



City of Holyoke,
Massachusetts

Birthplace of Volleyball

Irma Cruz <cruzi@holyoke.org>

Communication for city council agenda

1 message

Linda Vacon <lindavac@aol.com>

Thu, May 13, 2021 at 9:58 PM

To: Irma Cruz <cruzi@holyoke.org>

Please add this as a communication for the City Council agenda.

Thanks,

Linda

Hi Terry:

First I want to say that I am greatly appreciative of the work you are doing.

Re the orders to transfer money for prior years currently listed as "laid on the table" at City Council:

While I am greatly appreciative of the work you are doing, I need to object to the manipulations and violations of our rules relative to these transfers:

First: the motion to table in any situation requires 7 votes (Rule 66)

The President stated the motion to table did not pass with a 6/4 vote. Later a member returned to the meeting. She had missed the discussion and the vote which was explained to her at length after which she was asked how she would have voted. She said yes, to table and the President added her vote to a previously completed vote that he determined had not passed and then declared the orders tabled.

Second: The only way a vote can be added to a previously called vote is by a motion to reconsider a previously negative vote (rule 23). That did Not happen and the orders were improperly tabled

Third: So those orders failed because they did not get the 9 required votes to pass (Section 49 of our City Charter)and were not properly voted to table.

I ask you to please let this end. The orders are not properly before us at City Council and we have so many needs in our City, that to pay a past employee an additional \$11,000 is an affront to our taxpayers; many who have had a very difficult year. This employee was in charge of the budget for that department and is the person who requested transfers out of the account in past years. If she did not find she was owed the money as our Acting Solicitor at the time, it is not reasonable for us to make a very late determination of this sort; to now pay out money for prior years.

These orders have now been filed on three separate occasions and have not passed.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter and please request a review by our Acting City Solicitor.

Thanks,

Linda

Sent from my iPhone

City Councilor Ward 5

Chair, Charter & Rules Committee

Linda Vacon

533-6498

PI