

## **REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**August 4, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by President McGee at 07:00 PM.

The Clerk called the roll. Absent members: 1 (Hernandez) Present Members 12 (Anderson-Burgos, Bartley, Greaney, Leahy, Lebron-Martinez, Lisi, McGee, McGiverin, Murphy, Sullivan, Tallman, Vacon).

The name of Councilor Anderson-Burgos was drawn to head the roll call voting.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

The Gas and Electric Department requests permission to locate a line of wires, cables, poles and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way or ways:

One (1) pole on Russell Terrace, Holyoke MA

One (1) pole between property line of 78 Allyn St. & 58 Waldo St. Holyoke MA

One (1) pole between property line of 63 & 65 Nontuck St. Holyoke MA

One (1) pole between property line of 18 & 24 Parker St. Holyoke MA

One (1) pole on corner of Parker St. & Beacon Ave, Holyoke MA

President McGee asked if anyone from the Gas and Electric were in attendance.

Admin Asst Allen stated that it had not been practice to invite someone for this type of agenda item.

City Clerk McGee noted that Vincent O'Connell had sought a link to join the meeting.

Admin Asst Allen stated he would follow up on the request.

---> Laid on the table.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

President McGee stated that he had not received any public comments.

Admin Asst Allen stated that there had been no members of the public in the waiting room.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

(2:50)

From Mayor Alex B. Morse letter appointing Helene J. Busby, 90 Brookline Ave. to serve as a Commissioner of the Parks & Recreation for the City of Holyoke: Ms. Busby will replace Ms. Libby Councilor Hernandez and will serve a 2 Year term; said term will expire on June 30, 2022.

---> Received and referred to the Public Service Committee.

From City Clerk Brenna McGee, minutes from the Budget Meeting

---> Received.

From Michael McManus, Superintendent of the DPW, City Hall Update

---> Received. Copied to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take items 5D and 5E as a package.

From Board of Fire Commission Meeting Minutes from May 21, 2020

---> Received.

From Parks and Recreation Commission, meeting minutes from October 24, 2019

---> Received.

From the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust, request for Public Comment

---> Received and referred to the Public Safety Committee.

From JSH Nominee Trust, Michael J. Kane, Trustee, protest against the Zone Change Petition

Councilor Lisi stated that the petition was to protest a zone change petition that had been reviewed in the Ordinance Committee. She noted that the petition had not been placed on that evening's agenda. She also noted that the neighbors who filed the petition requested that the petition not be taken up as they had not known it would be up for discussion. She suggested that the petition and the protest could be referred out of committee at the next meeting.

Councilor Bartley noted as that the committee recommended denying the petition, he asked why the petition had not been on the agenda. He also stated that the hearing had been closed by the committee chair quickly, adding that the petitioners had been heard in February and should not need another opportunity to speak. He also observed that the owner of the property had not been at the meeting. He added that the property had since communicated that he opposed the zone change. He then reiterated his question as to why the petition had not been on the agenda.

President McGee asked if the petition had been referred out.

Councilor Lisi stated that it had been referred out. She also stated that she had not closed the public hearing, noting that the committee voted to close it. She also noted that the item was not on the agenda due to a clerical error.

Councilor Vacon stated that in similar situations, the Council could vote to pull an item from committee when they have been acted on. She then made a motion to pull the petition from committee. Councilor Bartley seconded the motion.

Councilor Lisi observed that on matters that are voted on to be pulled from committee, they had usually been orders from councilors and not citizen petitions. She reiterated that the petitioners requested the petition not be voted that evening since it had not been on the agenda for them to speak on.

President McGee asked if the petitioners had an opportunity to speak during the Ordinance meeting.

Councilor Lisi stated they had not spoken at the recent meeting but that there had been a public hearing process.

Motion to pull from committee passed on a show of hands vote.

Councilor Lebron-Martinez asked to confirm that there had been a public hearing.

President McGee confirmed there had been.

Councilor Lebron-Martinez asked if the opportunity to speak that evening would have been during public comment, not a public hearing.

President McGee confirmed that was correct.

--> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.  
(This was later pulled back out of committee.)

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred a Petition of James T. Fitzgerald of 439 Northampton st. for a zone change for parcel #'s 223-00-001, 223-00-005, 223-00-008 from BH to R2.  
Recommended that the order be denied.

#### UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor McGiverin suggested reopening public comment, noting that anyone wishing to speak on the item would not have known they could address it during public comment as it had not been on the agenda.

Motion was made and seconded to reopen public comment.

President McGee asked if anyone was in attendance to speak on the item.

Admin Asst Allen stated that no members of the public were in the waiting room.

Councilor Lisi stated that the committee heard the petitioners from the neighborhood. She noted that the parcel had been zoned as BH, adding that a business had not been on the property for over 70 years. She then stated that the area was largely made up of single family residential dwellings. She added that the parcel was a spot zone in an R1A neighborhood. She stated that the petitioners sought to change the zone to R2, noting that many two family homes had been developed abutting the property. She then stated that the Planning Board had recommended denying the zone change, adding that while they recognized BH was not proper for the area, they also believed that R2 would not be proper. She also stated that the Planning Board suggested that the owner and the neighbors work out a plan for the owner to petition for a zone change. She stated that the committee's 3-2 vote had been to approve the Planning Board recommendation to deny.

Motion was made and seconded to pull item 5G out of the Ordinance Committee.

From JSH Nominee Trust, Michael J. Kane, Trustee, protest against the Zone Change Petition

---> Received.

Councilor McGiverin stated that as the item was a zone change application, a vote to deny must include reasons for the denial. He noted that at the public hearing, the committee learned that the owner of the property had not been notified. He also noted that lawyers for the petitioners spoke on the matter in the Zoom chat room after the public hearing had been closed. He expressed concern for the way the matter had been handled, noting that procedural issues should be addressed by the Law Department.

President McGee stated that the report explained that the Planning Board had recommended denial due to the zone being improper for the area. He added that the owner had not been given correct notice.

Councilor Lisi noted that a state statute allowed for the procedure as it had been handled.

President McGee clarified that the owner had not been given proper notice.

Councilor Lisi stated that there was a record of the property owner being given notice.

Councilor McGiverin clarified that the reasons for denial needed to be a part of the motion.

President McGee asked for a motion that included the reasons.

Councilor Lisi stated that she did not personally oppose the zone change, noting it would serve the city's vision and that there had not been business in the area for over 7 years. She suggested that someone else should provide the reasons.

Councilor Vacon made a point or order, noting that the committee chair was giving a minority report rather than the committee's report.

Councilor Lisi clarified that she had already given a committee report.

President McGee clarified that the reasons for denial had been due to the Planning Board's recommendation, including their feedback that R2 was not the proper zone for the location and their recommendation that the petitioners and the property owner work together to petition for a proper zone. He reiterated that Ordinance voted 3-2 to support the recommendation.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos suggested that additional questions remained requiring a more thorough examination of the issue before a vote. He questioned why there had not been development at the property or why the zone was being proposed for a change at that time.

Councilor Vacon stated that had been the purpose of the public hearing.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos suggested more work should be done to get a result that everyone could be supportive of.

Councilor Greaney suggested that not everyone would be happy with whatever decision is made.

Councilor Bartley noted that Mass General Laws (M.G.L.) have a provision allowing abutters to petition for a zone change in a property they do not own. He suggested that while the abutters may be well-intentioned, it would be a matter of fairness that the elected councilors not vote for a zone change on a property when the owner did not support it. He then recalled that while the Ordinance Committee closed their public hearing, the Planning Board kept theirs open, allowing the owners an opportunity to be heard. He then suggested that the city would be opened up to litigation if the City Council voted to change the zone.

Councilor Lisi emphasized that M.G.L. allowed the provision, adding that the City Council had taken up numerous similar petitions allowing ten or more citizens to file for zone changes. She also noted that a protest petition raises the bar for passing the zone change to a supramajority. She then suggested that what would be fair to the property owner may not be fair to the community.

Councilor Greaney suggested that residents attempting to determine how a property owner should use his property was similar to eminent domain. He stated that it was ethically and morally wrong, while not legally wrong.

Councilor McGiverin stated that while he had initial concerns about the proposal, he understand the position of the residents after having an opportunity to hear them out. He also stated that he had been led to believe the property owner had not opposed it and that the petition considered the position of the property owner. He then noted that they later learned the property owner had not been in favor, adding that he believed a property zones should not be changed over the wishes of the owner without there being substantial good reason, particularly on a single property.

Councilor Murphy expressed his appreciation to the Planning Board for their recommendation to deny and to encourage the residents and the property owner to work together on a future plan. He also stated that he would not be in favor of a zone change unless it would benefit the property owner.

Councilor Greaney asked for a clarification on what a yes vote would mean.

President McGee clarified that a yes vote would be an adoption of the committee report to deny the zone change.

---> Report of Committee received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays. Yeas 11--  
Nays 1 (Lisi)--Absent 1 (Hernandez).

President McGee stated that Vincent O'Connell from HG&E was available to discuss the petition for poles and wires.

Motion was made and seconded to remove item 3A from the table and open the public hearing.

The Gas and Electric Department requests permission to locate a line of wires, cables, poles and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way or ways:

One (1) pole on Russell Terrace, Holyoke MA

One (1) pole between property line of 78 Allyn St. & 58 Waldo St. Holyoke MA

One (1) pole between property line of 63 & 65 Nontuck St. Holyoke MA

One (1) pole between property line of 18 & 24 Parker St. Holyoke MA

One (1) pole on corner of Parker St. & Beacon Ave, Holyoke MA

V. O'Connell stated that the petitions were a part of their backyard service relocation project. He noted the locations of 4 of the poles, adding that the residents had been notified of the pole installations.

Councilor Tallman asked for an explanation of the Russell Terrace pole.

V. O'Connell clarified that information for that location was with his colleague, Glen Cartwright.

Councilor Tallman asked if the Council should hold off on voting for that pole.

V. O'Connell stated that pole would be used to refeed Peck School.

Councilor Bartley asked to assure that there were no members of the public or department heads seeking to speak.

Admin Asst Allen stated that there had not been nobody in the waiting room seeking to speak.

Motion was made and seconded to close the public hearing.

---> Received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays. Yeas 12--Nays 0--Absent 1 (Hernandez).

From Exotica Farms LLC, Notice of Community Outreach Meeting

---> Received.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take item 5I and 5J as a package.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to add a related late file to the package, and to pull an item from the Public Service Committee.

From Jasarah Burgos application and resume for consideration for membership on the Holyoke Community Preservation Committee.

---> Received.

From Luis Salazar, cover letter and resume seeking appointment to the CPAC

---> Received.

President McGee suggested that a late file for an appointment to the CPAC should also be taken up, adding that the committee reports for the Public Service Committee had not made it onto the agenda.

From Richard Dominguez, application and resume seeking appointment to the CPAC.

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order to interview candidates for the Community Preservation Act Committee.

Councilor Bartley stated that item 16T should also go along with the package.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to add item 16T to the package.

MCGEE -- Order that the city council appoint a new CPA member, replacing Elaine Pluta. Her term has expired and she is not seeking another term on the board.

Councilor Leahy stated that the committee interviewed one person, noting that many candidates had not seen the notices early enough. He also noted that one candidate had send an email that day stating that she lived in Springfield. He then suggested that the councilors should consider that when taking their votes. He then clarified that Luis Salazar had been interviewed, noting he had been knowledgeable. He also noted that Mr. Salazar was a documentarian that had traveled all over the world. He also noted Mr. Salazar had a special interest in the downtown mill area. He



also noted that there had been discussion on bridging the gap between the history of Holyoke and new things happening in the city.

Councilor Lisi asked for a clarification as to how the committee met for interviews, noting that information from candidates had just been received that evening.

President McGee stated that the interviews had been held through a broad order to hold interviews to replace a member. He added that current order listed as the late file was filed to replace the previous order that appeared to have gone missing.

Councilor Lisi stated that Mr. Salazar's history included using media to highlight the memory and history of locations while integrating new stories and public spaces. She noted that the CPA Committee vets projects as opposed to creating them, adding that Mr. Salazar's experience provided him with a good perspective for evaluating projects.

Councilor Sullivan noted that while Mr. Salazar had good knowledge of the mill areas, he did not have great knowledge of any existing CPA projects. He then expressed his intent to support Mr. Dominguez for the position, noting that he had been a lifelong resident of Holyoke, graduated from AIC, had worked with the youth in the city through sports programs. He added that the committee's membership had strong knowledge of Holyoke's history. He then noted that Mr. Dominguez had great knowledge and perspective with the city's parks and recreational opportunities.

Councilor Murphy asked how many openings there were.

President McGee clarified that there was one opening to replace Elaine Pluta.

Councilor Leahy suggested bringing in Zoning Board members as associate members in order to backfill openings when there are vacancies.

President McGee noted that the order had been filed a while back, adding that there had been delays due to Covid and a focus on the budget. He also noted that two others had applied but withdrew.

Councilor Greaney expressed that he would support Mr. Dominguez, noting he had been a lifelong resident, a Holyoke Public School graduate, and had an impressive resume. He suggested that Mr. Dominguez would be making a long term commitment to the community.

Councilor Bartley commended Councilor Leahy for the way he runs the Public Service Committee, noting the roundtable nature of the discussions. He also noted that having associate members had already been approved, adding a suggestion that the runner up for votes be made an associate member who could have a vote on the committee in the absence of another member.

Councilor Vacon stated that candidates should be limited to those who live in Holyoke.

Councilor McGiverin clarified that an associate member would not take over for a vacancy without the City Council taking a vote.

President McGee stated that the first candidate to get 7 votes would become a member of the CPAC.

Motion was made and seconded to go to the first ballot for the position of Community Preservation Act Committee (CPAC) member.

---> Mr. Richard Dominguez received 8 votes (Bartley, Greaney, Leahy, McGee, McGiverin, Murphy, Sullivan, Vacon). Mr. Luis Salazar received 4 votes (Anderson-Burgos, Lebron-Martinez, Lisi, Tallman). Mr. Dominguez was appointed to serve a three year term on the CPAC, expiring January 31, 2023.

Councilor Bartley asked if Mr. Salazar could be nominated to serve as an associate member.

Councilor Sullivan stated that the committee did not have any associate members at that time.

---> Motion was made and seconded to appoint Mr. Luis Salazar to serve as an associate member of the CPAC.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up item 16AG out of order.

MCGIVERIN -- Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the City's complete count grant program and authorizes the establishment of a Fund or other method appropriate for the accounting of the receipts and expenditures of all resources associated with the administration of said grant.

#### UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor McGiverin stated that OPED Director, Marcos Marrero, as well as OPED Planned, Curtis Wiemann was in attendance to speak on the order.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to allow the department members to address the Council.

Councilor McGiverin stated that the purpose for requesting an immediate passage had been due to learning that the federal government had decided to update the census end date from October 30th to September 30th. He stated that the \$25,000 grant had the purpose of enhancing the taking of the census, noting that it would look for areas where it was difficult to complete the census. He added these places included rental and low-income areas where an extra push to complete the census could be necessary. He stated that they would work with Complete Count

members to assure everyone was counted. He noted one importance of the census was determining eligibility for federal funds.

M. Marrero stated that they had been working with the Complete Count committee, including the Census Bureau, adding that the grant would be used in partnership with them. He then stated that the counts, especially in wards 1, 2, and 4, were identified as having counted 20-50% below an estimate. Noting that the Covid pandemic was an obstacle for door-to-door census work, the plan was to place kiosks in high traffic areas, including several grocery stores in specified areas. He stated that the grant would pay for staffing the kiosks and provided personal protective equipment such as masks and gloves.

Councilor Bartley asked if there was a city match.

Councilor McGiverin stated there was no match.

Councilor Bartley suggested that in addition to locations that had been stated, he encouraged utilizing high traffic locations on Northampton Street. He then asked what the hours of staffing that kiosks would be.

C. Wiemann stated that the locations had been chosen through identification of areas that had low response rates, specifically wards 1, 2, and 4 where response rates ranged from 35-50%. He added that the Secretary of State requested outreach be done in those locations specifically. He then noted that the current response rates in those wards had held steady with rates with previous censuses until in person enumeration had taken place. He noted that ward 7 had an 80% rate at the time with 80% of those having been filled out online. He then noted that ward 1 had a 35% response rate at that time with 10% having been filled out online.

Councilor Bartley asked what the hours would be.

C. Wiemann stated they would be Saturdays and Sundays, 10 AM through 6 PM over the course of 16 days. He added that there would be staff at the Picknelly Center on either Monday or Friday 12 PM through 4 PM.

Councilor Bartley asked that it be posted on the city website as well as sent to the City Council and School Committee.

C. Wiemann stated that a plan had been submitted to the Secretary of State, adding that they could be subject to change. He added that when plans were to be approved that information would be provided.

Councilor Bartley suggested that most obvious location would be the Holyoke Mall, noting that Holyoke residents visit that location every day through most hours.

C. Wiemann stated they had spoken with them and that could be a possibility.

Councilor Bartley asked that response percentages for the wards be included in the communication.

C. Wiemann stated that he could provide a link to that information right away.

Councilor Tallman asked if the agencies were ready to go, noting that the work was set to begin that weekend.

M. Marrero stated the plan had been developed with the agencies such as Valley Opportunity Council and OneHoyoke CDC, adding that they had not contracted with anyone. He noted that the award letter had only just been received the previous Friday in time to get the item placed on the agenda.

Councilor Tallman asked if there would be an opportunity for local citizens to volunteer.

C. Wiemann suggested that could be a possibility. He then stated that they would partner with OneHolyoke, adding that they would be working with the Census Bureau to plan hiring fairs for local census staff. He noted that their had been a pool of people from the last hiring fair who were still looing for census jobs. He stated that another job fair could be hosted if there was enough additional need.

Councilor Tallman emphasized the importance of getting an accurate count on the census to assure the community received necessary benefits.

---> Passed two readings and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays. Yeas 12--Nays 0-- Absent 1 (Hernandez).

### **PETITIONS**

(1:15:55)

Petition from Thomas and Paul Lucchesi for 19 pool tables and 1 Billiard table at 151 Chestnut St.

President McGee noted that the petition did not appear to be a renewal.

City Clerk McGee stated that the petition should be a renewal.

President McGee stated that all taxes and fees were in order.

---> Received and Adopted.

Renewal for second hand license for Mimi Mai at 324 Appleton St.

Councilor Bartley asked if a roll call was required.

City Clerk McGee stated it had not usually been required.

President McGee stated that all taxes and fees were in order.

---> Received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays. Yeas 12--Nays 0--Absent 1 (Hernandez).

New Second hand application for Jonathan Maldonado located at 385 Main St.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take items 6D, 6E, 6G, 6H, and 6I as a package.

Petition from Buudha Brothers Sargent Street Facility for a Special Permit for a Recreational Marijuana Cultivation and Manufacturing Establishment at 90 Sargent St.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

From Abby Property Management Inc. for a new special permit for a Registered Marijuana Retail Establishment (RMRE) at 40 Lyman St.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

From One Holyoke Community Development Corp. zone change from BL to DR for 125 Sargeant St.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

From One Holyoke Community Development Corp. Zone change from BL to DR for 414 Maple St.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

Petition of Buudha Brothers for a Special Permit for a Marijuana Manufacturing Establishment at 606 Main St. in Holyoke.

Councilor Murphy commended City Clerk McGee for helping the applicant get their petition onto the agenda in time.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

Zone Change application for Dennis Croteau from R1A to BL for 83 Lwr. Westfield Rd.

Councilor Bartley suggested giving the applicant an opportunity to correct the application, noting that he had a zone change approved to BH in 2017.

President McGee read the application, noting that the tenant at 83 Lower Westfield Rd was vacating and the applicant was seeking to use the location as extra parking for his commercial property at 79 Lower Westfield Rd address.

Councilor Lisi suggested that it appeared the applicant had one property's zone changed already and was seeking to use an adjacent property for parking.

Councilor Bartley questioned if the application was worded properly.

Councilor McGiverin stated that a hearing must be held.

Councilor Vacon stated that there was a store at one location with a home next to it.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take items 6J and 6K as a package.

Petition from Eric Taub for a Special Permit for Construction of a new duplex at 102 Beech St.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

From Board of Trustees, Holyoke Community Charter School a new special permit for Long Term Storage Unit (7.2.12) at 2200 Northampton St

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

(1:24:15)

President McGee stated that he would wait until the September meeting to present his next President's Report, noting a desire to conserve time.

### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

(1:24:25)

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take items 9A, 9B, 9E, and 9F as a package.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the handicap sign placed at 550 South Summer St. for Marilyn Vazquez be removed she has moved. have considered the same and recommend that the order be adopted

Committee Members:  
Rebecca Lisi  
Juan . Anderson-Burgos  
Linda L. Vacon  
Terence Murphy  
Libby Hernandez

---> Report of Committee received and the Ordinance passed its first reading.

The Ordinance passed its second reading.

The Ordinance was passed to be enrolled.

The Committee has considered the same and find that it is truly and properly enrolled.

Report of Enrollment received.

The Ordinance was passed to be Ordained and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays and nays. Yeas 12--Nays 0--Absent 1 (Hernandez).

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that a handicap sign be removed from 3 Laurel St. for Adelaida Ramos. have considered the same and recommend that the order be adopted

Committee Members:  
Rebecca Lisi  
Juan . Anderson-Burgos  
Linda L. Vacon  
Terence Murphy  
Libby Hernandez

---> Report of Committee received and the Ordinance passed its first reading.  
The Ordinance passed its second reading.  
The Ordinance was passed to be enrolled.  
The Committee has considered the same and find that it is truly and properly enrolled.  
Report of Enrollment received.  
The Ordinance was passed to be Ordained and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays and nays. Yeas 12--Nays 0--Absent 1 (Hernandez).

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the Handicap space at 266 Walnut St. be removed. The resident needing the space has moved.  
have considered the same and recommend that the order be adopted

Committee Members:  
Rebecca Lisi  
Juan . Anderson-Burgos  
Linda L. Vacon  
Terence Murphy  
Libby Hernandez

---> Report of Committee received and the Ordinance passed its first reading.  
The Ordinance passed its second reading.  
The Ordinance was passed to be enrolled.  
The Committee has considered the same and find that it is truly and properly enrolled.  
Report of Enrollment received.  
The Ordinance was passed to be Ordained and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays and nays. Yeas 12--Nays 0--Absent 1 (Hernandez).

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the following handicapped parking ordinances be repealed and the parking signs be removed once repealed. The tenants no longer live in the buildings. Idalis Osorio, 588 So. summer St. #1613 and Maridelve DeJesus, 588 So. Summer St. #1612.  
Recommend the order be approved

#### UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Lisi stated that the Disability Commission recommended adding signs where they were requested. She also stated that the signs being removed were no longer needed.

---> Report of Committee passed two readings and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays. Yeas 12--Nays 0--Absent 1 (Hernandez).



Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take items 9C and 9D as a package.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that parking on South Race Street from 45 feet south of Jackson Street intersection on the east side of the street to a point 105 south of the intersection be posted as 30 minute parking from 9 am until 7 pm daily. Ordinance to take effect July 1, 2020.

Recommend the order be approved

---> Report of Committee passed two readings and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays. Yeas 12--Nays 0--Absent 1 (Hernandez).

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that a no parking be allowed on the west side of South Race Street from the intersection with Jackson Street to a point 180 feet south. This is to assure fire apparatus can easily maneuver through the street. Ordinance to take effect July 1, 2020.

have considered the same and recommend that the order be adopted

Committee Members:

Rebecca Lisi

Juan . Anderson-Burgos

Linda L. Vacon

Terence Murphy

Libby Hernandez

#### UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Lisi stated that the orders were filed to create better ease and flow of parking. She noted there were new marijuana businesses in the area, including one that would be taken up later that evening.

Councilor Murphy stated that the parking changes would benefit the new Tigertown establishment. He noted that the Fire Department inspected the street and requested there be on parking on one side due to it being a narrow street. He noted that as the date had passed, they would become effective upon passage and not as of July 1.

---> Report of Committee received and the Ordinance passed its first reading.

The Ordinance passed its second reading.

The Ordinance was passed to be enrolled.

The Committee has considered the same and find that it is truly and properly enrolled.

Report of Enrollment received.

The Ordinance was passed to be Ordained and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays and nays. Yeas 12--Nays 0--Absent 1 (Hernandez).

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take items 9G, 9H, 9I, and 9J as a package.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred a Special Permit application of Tigertown LLC to operate an RME 7.10.6 Adult Use Retail Marijuana facility at 56 Jackson St. have considered the same and Recommend that the Special Permit be approved with the following conditions:

1. That the owner of the building always pay commercial property tax rate to the extent allowed by Federal, State, and Local Laws for the duration of the Special Permit
2. That the business retain a minimum 30% Holyoke residents for of non-security jobs
3. That hiring preference be given to security personnel that are retired Holyoke Police or area retired member of another police department that now lives in the City of Holyoke
4. There shall be no marijuana consumption to be allowed on site
5. There shall be no deliveries of retail or medical marijuana from the site to individual homes, residences or people
6. That hours of operation be 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday.
7. asphalt sidewalk constructed south of the building to abutting property line to provide safe travel way.
8. That setback requirement reliefs being sought are granted by ZBA

Committee Members:  
Rebecca Lisi  
Juan . Anderson-Burgos  
Linda L. Vacon  
Terence Murphy  
Libby Hernandez

---> Report of Committee received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 10--Nays 1 (Greaney, Jr.)--Absent 2 (Lebron-Martinez, Tallman).  
Approved by the Mayor.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred a Special Permit application amendment for a Marijuana Manufacturing Establishment of Mill Town Agriculture LLC: Sp. Permit would allow for a marijuana manufacturing, cultivation, and extraction facility at 1 Cabot St. Holyoke MA (Map 048 Block 01 Parcel 010)

have considered the same and Recommend that the Special Permit be approved with the following conditions:

1. That the owner of the building always pay commercial property tax rate to the extent allowed by Federal, State, and Local Laws for the duration of the Special Permit
2. That the business retain a minimum 30% Holyoke residents for of non-security jobs

3. That hiring preference be given to security personnel that are retired Holyoke Police or area retired member of another police department that now lives in the City of Holyoke
4. There shall be no marijuana consumption to be allowed on site
5. There shall be no deliveries of retail or medical marijuana from the site to individual homes, residences or people
6. That hours of operation be 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday.
7. formal documentation that locates existing sanitary sewer service and confirms it is separate from any roof or storm drains.

Committee Members:  
Rebecca Lisi  
Juan . Anderson-Burgos  
Linda L. Vacon  
Terence Murphy  
Libby Hernandez

---> Report of Committee received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 10--  
Nays 1 (Greaney, Jr.)--Absent 2 (Lebron-Martinez, Tallman).  
Approved by the Mayor.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred a Special Permit application of Bold Coast Solutions LLC to establish a legal cannabis product manufacturing facility (MME) at 28D Appleton St., Suite #4, Holyoke MA.(Map 32 Block 1 Parcel 1) have considered the same and Recommend that the Special Permit be approved with the following conditions:

1. That the owner of the building always pay commercial property tax rate to the extent allowed by Federal, State, and Local Laws for the duration of the Special Permit
2. That the business retain a minimum 30% Holyoke residents for of non-security jobs
3. That hiring preference be given to security personnel that are retired Holyoke Police or area retired member of another police department that now lives in the City of Holyoke
4. There shall be no marijuana consumption to be allowed on site
5. There shall be no deliveries of retail or medical marijuana from the site to individual homes, residences or people
6. That hours of operation be 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday.
7. Formal documentation that locates existing sanitary sewer service and confirms it is separate from any roof or storm drains

Committee Members:  
Rebecca Lisi  
Juan . Anderson-Burgos  
Linda L. Vacon  
Terence Murphy  
Libby Hernandez

---> Report of Committee received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 10--  
Nays 1 (Greaney, Jr.)--Absent 2 (Lebron-Martinez, Tallman).  
Approved by the Mayor.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred a Special Permit application of Victoria Frost LLC to establish a legal cannabis product cultivation, manufacturing, and dispensary facility (MME, RME) at 679-689 Main St. and 0 Beaulieu St. Holyoke MA (Map 55 Block 0 Parcel 9/Map 55 Block 0 Parcel 9.2/ Map 55 Block 0 Parcel 9.1)

have considered the same and Recommend that the Special Permit be approved with the following conditions:

1. That the owner of the building always pay commercial property tax rate to the extent allowed by Federal, State, and Local Laws for the duration of the Special Permit
2. That the business retain a minimum 30% Holyoke residents for of non-security jobs
3. That hiring preference be given to security personnel that are retired Holyoke Police or area retired member of another police department that now lives in the City of Holyoke
4. There shall be no marijuana consumption to be allowed on site
5. There shall be no deliveries of retail or medical marijuana from the site to individual homes, residences or people
6. That hours of operation be 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday.
7. That site plan review be completed with the Planning Board and that all traffic issues are mitigated to the City Engineer's satisfaction.

Committee Members:

Rebecca Lisi  
Juan . Anderson-Burgos  
Linda L. Vacon  
Terence Murphy  
Libby Hernandez

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Lisi stated that the Tigertown establishment at 56 Jackson would be a retail location. She then stated that both the Mill Town establishment at 1 Cabot as well as the Bold Coast establishment at 28D Appleton would both be manufacturing only. She added that Victoria Frost establishment at Main and Beaulieu would be for retail and manufacturing. She then stated that the first three were straightforward project vetted by the Planning Board and the City Engineer. She noted that all had the six standard conditions, with additional conditions for each based on reports from departments. She then noted that Victoria Frost had been more complicated due to more work being done at the site. She added that the amount of work triggered the requirement of a site plan review process. She then observed that the Jackson Street area had started to become a hub for similar establishments, noting that at least two additional projects had been approved. She then suggested that long term demand for the product would create good economic activity for the city.

President McGee read the attached conditions into the record.

---> Report of Committee received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 10--  
Nays 1 (Greaney, Jr.)--Absent 2 (Lebron-Martinez, Tallman).  
Approved by the Mayor.

Councilor Lisi noted that item 9K has remained in committee.

President McGee stated that there had been no committee reports from the Finance Committee.

(1:39:50)

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the stop sign facing north at the intersections of Portland St and Mackenzie Ave be made more visible to traffic moving north on Portland St, or that it be moved to the other side of the street. High bushes and parked vehicles re concealing the sign creating a dangerous situation.  
have considered the same and recommend that the order has been complied with

Committee Members:  
Terence Murphy  
Todd McGee  
Michael J. Sullivan

#### UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Murphy stated that the DPW recommended they could put an additional stop sign on the opposite side of the street, as well as an additional on Magnolia. He also stated that they would be working with the Board of Health to address bushes that were making it difficult to notice the stop sign.

Councilor Greaney noted that there was an additional issue with vehicles parking next to the bushes. He stated that the Police Department had been notified.

---> Report of Committee received and recommendation Adopted.

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the DPW installs a light on the American flag at Highland Park.  
have considered the same and recommend that the order has been complied with

Committee Members:  
Terence Murphy

Todd McGee  
Michael J. Sullivan

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Murphy stated that the DPW would be installing a solar light shining directly up to the flag, adding that it was planned to be installed by October 1st.

President McGee added that there was not hard wiring for the lighting and that they would be using a new brand of solar lighting.

Councilor Leahy asked if they would remove the flag until the light is installed, noting that it was going against the flag code to not be lit.

President McGee stated that they could follow up with the DPW on that.

Councilor Leahy made a motion to amend the order requesting that the flag be taken down until the light could be installed. Councilor Murphy seconded the motion.

Councilor Tallman asked if there were other flags they would be lighting up in the same way.

Councilor Murphy confirmed that there were but that specific ones had not been mentioned. He added that if the lighting at the first one was successful, they would look into it for additional locations.

---> Report of Committee received and recommendation Adopted as amended.

(1:44:55)

Motion was made and seconded to pull an order from the Public Service Committee.

From Darcy Lambert, application and resume seeking appointment to the Holyoke Historic District Commission.  
have considered the same and recommend that the appointment be confirmed

Committee Members:  
James M. Leahy  
Libby Hernandez  
Rebecca Lisi

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Leahy stated that Ms. Lambert had been attending meetings to learn more. He also noted she was a physics and engineering major that would benefit the committee.

---> Report of Committee received and appointment confirmed.

(1:46:25)

The Committee on Development and Government Relations to whom was referred a Special Permit application from Cynthia & Michael Yelle for a 4.7.2 Non-conforming use to operate a dog grooming business at 1 Martin St.

have considered the same and recommend the order be adopted with the following condition:

1. Hours of operation are Monday thru Friday from 8 am-4 pm and (2) Saturday's a month from 8 am-4 pm

Committee Members:

David K. Bartley

Michael J. Sullivan

Peter R. Tallman

Howard B Greaney, Jr.

Gladys Lebron-Martinez

#### UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Bartley stated that the location was at the corner of Martin St and Westfield Rd. He also noted that the history of the location included the former Charlie's Market and Greenfield Coin Stamp. He added that the location had been vacant, leading to it being a preexisting nonconforming use. He noted that the business owner planned to lease the space to a couple that would be starting a business as a dog groomer. He also noted that members of the public asked about traffic and parking. He stated that the applicant sought to be open on alternating Saturdays, adding that they amended that plan through the condition to stipulate that it would be two Saturdays per month.

Councilor Greaney noted that they had also placed a condition that the location would not be used for boarding.

Councilor Bartley noted that the applicant stated they would not use the location for boarding, adding that he did not recall that being a condition.

Councilor Greaney made a motion to amend the report to add a condition that there would not be boarding. Councilor Leahy seconded the motion. All councilors voted in favor.

---> Report of Committee received and Adopted as amended on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays--Yeas 12--Nays 0--Absent 1 (Hernandez).

The Committee on Development and Government Relations to whom was referred a Special Permit Application from Vitaliy Gladysh for approval of a driveway in the front yard (6.1.8.1) at 73 Taylor St.

have considered the same and recommend the application be approved with the following conditions:

Applicant must comply with bullet point two from the 7/17/20 letter from the City Engineer as follows: "Approve the driveway as currently constructed. Note, the driveway width at the street exceeds DPW standards (12-ft maximum at the sidewalk) and would also require approval of the Board of Public Works."

Committee Members:

David K. Bartley

Michael J. Sullivan

Peter R. Tallman

Howard B Greaney, Jr.

Gladys Lebron-Martinez

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Bartley noted that the city engineer provided a letter clarifying additional requirements. He also stated that there had not been input from any other department heads or members of the public.

---> Report of Committee received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays--Yeas 12--Nays 0--Absent 1 (Hernandez).

The Committee on Development and Government Relations to whom was referred a Special Permit Application from Amazon for a temporary storage unit in accordance with zoning ordinance 7.2.12 at 489 Whitney Ave.

have considered the same and recommend the application be approved. The Special Permit will expire on September 30,2021

Committee Members:

David K. Bartley

Michael J. Sullivan

Peter R. Tallman

Howard B Greaney, Jr.

Gladys Lebron-Martinez

UNDER DISCUSSION:



Councilor Bartley stated that the applicant was a third party related to Amazon. He noted that do not pay excise taxes to the city. He stated they would be leasing space on an empty back lot near the back entrance to the mall coming up from Riverdale Street. He noted that special permits can be amended, adding that although the lease was for five years, the special permit was granted through the end of September 2021. He noted that there had been concerns about the layout and the intent was to compel the petitioner to work on the layout over the course of the year.

There was a brief interruption by a member of the public seeking to speak on the matter. It was ruled to be out of order.

Councilor Bartley noted that the matter had been addressed during a public hearing.

President McGee clarified that there were rules for members of the public to be acknowledged.

Councilor Vacon expressed her support for the time limit, noting that it appeared there was an office being erected in the parking lot. She expressed a hope that they would work to make it look better, noting that it was at an entry point to the city.

President McGee observed that it appeared this would be a parking lot for Amazon's vehicles through a lease. He then questioned if this was an attempt to circumvent paying excise taxes.

Councilor Bartley stated that Amazon was leasing space at another location, adding that due to not appearing to have enough space, they sought to lease additional space for more parking at this location. He suggested that those associated with the project reach out to members of the City Council individually to discuss the matter.

Councilor Murphy expressed his hope that they would work to make the facilities look more attractive during the year.

Councilor Greaney observed having seen over 100 vehicles while driving by the location, adding that there should be a way to collect revenue for the city.

---> Report of Committee received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays--Yeas 10--Nays 2 (Anderson-Burgos, Murphy)--Absent 1 (Hernandez).

The Committee on Development and Government Relations to whom was referred a Special Permit Application from Holyoke Landing, LLC for a Drive-Thru Facility (Bank-Drive-Up Teller and ATM) in accordance with zoning ordinance 7.1.6

have considered the same and recommend the application be approved with the following conditions:

1. Drive-thru hours for bank building are 7 am-6 pm, Sunday thru Saturday and ATM 24 hours
2. Drive-thru hours for 2 ATM building (coffee and restaurant) to be 5 am-11 pm Monday thru Saturday and 6 am-9 pm Sunday

Committee Members:  
David K. Bartley  
Michael J. Sullivan  
Peter R. Tallman  
Howard B Greaney, Jr.  
Gladys Lebron-Martinez

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Bartley made a motion to amend condition 2 to remove "ATM," noting that the rest of the condition was correct. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion.

Councilor Greaney observed that the applicant had given one of the finest presentations he had seen.

Councilor Bartley noted that the location was next to the Pier 1 Building on the right side as one might leave the mall. He stated that the project would have three buildings, one with coffee and retail, one with restaurant and retail, and one with a bank. He noted that an abutter participated in the hearing who offered supportive feedback but had been concerned about traffic cutting through. He stated that the design would prevent that from happening. He added that there had been additional concerns relative to traffic coming in from I-91 merging with traffic coming off Whiting Farms Rd. He expressed a hope that this would be worked out in site plan review.

Councilor Vacon expressed support for the project, adding that one great part would be taking advantage of already existing traffic in the area. She then expressed a hope that the driveway being at the light would limit issues with traffic. She noted that the design considered abutter concerns and that they would not exceed the already developed area of the land.

Councilor Tallman expressed support for use of the space to put in good buildings and take advantage of the traffic already in the area.

--> Report of Committee received and Adopted as amended on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays--Yeas 11--Nays 0--Absent 2 (Hernandez, Murphy).

The Committee on Development and Government Relations to whom was referred a communication from the Office of the Attorney General, Open Meeting Law Complaint. have considered the same and recommend order be complied with amended letter #2, 3, 4 should be incorporated into a revised letter to be sent to full CC prior to 08/04/2020 meeting. See Atty C. Barnes

Committee Members:  
David K. Bartley  
Michael J. Sullivan  
Peter R. Tallman

Howard B Greaney, Jr.  
Gladys Lebron-Martinez

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Vacon expressed appreciation to the committee and to Atty Barnes for amending the letter. She noted that the letter helped provide guidance to the city. She also noted that Zoom info being posted on agendas had been helpful. She observed that there had been an improved process for residents to fully participate in meetings even while in Zoom. She also suggested there should be efforts to return to in person meetings as soon as possible.

Councilor McGiverin asked if there had been a copy of the revised letter made available.

Councilor Tallman stated that it had been included in the packet.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to allow Atty Barnes to address the Council.

Atty Barnes stated that the revised letter had not been sent as a communication for that evening and could provide that later.

Councilor McGiverin suggested that the item be tabled until the amended letter is provided.

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Development and Government Relations to whom was referred an order that the DG&R committee invite Suez project Manager Michael Williams to a meeting to discuss their Holyoke operations, including street sweeping, catch basin cleaning, and other issues and services provided within their contract.  
have considered the same and recommend that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:  
David K. Bartley  
Michael J. Sullivan  
Peter R. Tallman  
Howard B Greaney, Jr.  
Gladys Lebron-Martinez

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Bartley stated that Mike Williams of Suez explained his position well. He also stated that they discussed the matters of the order.

Councilor Leahy stated that he had worked with the DPW to get a spreadsheet detailing the neighborhood schedule for street sweeping. He observed that it had been a struggle every year to get Suez to cover the services they were contracted for. He also noted that it had been difficult to assure residents know when their streets would be swept, or if notice had been given to inform residents to move their vehicles, leading to sweepers just driving around vehicles.

Councilor Tallman noted that Mr. Williams intended to make a schedule available. He added that they try to sweep the downtown area once a week.

Councilor Bartley suggested that matter could be tabled in order to get additional follow up from Mr. Williams.

---> Laid on the table.

President McGee stated that there had been no reports from the Charter and Rules Committee or the Joint Committee of the City Council and School Committee.

### **ORDERS AND TRANSFERS**

(2:25:50)

President McGee implored members to refer items to committee for the purpose of debating the matters.

LEBRON-MARTINEZ -- A request that speed traffic study be done on Cabot Street from Lawrence School unto the Beech Street intersection per constituents request due to speeding vehicles and children living in this area.

---> Received and adopted. Copied to the Holyoke Police Department.

LEBRON-MARTINEZ -- That the city begins to find ways to address the appearance of High Street with the blighted building and other open space abandonment, this has been the constituents request.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee. Copied to Office of Planning and Economic Development.

COUNCILOR LEBRON-MARTINEZ -- That the City including not limited to the Boards of Health, HPD, Department of public works take serious measures specially during the COVID-19 epidemic and beyond in regards to the sex trafficking activities, Jons surrounding the corridor of Maple Street, Cabot Street, Chestnut Street, Essex, Appleton, Dwight Street and last but not least Elm Street. That DPW places receptacle trash around these street listed areas for litter left behind.

Councilor Lebron-Martinez stated that her house had been broken into while she and her family slept. She stated that neighborhoods had been neglected, noting that many residents had experienced break-ins. She stated that the public health and safety issue needed to be addressed.

Councilor Leahy stated that he felt compelled to add a security system to his home after hearing about the break-in. He also recalled that the Police Chief expressed concerns about budget cuts being made to their department leading to a reduced ability to address these safety issues around the city.

Councilor Bartley asked to be added to the order. He also suggested that the order be coped to the Mayor. He then expressed concern about blame being placed on the Council, noting that they had not made cuts to personnel. He suggested that the budget should be managed more carefully.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos recalled that his own house had been broken into several years back. He noted that a report had been made but had been left with the impression that there was not much to do about the irreplaceable items stolen. He expressed feeling a sense of threat with every sound for almost a year afterwards. He recalled speaking with neighbors, hearing descriptions of people who had been around the house and finding the two who had broken into the house.

Councilor Vacon asked to be added to the order. She also noted that racing and harassment issues in the Lower Westfield Rd area had been ongoing long before there had been cuts to the overtime budget. She emphasized the need to pay attention to the small things that often lead to larger issues for the community.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos asked to be added to the order.

President McGee observed that it appeared all councilors sought to be added to the order.

Councilor Lebron-Martinez stated she had been working to address the issue for years. She then expressed concern for safety issues in her neighborhood with many community buildings and children in the area. She also suggested that the issue would have been handled more readily if it had happened in other neighborhoods.

Councilor Lisi asked to confirm everyone had signed on to the order.

President McGee confirmed that was correct.

Councilor Lisi observed that many of these issues had been occurring across the city. She emphasized the need for a collaborative response, including the police and other community partners. She suggested that the order should be adopted and copied to the Public Safety Committee to assure action is taken right away.

Councilor Tallman stated that the issue had become tiring and unacceptable for any neighborhood in the city.

Councilor Lebron-Martinez suggested that many landlords had not been doing enough to prevent activities in their buildings.

Councilor McGiverin expressed support for bringing this citywide provide to the forefront. He expressed belief that his home had been cased during the St. Patrick's Parade. He emphasized the need involve many collaborators in the city. He then expressed a need for judges to take these issues ore seriously.

Councilor Greaney recalled having his window shut out on Christmas Day the past year, noting that it had taken four hours to get a response from the police. He then expressed concern that citizens would begin to take the law into their own hands.

Councilor Sullivan recalled seeing a vehicle hit several cars after passing him, and then attempt to run. He noted that the person had stolen the vehicle. He noted that the person had been released and did not appear in court. He then expressed concern that his efforts to address these issues through signs and newspaper ads had been met with criticism.

---> Received and Adopted. Copied to the Public Safety Committee, Board of Health, Holyoke Police Department, the Mayor, and the DPW.

LEBRON-MARTINEZ -- That the city grants resident parking for 340 Hampden Street.

Councilor Bartley recalled that am order with the same language had been given a leave to withdraw a couple years prior, noting that the business on the street needed the parking. He questioned the value of having the same discussion.

Councilor Vacon noted that when the matter had been addressed, they had been informed that they could not grant parking for specific homes on public street.

Councilor Lebron-Martinez stated she would have the resident participate to explain a personal matter.

Councilor Leahy expressed concern about the city handling personal matters, noting the potential liability to the city.

Councilor Lebron-Martinez clarified that the matter was related to a disability.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

LISI -- Ordered that the City Council place the following ballot question and summary on the ballot for the November, 2020 election:

Ballot Question

Shall the City of Holyoke adopt the optional form of municipal administration summarized as follows, according to the provisions of chapter forty-three C of the General Laws providing for optional plans of municipal administration?

Summary of Question

On August \_\_\_\_\_, 2020, the Holyoke City Council adopted by a call of the roll yeas \_\_\_\_ and nays \_\_\_\_ to place a question on the ballot which will allow the voters to decide whether or not to accept Section 11 of Chapter 43C of the General Laws of Massachusetts. The question will be approved and the statute accepted if a majority of the voters voting on the ballot question vote "yes." The acceptance of Section 11 shall allow the legislative body (City Council), subject to all applicable provisions of the city charter, authority to adopt an ordinance providing for a consolidated department of municipal finance.

Councilor Lisi clarified that the deadline had already elapsed for placement on the 2020 ballot. She then stated she would seek guidance for establishing a parallel track for pursuing the same purpose.

---> Received and given a leave to withdraw.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 16F, 16G, 16H, and 16I as a package.

MCGIVERIN -- Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the "PVPC/CRCC" grant. and authorizes the establishment of a Fund or other method appropriate for the accounting of the receipts and expenditures of all resources associated with the administration of said grant.

---> Received and referred to the Finance Committee.

MCGIVERIN -- Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the "CANAL SYSTEMS INDUSTRIAL AREA" grant. and authorizes the establishment of a Fund or other method appropriate for the accounting of the receipts and expenditures of all resources associated with the administration of said grant.

---> Received and referred to the Finance Committee.

MCGIVERIN -- Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the FY2020 Masstrails/CT River Pathway project grant. And authorizes the establishment of a Fund or other method appropriate for the accounting of the receipts and expenditures of all resources associated with the administration of said grant.

---> Received and referred to the Finance Committee.

MCGIVERIN -- Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the "IMLS Cares Act Grant entitled Virtual Programming for Distance Learning." and authorizes the establishment of a Fund or other method appropriate for the accounting of the receipts and expenditures of all resources associated with the administration of said grant.

---> Received and referred to the Finance Committee.

MCGEE, ANDERSON-BURGOS -- Ordered, That HG & E install a street light on the corner of Old Jarvis and Bassett Rd.

---> Received and adopted. Copied to the HG&E and the Mayor.

MCGEE -- Ordered that the City Clerk's Office establish/install a secure drop box for ballots.

---> Received and complied with.

MCGEE -- Ordered that the Board of Health come before the Public Safety Committee to discuss an update the Committee on COVID-19 procedures for City Hall employees/departments.

---> Received and referred to the Public Safety Committee.

MCGEE -- Ordered that the DPW trim the tree near 20 Linden St.

---> Received and Adopted. Copied to the Department of Public Works.



MCGEE -- That the ordinance committee review the draft Telecommunication ordinance changes. This is being filed on behalf of a constituent request.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 16O and 16Q as a package.

MCGEE -- That the State Primaries for the nomination of candidates of Political Parties for offices to be filled at the State primary in 2020, be and they are hereby called to be held in the City of Holyoke on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 in the several polling places as designated by the City Council. The polls will be opened at 7:00 AM, and remain open continuously thereafter until 8:00 PM when the polls will be closed, and all voters of political parties will in the several polling places in which they are entitled to vote, between said hours, give in their votes for the nomination of candidates of political parties for the following offices:

Que las Primarias del Estado para la nominacion de candidatos del Partido Politico para las oficinas que seran ocupadas en las Primarias Estatales en el ano 2020, sea y illos de por estemedio llamado a que lleve a cabo en la Ciudad de Holyoke el Jueves, Septiembre, 1, 2020, en los varios lugares de votacion, como designado por el concejo municipal. Las urnas seran abiertas a las 7:00 AM, y permaneceran abiertas continuamente de alli en adelante hasta las 8:00 PM cuando las urnas sean cerrada, y todas los votantes de los partidos politico en los varios lugares de votacion en el cual ellos tienen derecho a votar, entredicha horas ceder sus votos para la nominacion de candidatos del partido politico para las siguientes oficinas:

Senator in Congress - Senador en el Congreso

Representative in Congress – Representante en el Congreso

Councilor - Concejal

Senator in General Court – Senador de la Legislatura Estatal

Representative in General Court – Representante de la Legislatura Estatal

Register of Probate - Registrador Testamento

---> Received and Adopted.

MCGEE -- That the Polling Places for each of the voting precincts in the City of Holyoke for the State Primary to be held Tuesday, September 1, 2020, be and the same are hereby designated as follows:

ORDENA, que los lugares para cada recinto en la Ciudad de Holyoke para las Elecciones Estatal Primarias Esta que se llevaran a cabo el Martes, 1 ro de Septiembre 2020, sea y al igual, por estemedio designado lo siguiente:

WARD ONE BARRIO UNO

PRECINCT A – Rosary Towers Recreation Room 21 Bowers St..

RECINTO A—Rosary Towers Recreation Room 21 de la Calle Bowers

PRECINCT B—Holyoke City Hall, 536 Dwight St. RECINTO B—City Hall, 536 Dwight St.

WARD TWO BARRIO DOS

PRECINCT A—Morgan School Gym, South Bridge St. Entrance only

RECINTO A—Gimnasio de la Escuela Morgan, en la Calle So. Bridge solamente

PRECINCT B – Falcetti Towers, 475 Maple St.

RECINTO B – Falcetti Towers, 475 de la Calle Maple

WARD THREE BARRIO TRES

PRECINCT A – Metcalf School, 2019 Northampton St.

RECINTO A – Escuela Metcalf, 2019 de la Calle Northampton

PRECINCT B – Metcalf School Gym, 2019 Northampton St.

RECINTO B –Gimnasio de la Escuela Metcalf, 2019 de la Calle Northampton

WARD FOUR BARRIOS CUATRO

PRECINCT A & B – St. Paul’s Church Parish Center, Appleton St.

RECINTO A&B – St. Paul’s Church Parish Center, en la Calle Appleton

WARD FIVE BARRIOS CINCO

PRECINCT A – Lt. Elmer J. McMahan School Gym, Kane Rd.

RECINTO A—Gimnasio de la Escuela McMahan, en la Calle Kane

PRECINCT B – Maurice A. Donahue School Gym, Whiting Farms Rd.

RECINTO B—Gimnasio de la Escuela Donahue, en la Calle Whiting Farms

WARD SIX BARRIO SEIS PRECINCT A&B –Sullivan School, 400 Jarvis Ave. RECINTO A&B – Escuela Sullivan, 400 de la Calle Jarvis

WARD SEVEN BARRIO SIETE PRECINCT A&B - E. N. White School Gym, 1 Jefferson St.

RECINTO A&B– Gimnasio de la Escuela E. N. White, 1 de la Calle Jefferson

---> Received and Adopted.

MCGEE -- Ordered, that the City Council meeting for September 1, 2020 be rescheduled due to the State Primary on that day.

President McGee stated that a special meeting could be called if necessary.

---> Received and Adopted.

MCGEE -- Ordered, that the Holyoke Police Department place the speed radar machine on Pleasant St. near Harvard St. Numerous complaints of speeding in the area. Please report back to the full City Council in 60 days.

---> Received and Adopted. Copied to the Holyoke Police Department.

MCGEE -- Ordered that the DPW install raised crosswalks on Pleasant St. at the following locations:  
Harvard St., Radcliffe St., and Montgomery St.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

MCGEE -- DPW remove the tree across from 45 Hillview St.

---> Received and Adopted. Copied to the Department of Public Works.

MCGEE -- Order that DPW patch the raised sidewalk in front of 26 George Street

---> Received and Adopted. Copied to the Department of Public Works.

MCGEE -- Order that DPW repave Whittier circle.

Councilor Tallman asked to be added to the order. He noted the street had been in bad shape for a while.

---> Received and Adopted. Copied to the Department of Public Works.

MCGEE, COUNCILOR ANDERSON-BURGOS -- Order that the Public Safety Committee invite in the Board of Health to address and review the leash law.

---> Received and referred to the Public Safety Committee.

MURPHY -- That in order to assure efficient truck docking, no parking be allowed on the west side of Beaulieu Street at the intersection with Stebbins St. from the northwesterly corner to a point 30 feet farther north.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take items 16Z and 16AC as a package.

MURPHY -- Ordered, that the Director of Planning and Economic Development meet with the DG&R Committee to discuss the future of the Armory Building sight. Does the City have any reputable offers for the property which can be implemented in the next couple of years? If not, would the demolition of the remaining structure create an opportunity to construct several new homes at that intersection?

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

MURPHY -- Ordered, That the DG&R committee meet with the Mayor, the Director of Human Resources, and the Director of Womenshelter/Companeras to discuss if the current domestic violence leave policy effectively provides for the needs of abused employees.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

MURPHY -- That the public safety committee meet with the Police and Fire Chiefs, the Director of Ambulance service, and interested social service agencies to consider whether Holyoke should implement a 900 response program similar to the CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out on the Streets) program used in Eugene and Springfield, Oregon.

---> Received and referred to the Public Safety Committee.

MURPHY -- Ordered, that the public safety committee meet with representatives from any neighborhood watch programs to discuss any ideas about improving each program and building an active cooperation with the police department.

Councilor Vacon asked to be added to the order.

---> Received and referred to the Public Safety Committee.

MURPHY -- Ordered that the DPW trim the tree in front of 322 Pine St so that it is no longer dangling on the home.

Councilor Greaney suggested that the matter should be a priority if it is dangling on a home.

---> Received and Adopted. Copied to the Department of Public Works and the City Forester.

MURPHY -- Ordered that the council vote to have the city take over ownership of South Water Street from the state. Once the transfer is completed, that the city pave at least the roadway connecting Main Street via South Water Street to the properties of Hazen Paper and Sunoco Paper. Estimated cost of repaving is \$88,000, and these two business currently pay about \$130,000 in taxes, as well as significant water and sewer payments. Each also employs a significant number of well paid employees. In addition, Sunoco has stepped up to accept paper recycling products, reducing the city's recycling expense by around \$50,000.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

MURPHY, LEBRON-MARTINEZ -- Ordered that the handicapped parking sign which is for 24 Hampden Street, be moved to the parking spot in front of that doorway, and be placed nearer the roadway. Currently, the sign is blocked by leaves as you approach, and it is difficult to determine which parking spot it covers.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

MURPHY, VACON -- Ordered that the Director of Planning and Economic development meet with the DG&R committee to provide an update on the current plans for the former Geriatric Authority building. Are we planning to seek new proposals in the near future?

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

TALLMAN -- Ordered, that the City Council adopt the attached resolution regarding the Holyoke Soldier's Home.

All councilors sought to be added to the order.

Councilor McGiverin noted that the facility had not received the care it deserved it recent decades. He added that they needed to address runoff of storm water that creates issues for many of the homes in the area, noting that the issue would become worse with expansion of the facility.

---> Received and Adopted.

VACON -- Ordered, that a No Parking sign be added on Cherry Street between the Dale Street intersection and the next No Parking sign as you travel toward the Maple Crest Apartments.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

ANDERSON-BURGOS -- Ordered, that the language in the Holyoke municipal code, Sec 14-5, (a),(1), a, be removed from the code. The language of this code reads as: "A dog may be off restraint if under adequate voice control of a person, and that person has a leash in their possession. A dog which does not respond to commands of the person in control of such animal is not under restraint." This language, especially "if under adequate voice control," is overly subjective and does nothing to protect another person or animal from injury should a dog owner not maintain control of their dog.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 16AL and 16AM as a package.

ANDERSON-BURGOS -- Ordered, that a traffic study be done on Sargeant Street observing traffic between St. Jerome and Sycamore. Residents have mentioned several accidents in this area, possibly due the speed and obstructed views as vehicles travel around the bend. They have suggested a four way stop may be helpful at either Magnolia or Sycamore.

---> Received and referred to the Public Safety Committee. Copied to the City Engineer.

ANDERSON-BURGOS -- Ordered, that a traffic study be done at the corner of West Franklin and St Jerome. Residents are concerned about vehicles traveling down West Franklin at high speeds and the potential for collision with vehicles with an obstructed view driving off of St Jerome because of the bend in the road. They are asking for either speed humps or a four way stop.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos suggested adopted and copying to the Holyoke Police Department for a report in 30 days.

Councilor Bartley suggested sending the order to the City Engineer and the Public Safety Committee for deeper discussion.

---> Received and referred to the Public Safety Committee. Copied to the City Engineer.

ANDERSON-BURGOS -- The Greater Holyoke Council for Human Understanding has asked that City Council pass the following as a resolution for adoption, and to be forwarded to Governor Baker: In support of Armed Service Veterans and in gratitude for their service to our country which has allowed us all to live in freedom, the Greater Holyoke Council for Human Understanding extends its deepest sympathies to the families of those veterans who have lost their lives during the Covid 19 Pandemic. We recognize that this loss of life has been exacerbated by long standing policies of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts which has underfunded the Holyoke Soldiers Home for nearly all of the 68 years since its inception in 1952 and we, therefore offer our whole-hearted support to the coalition of Veterans and their families which has made five requests to governing bodies. These include:

\*First, the recommendation to Governor Charlie Baker that both the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke and the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea be aligned under the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Hospitals;

\*Second, that there be changes to the Soldiers' Homes' Boards of Trustees and that the model for these Trustees be more closely examined and overhauled especially to include members with both veterans status and medical knowledge;

\*Third, that personnel including a geriatric physician, geriatric nurse practitioner, and a psychiatric nurse practitioner be included in hiring in the near future to support the increased demand for such care for the population the Homes serve;

\*Fourth, regarding the appointment of a Superintendent of the Holyoke Soldiers' Home, the Coalition advocates the reinstatement of the original guidelines for the hiring and retention of the Superintendent thus removing this position from political appointment;

\*And Fifth, the Coalition seeks a commitment from the Baker administration for the renovation and expansion of long-term care facilities at the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke maintaining, at a minimum, 250 long term beds, services for women veterans and creation of an Adult Day Care Center. The Council for Human Understanding is aware that a proposal for these building needs was approved by the U.S. Veteran's Affairs Department in 2016 for \$65 million and has been awaiting State Matching Funds of \$35 million dollars since that time. We owe an unassailable debt to our Veterans for their unsurpassed gift of liberty to all and we thus, unequivocally, support these requests and recommendations.

Councilor McGiverin reiterated the need to consider the impacts on the neighborhood with expansion of the facility.

Councilor Greaney asked to be added to the order.

---> Received and Adopted. Copied to the Governor

ANDERSON-BURGOS -- Ordered, that a Do Not Block Driveway sign be placed on the eastern side of the driveway located at 58 Beacon Ave. The constituent has had multiple issues with the driveway being blocked, including on an occasion when she could not get out to take her child to the Emergency Room.

---> Received and Adopted.

BARTLEY -- The City of Holyoke accept Old Bassett Rd. as a public way. The Solicitor advised it is not an accepted street. The City Engineer advised the acceptance would, generally, be a plus for the city in terms of Chapter 90 funds. Finally, this is at the bequest of one of the street's residents.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

BARTLEY -- Ordered, that the DPW paint "no parking" lines in roadway at top of Hitchcock St near Westfield Rd. This was recommended to the City Council by Holyoke P.D patrolman. This does not require an ordinance change. Receive and adopt.

---> Received and Adopted. Copied to the Department of Public Works and the Holyoke Police Department.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 16AR and 16AS as a package.

BARTLEY -- Ordered, that the DPW install two temporary speed humps at Michigan Avenue as soon as possible. One should be installed near Erie Ave. Receive and Adopt. Please confer with Ward 3 Councilor who can arrange a neighborhood meeting in that area.

Councilor Vacon clarified that temporary speed humps could be adopted right away.

---> Received and Adopted. Copied to the Department of Public Works.

BARTLEY -- Ordered, that the DPW consider placing permanent traffic humps on Michigan Avenue  
Refer to Ordinance.

Councilor Vacon noted that permanent speed humps would require going through a petition process.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee. Copied to the Department of Public Works.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 16AT, 16AU, 16AV, 16AW, 16AX, 16AY, and 16AZ as a package.



BARTLEY -- Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 30B and the Holyoke Code of Ordinances procurement ordinance, the City Council declare 415 Main Street as surplus property available for disposition. Said parcel is identified by the Holyoke Board of Assessors records as Map 028, Block 07, Parcel 004, consisting of a vacant mixed use style building on an approximate 2,744 square foot lot. The property is more particularly described at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 16242, Page 457. The property was awarded to the City via a Land Court Decree with a Final Judgment recorded on March 3, 2020 in Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book 23111, Page 441. The property is zoned Highway Business (BH) and has an assessed value of \$122,300.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

BARTLEY -- Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 30B and the Holyoke Code of Ordinances procurement ordinance, the City Council declare 417 Main Street as surplus property available for disposition. Said parcel is identified by the Holyoke Board of Assessors records as Map 028, Block 07, Parcel 005, consisting of a vacant lot approximately 2,744 square feet in size. The property is more particularly described at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 16242, Page 457. The property was awarded to the City via a Land Court Decree with a Final Judgment recorded on March 3, 2020 in Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book 23111, Page 441. The property is zoned Highway Business (BH) and has an assessed value of \$13,100.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

BARTLEY -- Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 30B and the Holyoke Code of Ordinances procurement ordinance, the City Council declare 136 Cabot Street as surplus property available for disposition. Said parcel is identified by the Holyoke Board of Assessors records as Map 010, Block 01, Parcel 008, consisting of a vacant row house style building on an approximate 1,786 square foot lot. The property is more particularly described at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 5342, Page 217. The property was awarded to the City via a Land Court Decree with a Final Judgment recorded on August 17, 2016 in Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book 21314, Page 280. The property is zoned General Industry (IG) and has an assessed value of \$61,100.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

BARTLEY -- Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 30B and the Holyoke Code of Ordinances procurement ordinance, the City Council declare Cabot Street parcel identified by the Holyoke Board of Assessors records as Map 010, Block 01, Parcel 002 as surplus property available for disposition. Said parcel consists of a vacant lot approximately 1,742 square feet in size. The property is more particularly described at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 6156, Page 444. The property was awarded to the City via a Land Court Decree with a Final

Judgment recorded on October 29, 1986 in Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book 22924, Page 533. The property is zoned General Industry (IG) and has an assessed value of \$11,800

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

BARTLEY -- Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 30B and the Holyoke Code of Ordinances procurement ordinance, the City Council declare 525 Pleasant Street as surplus property available for disposition. Said parcel is identified by the Holyoke Board of Assessors records as Map 091, Block 00, Parcel 073, consisting of a vacant lot approximately 7,841 square feet in size. The property is more particularly described at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 2273, Page 304. The property was awarded to the City via a Land Court Decree with a Final Judgment recorded on March 3, 2020 in Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book 23111, Page 440. The property is zoned Multi-Family Residence (RM-20) and has an assessed value of \$36,400.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

BARTLEY -- Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 30B and the Holyoke Code of Ordinances procurement ordinance, the City Council declare 107 Clemente Street as surplus property available for disposition. Said parcel is identified by the Holyoke Board of Assessors records as Map 028, Block 03, Parcel 002, consisting of a vacant lot approximately 6,534 square feet in size. The property is more particularly described at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 8162, Page 162. The property was awarded to the City via a Land Court Decree with a Final Judgment recorded on July 2, 2013 in Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book 19903, Page 535. The property is zoned Downtown Residential (DR) and has an assessed value of \$32,600.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

BARTLEY -- Ordered, that the Honorable City Council accept the amendments to the Holyoke Redevelopment Authority's Urban Renewal Plan, entitled "Connect. Construct. Create.: A Plan for the Revitalization of Center City Holyoke" as presented. The City Council also authorizes the HRA to approve minor, non-substantial language changes to the urban renewal plan amendments, if such changes are recommended by the Department of Housing and Community Development, such as clarification of actions mentioned throughout the plan, defining of terms, and amending grammar.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

## LATE FILED ORDERS & COMMUNICATIONS

(3:25:20)

From Councilor Lisi, letter regarding the potential closure of the birthing unit at the Holyoke Medical Center.

Councilor Lisi stated that she put it on the agenda in order to seek support for the statement as a body rather than coming from just her. She noted that there was a need for more public input into the process, adding that the unit had been closed prior to the opening of a public hearing process. She stated that a plan was needed urgently to understand what would be happening with the facility. She expressed a need for the state to be involved.

Councilor Bartley stated that while he would not sign onto the letter at that moment, he would be open to taking up the matter in the Development and Governmental Relations Committee if a copy were to be sent.

Councilor Vacon added her support to taking up the matter in committee, noting that she had not had the opportunity to read the letter.

Councilor Lisi stated that the Department of Public Health would be closing the public hearing process and rendering a decision the following week. She asked that a vote be taken to see if a majority of the Council would support it.

Councilor Leahy asked when the letter had been communicated.

Councilor Lisi stated that it had been sent that day. She added that it had been provided to the Council as a courtesy in order to give the body an opportunity to sign on instead of just sending it herself.

Councilor Leahy suggested that the letter should have been sent earlier.

President McGee stated that the Council would need an opportunity to go through the letter in order to take final action that evening. He added that he would want an opportunity to go through it and suggests edits.

Councilor Lebron-Martinez stated she would sign onto the letter.

Councilor Lisi stated that individual councilors were welcome to be added to the letter.

President McGee suggested that any councilors seeking to sign on should contact Councilor Lisi.

Councilor Leahy asked how long councilors would have to look at the letter.

Councilor Lisi asked how it would remain as part of a public record.

Councilor Leahy suggested that if individual councilors signed onto it, it could be sent as a communication later. He then suggested that communications asking for this type of action should be provided in a timelier manner, noting that councilors have work and may not be able to read materials prior to the meeting.

Councilor Bartley asked that the communication be copied to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

President McGee asked Councilor Lisi what she would want done with the letter.

Councilor Lisi suggested a vote could still happen to see if a majority would support it.

Councilor Vacon expressed concern that there was pressure being placed on councilors to vote on a matter they had not been given an opportunity to review.

Councilor Lebron-Martinez asked to clarify that they could independently sign onto the letter.

President McGee suggested that he would likely support the letter after being given an opportunity to review it.

Councilor Lisi stated that she sent an amendment.

President McGee stated that it had not been received.

Councilor McGiverin expressed that it would not be fair to vote either yes or no on something they had not read.

President McGee stated it would be best practice to read the item before voting on it. He also noted that there was an amendment nobody had received.

Councilor Lisi stated that she would accept people contacting her individually to sign onto the letter.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

Adjourned at 10:39 PM.