R.I.

WALTER H. REYNOLDS
MAYOR

May 15, 1958

The Honorable the City Council
of the City of Providence

Gentlemen:

It is my purpose to report to you in regard to our financial prospects for the forthcoming year generally and specifically in relation to proposed increases in teaching salaries in the public schools.

I have received some thirty to forty letters from individual teachers requesting my support for a \$4,000 to \$7,000 salary schedule as presented to the Providence School Committee. The Committee has been requested by the teachers to commence upon the achievement of this schedule with a \$650 increase across the board next year (in addition to the normal annual increments which will be due).

On Friday, May 9th I met with the School Committee for discussion of this matter. Representing the Committee were: Chairman Gordon F. Mulvey, Mrs. Kathryn R. Kelly, Mr. Sherwin J. Kapstein, Mr. William T. O'Halloran, Committee Secretary James H. Foley and Superintendent of Schools, James L. Hanley.

The Committee stated it did not endorse the requested \$650 across the board increase, but in lieu of this recommended to me that additional funds be made available to the Committee to permit an increase in salary of \$500 per teacher. For the approximately 1150 teachers in our school system this would require in round figures \$575,000. The Committee informed me also of the problems which it faces in teacher recruitment in view of the present beginning salaries for teachers. Other problems also cited by the School Committee make it apparent that our schools should have additional money.

I am most sympathetic to the recommendations offered me by the School Committee and by our teachers also. Our educational system is by far our single most valuable community asset. The plant should be superior. Teaching is a high calling, requiring years of preparation, and teachers deserve to be paid as much as the community can ^{reasonably} make available for that purpose.

First and foremost, it is my definite conclusion that we should not seek an increase in the real and personal property tax rate this year. Pending receipt of the report of the revenue committee, and necessary action thereon, this is the only source of additional revenue open to us. However, I do not believe our citizens could well bear an additional levy upon property.

Recession figures for our area indicate an unemployment of 9 to 12 percent of our labor force compared to 7 percent nationally. We are a sound city, but we are not at this time a prosperous one. It is misleading to compare teachers' or other salaries in Providence with those of other communities around the country which differ in economic make-up and activities. Our present teaching scale is \$3500 to \$5775. Some 800 of our 1150 teachers are now at the maximum of this scale. I do not see how we can ask the home-owners, more than one in ten of whom may be out of work through no fault of his own, to pay additional taxes to increase our teachers - or indeed - any of our employees this year. A similar situation prevails with business. Unemployment conditions inevitably reflect themselves in smaller volumes and lesser profits. I do not believe that business either, can support a tax increase at this time.

This is the problem which we are facing and it is incumbent upon the School Committee to face it also. Through the finance director I have already advised many municipal departments that there will be no additional money this year. There will be a sharp reduction of new city equipment to be purchased in the forthcoming year. No current revenue will be made available for capital improvements, however desirable these may be.

To: The Honorable the City Council

DATE: May 15, 1958

PAGE: 4

These are hard facts, but the School Committee must deal with them in the public interest, as we all must. I have advised the School Committee, however, that I would recommend to this Council for school purposes as large a sum as possible - short of creating a necessity for a raise in the tax rate. I believe that we can make available to the School Committee \$330,000 which the Committee, if it so chooses, could devote to salary purposes. Last year in addition to the \$250,000 normally appropriated in the school budget for building maintenance, you gentlemen upon my recommendation, appropriated an additional \$250,000, with a stipulation that it be used for maintenance items only. This was to have been a non-repetitive appropriation. Under the present circumstances, however, I would again recommend the appropriation of a like amount, but without stipulation as to use, despite the backlog of maintenance items remaining to be completed. Beyond this and through the rigid economies to be imposed upon municipal departments, we could make available \$80,000 additional. These two sums together equal \$330,000 mentioned above and which the School Committee could, if it so determined, place in salaries.

Attention should be directed to the fact that the sum I am prepared to recommend for the operation of our public schools, namely, \$10,225,000 for the next fiscal year is approximately \$700,000 over and above the estimated revenues to which the schools are legally entitled under the Revised Strayer Act.

Actually appropriation of this amount and of other "bare - necessity" amounts to be recommended for other functions will leave us in a tight budget situation.

By next year at this time we may expect to have the advantage of the report being prepared by the Revenue Committee which has now been several months at work. I believe this Committee is doing a thorough and painstaking job. Through this Committee's efforts, and subsequently through our own efforts when the report becomes available, I am confident that we can and will secure the additional revenue needed for both school purposes and municipal purposes; and I am confident also that this revenue will be provided upon a basis which will be equitable to all without an undue proportion of the tax burden falling upon the property owner.

Gentlemen, I thank you for your consideration of the above matters. I shall depend upon you as always for your understanding, careful deliberation and wise counsel.

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAY 15 1958

READ:

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

Everett Wheeler
CLERK

Respectfully yours,

Walter H. Reynolds
Walter H. Reynolds
Mayor of Providence