

Brian G. Smith

Holyoke, MA 01040

November 16, 2021

Honorable Joshua A. Garcia, Mayor
City of Holyoke, MA
536 Dwight Street, Room 1
Holyoke, MA 01040

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Holyoke City Clerk's
Holyoke, MA

Dear Mayor Garcia:

First, congratulations on your election to the office of mayor. I have great confidence in you and your desire to support all citizens, employees and retirees in accordance with the limits provided in our Massachusetts General Laws and city ordinances.

On March 31, 2021, then acting mayor Todd McGee used his authority to select me as the mayor's appointment to the Holyoke Retirement Board as a voting member. The appointment required city council confirmation due to such appointment emanating from an acting mayor. My understanding is this appointment made by a duly-elected mayor, such as you now, requires no such confirmation. I am grateful to Mr. McGee and the entire city council for placing their trust in me to carry out this important role.

During the last couple of months, I have been met with progressively demanding personal challenges requiring unpredictable and sometimes lengthy time commitments. This situation will likely not change for some time requiring me to prioritize my efforts toward these activities. This change of focus will not allow the proper diligence required of a fully engaged board member. Therefore, I hereby relinquish my position on the Holyoke Retirement Board effective at the end of today, the date of this letter.

These last seven months have allowed me to become reacquainted with the various aspects of oversight and operations of our public retirement system and the dedicated people protecting and growing the system on behalf of Holyoke's public employees and citizens. I was honored to previously serve from 1989 through 2014 as ex-officio (City Auditor) and again these recent months. I have great respect for the current board members, executives and staff and am confident that the system will continue to prosper and reach the various funding and related goals in years ahead. May God bless the City of Holyoke.

Sincerely yours,



Brian G. Smith