

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
April 5,2022

The meeting was called to order by President McGee at 07:08 PM.

The Clerk called the roll. Absent members: 0 Present Members 13 (Anderson-Burgos, Bartley, Givner, Jourdain, Maldonado Velez, McGee, McGiverin, Murphy-Romboletti, Puello, I. Rivera, J. Rivera, Tallman, Vacon).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited..

The name of Councilor Tallman was drawn to head the roll call voting.

L Aid ON THE TABLE

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to remove item 1 from the table. The Committee on Charter and Rules to whom was referred an order that the City Council Administrative Assistant appointment be a two year appoint that coincides with the City Council terms Recommended that the order be adopted.

---> Report of committee was received and adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays 13--Yeas --0 Nays.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to remove item 2 from the table.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order The City amend its zoning ordinances to allow for front yard pools by special permit of the City Council and to make any other necessary changes to the Swimming Pool ordinance. Refer to Ordinance Committee and copy to Building commissioner said special permit would be reviewed as part of a public hearing process. The current zoning for Swimming Pools (sec 4.5.2) as currently written, states:

The wall of a swimming pool shall not be located less than eight (8) feet to any dwelling or accessory structure, six (6) feet from any rear or side lot line, and ten (10) feet from the street line. A pool shall not encroach into any front or side yard of a parcel. In the case of corner lots, pools shall not be constructed within the front yards of the lot. Recommended that the order be adopted.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos stated that following the vote at the previous meeting, he had since understood the situation better and was changing his position to support the change.

---> 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 --Yeas 9--Nays 4 (Givner, Maldonado-Velez, Murphy-Romboletti, I. Rivera)--Absent 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(5:15)

Debra Vega, 17 Linden Street, expressed her support of using CPA funds to support restoration of the former O'Connell property that was then owned by Girls, Inc of the Valley. She then stated that while she was a longtime board member of Girls, Inc, she intended to speak from the perspective of historic preservation. She noted that as a resident of a historic neighborhood abutting the property, she had an interest in maintaining the historic integrity of the neighborhood for the benefit of the neighborhood as well as the girls that would be using the building into the future. She also expressed her belief that most taxpayers would support use of the funds to support preserving the building.

Aviannah-Leigh Salters, 77 Lyman Street, stated she had been a member of Girls, Inc since 2017. As a rising senior, she stated that she would not have been as prepared to attend college if not for Girls, Inc. She noted she had the opportunities to intern for the state representative and state senator as a result of

her involvement with Girls, Inc. She then stated that the funding for the Girls, Inc building would be awesome and suggested that Holyoke taxpayers agreed.

Crystal Briggs-Salters, 77 Lyman Street, stated that as a mother of a Girls, Inc mother, she was in support of the funds going to the building. She stated that her daughter and many other girls had benefited greatly from the Girls, Inc program. She then stated that depriving the girls of use of the building would be detrimental to generations of girls in the city.

Jazlene Serrano, 17 Beacon Avenue, stated that she was loved Girls, Inc because they accept her for who she is, and that it is her happy place where she can express herself. She added that she looked forward to being in a bigger building to be with Girls, Inc.

Shannon Bliven, 35 Martin Street, stated she was the Chair of the Holyoke Bike/Ped Committee as well as marketing and community outreach for Valley BikeShare. She stated she was in support of the Girls, Inc building repairs. She expressed her support for orders that would result in a reduction of speeding issues, noting that there had been more than one fatal pedestrian accident in the current year.

Jeff Trask, 28 Central Park Drive, stated his intent to address an order related to the job description of his role as Emergency Management Director. He stated that the reason for the look at the job description was to professionalize the job and codify the duties of the position. He noted it had started off as a part time position. He then stated that it had become the role of the Fire Chief, adding that it had not been the best decision as the Fire Chief would have their own responsibilities during an emergency situation. He then emphasized the intent was to make sure the duties and responsibilities were clear, particularly when someone else eventually took over the role.

John Rivera, 125 Cabot Street, expressed his support of use of CPA funds for restoration of the Girls, Inc building. He then expressed support for items 68, 59, and 61. He emphasized the value of supporting a Fair Share Amendment, adding that it would support the city in many ways and expressed hope that the city could work to implement it.

President McGee stated that there were issues with the interpreters and that if any live interpretation was missed, there would be interpretation available in the video recorded to be posted online later.

COMMUNICATIONS

(14:10)

From Mayor Joshua A. Garcia, letter reappointing Jeffrey A. Trask to serve as the Emergency Management Director for the City of Holyoke: Mr. Trask will serve a one year term; said term will expire May 2023.

---> Received and appointment confirmed.

From Alicia M. Zoeller, Administrator for Office of Community Development re: FY2022 CDBG allocation Recommendations and FY2022 Resolution

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

From DPW Commissioner Patricia C. Devine letter re: Ordinance Language for Director of the DPW.

---> Received.

From Tanya Wdowiak, City Auditor, General Fund/Sewer YTD Expense & PILOT Reports

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

Communication regarding Main Street, Springdale Corridor, Executive Session.

---> Received.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary to take up items 8 through 17 as a package. From Massachusetts Association of Realtors, Guide to Understanding housing choice and its opportunities,

---> Received.

Communication regarding Main Street, Springdale Corridor, Feasibility Study.
---> Received.

From Parks & Recreation minutes January 13, 2022.
---> Received.

From Board of Public Works minutes of February 7, February 23, & March 7, 2022.
---> Received.

From Board of Fire Commission minutes of February 28, 2022.
---> Received.

From Holyoke Board of Health, meeting minutes from October 4, 2021, November 1, 2021, December 2, 2021 and January 3, 2022.
---> Received.

From Holyoke Redevelopment Authority, minutes from February 16, 2022 meeting.
---> Received.

From City Clerk Brenna Murphy McGee and Admin. Assistant Jeffery Anderson-Burgos
---> Received.

From City Solicitor Lisa Ball, Legal Fees Calendar Year 2021 & FY22
---> Received.

From Navae Fenwick Rodriguez, Director of Holyoke Senior Center, Senior Tax Work Off Program
---> Received.

Councilor Bartley commended DPW Commissioner, Patricia Devine, for her work assuring that meeting minutes were organized and communicated. He then commended Admin Asst Anderson-Burgos and City Clerk Murphy McGee for good work with City Council meeting minutes, adding they were getting better and more accurate.

PETITIONS

(18:20)

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 18 through 23 as a package.

Petition of Frank Ferrini for a renewal of a Second hand license at 375 Whitney Ave.
---> Received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

Petition of Tai Woong Kang for a renewal of a Second hand license at 311 High St.
---> Received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

Petition of William F. Sullivan & Co, Inc. for a renewal of a Junk Dealer at 1 Jeds Day Landing.
---> Received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

Petition of William F. Sullivan & Co, Inc. for a renewal of a Junk Dealer at 107 Appleton St.
---> Received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

Petition of Brad Matthews Jewelers, for a renewal of second hand license at 2225 Northampton St.
---> Received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

Petition of Holyoke Turn Verien, 624 South Bridge St. for renewal of 1 pool table and 6 bowling alley licenses.

---> Received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

Petition of Michael Morin for a 6.4 Signs Special Permit at 938 Main Street.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti asked if the application should also go the Planning Board.

Councilor Bartley stated that the Planning Board would provide a recommendation to the City Council for referral to the DGR Committee. He then stated that the public hearing would be set up and advertised by the Administrative Assistant. He then emphasized that the Planning Board only recommends, adding that it would need to be received before the committee could make a decision.

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

Petition for a zone change for Gennaro Santaniello at 18 Cabot St. from BH to BC.

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(21:50)

President McGee stated that badges for city councilors was being worked on by the police chief. He also stated that he attended an event for the opening Woodstone Restaurant on Hampden Street, adding that Councilor Tallman, Councilor I. Rivera, Councilor Givner, as well as the mayor were in attendance. He wished them well on their new business.

He then stated that the Chamber event for the following day would be moved to sometime in June.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(23:05)

President McGee stated that items 26B, 26C, and 26D would not be taken up due to not having signed legal form available.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order Petition of Hybrid House LLC for a Marijuana Manufacturing Establishment at 55 Jackson St have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted with the following conditions:

1. That the owner of the building always pay the 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 retains a minimum 30% Holyoke residents for non-security jobs.
3. That the hiring preference be given to security personnel that are retired Holyoke police or are a retired member of another police department that now lives in the city of Holyoke.
4. There shall be no marijuana consumption allowed on site.
5. That the hours of operation be set according to City ordinances.
6. That the applicant must abide by Massachusetts General Laws and guidance's from the Cannabis Control Commission.
7. That the petitioner/applicant shall conform with city and state health laws, rules, and regulations, including odor nuisance controls, for the duration of the permit.

Committee Members:

Linda L. Vacon

Jose Maldonado-Velez

Kocayne Givner
Kevin A Jourdain
Israel Rivera_I

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Vacon stated that the applicant responded to all open questions from the Planning Board. She also noted that there were seven standard conditions for marijuana establishment special permits, adding that the seventh included odor nuisance controls.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that she was advised by the State Ethics Commission to abstain from special permits related to cannabis due to her employment. She then stated that some cannabis companies ask her to put her EForAll program into their social impact plans. She then asked if she was handling the situation correctly.

President McGee clarified that anytime conflicts arise, councilors state their conflict and can then leave the room or just abstain when the vote comes up.

Councilor Bartley noted that there had been a news article as well as a letter from the Chair of the Planning Board criticizing the City Council about ordinances related to marijuana. He then emphasized that the city had been more welcoming to the industry than any other city in the Commonwealth. He then stated that the ordinance issue had been an innocent error. He then stated that he found such criticism unfair and offensive. He recalled that councilors had spend countless hours working on the original marijuana ordinance. He then asked that the Council receive some credit for allowing many industry businesses to come into the city.

---> Report of Committee received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 12--Nays 0--Absent 0. Councilor Murphy-Romboletti did not vote or participate in discussion on this item. Referred to the Ordinance Committee.

Motion was made and seconded to lay items 26B, 26C, and 26D on the table.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the City Council amend Holyoke Zoning Ordinances Section 7.10.5.3(a) by deleting "other use as listed in Table 4.3 of Principle uses" and inserting the following language in its place: "any pre-existing public or private school providing education in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, or any grades 1 through 12" or other such legal form sufficient to resolve any uncertainty over the interpretation of the existing ordinance as compliant with state law.
have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted.

Committee Members:
Linda L. Vacon
Jose Maldonado-Velez
Kocayne Givner
Kevin A Jourdain
Israel Rivera_I

---> Report of Committee received and laid on the table.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order That the current buffer in the marijuana ordinance (200feet from any other use...)be reviewed and revised to schools, residences etc. to ensure opportunities for new marijuana businesses and to ensure continued development opportunities for established local business in accordance with our master plan, Connect, Construct, Create.
have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted.

Committee Members:
Linda L. Vacon
Jose Maldonado-Velez
Kocayne Givner
Kevin A Jourdain
Israel Rivera_I

---> Report of Committee received and laid on the table.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order That a handicap sign be placed in front of 56 Linden St. for Hedy S. Jaundoo, Placard # PL4980420 have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted.

Committee Members:
Linda L. Vacon
Jose Maldonado-Velez
Kocayne Givner
Kevin A Jourdain
Israel Rivera_I

---> Report of Committee received and laid on the table.

(31:10)

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order CPA Recommendations for FY22 CPA Projects have considered the same and Recommended that order be adopted, with approval for Miracle League of Western MA and denial for Girls Inc.

Committee Members:
Joseph McGiverin
Kevin A Jourdain
Will Puello
Juan . Anderson-Burgos
Peter Tallman

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor McGiverin deferred to Vice Chairman Jourdain for the committee reports, noting he had not been in attendance for most of the meeting due to another commitment.

Councilor Jourdain stated that the CPA Committee chair presented on two proposals: \$350,000 for Miracle League to take care of park renovations at Kennedy Field for a project called Playground for All. He added that it would be playground intended to be accessible for children of all abilities, specifically for those with physical and cognitive disabilities to play safely. He then stated that the other proposal was for Girls, Inc under the category of historic preservation. He also stated they would like to take care of preservation work at their newly purchased building at 480 Hampden Street, formerly the O’Connell office as well as a law office. He stated they would be doing masonry work, façade work, and reconstruction of the slate roof. Noting a majority of the committee opposed the project, he stated that the original spirit of the CPA law was to pay for public projects that there may not otherwise be public resources for rather than to private organizations. He also noted that the purchase of the building by Girls, Inc also took the building off of the tax rolls, adding that it was a loss of \$35,000 in tax funds to the city. He also expressed concern about establishing a precedent if they started opening CPA funding to private organizations, suggested that many other organizations may begin making requests. He also emphasized that many city buildings such as City Hall, the City Hall Annex, the Wistariahurst Museum, and Scotts Tower. He also noted that the Holyoke Taxpayers Association had expressed opposition to funding the project. He also suggested that the work on the building could be defined as maintenance which would be forbidden under the state CPA law.

Councilor I. Rivera stated that as a member of the state’s steering committee for the CPA, he asked about eligibility of the project. He then stated that he was encouraged to identify a public benefit to funding the project. He also stated that he had many family members that had benefited from the program. He then emphasized that the project request was about the historical benefit of fixing the building, a benefit that would remain after Girls, Inc was to eventually leave the building. He then expressed concern that the Holyoke Taxpayers Association would contact councilors to pressure them to vote a certain way. He also emphasized there was a civic engagement value of having several members of the organization at the

meeting to advocate.

Councilor Givner reiterated that Girls, Inc had a public benefit, suggesting that the benefit to the city was more than \$35,000 in lost tax revenue. She then noted that the organization was producing young leaders, adding that investment in children through a stimulating environment, the city experiences a great benefit. She also suggested that the investment would encourage then young ladies to return to Holyoke after taking time to see more of the world. She also emphasized that the young women of the organization enjoy the benefits without having to pay any cost.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti emphasized that this would not be the first time the CPA had funded a non-profit organization for something that is not necessarily a public project. She noted that funding had been approved for Valley Opportunity Council to rehab properties to turn into housing, for affordable residential properties on Jackson Street, as well playground repairs for property owned by the Boys and Girls Club. She then reiterated that this project would provide a public benefit.

Councilor Bartley suggested that the Law Department offer clarification to advise on whether or not funding the project would be contrary to state law, adding that the matter could be tabled if they needed more time.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to allow the Law Department to address the Council.

Atty Bissonnette stated that as he was unfamiliar with the referenced state law section, he would need more time to research the question.

Councilor Jourdain clarified that his question specifically was to ask if the proposal would constitute maintenance of the building. He then reiterated that if true, it would be one of the prohibited uses of the funds.

Councilor Bartley commended the previous speakers for making great points, as well as the members of Girls, Inc for their tremendous poise. He then suggested that the matter be tabled for the next meeting.

President McGee suggested that the motion be withheld until other councilors seeking to speak had an opportunity, noting that a motion and second to table would end the debate.

Councilor Vacon noted that she had a late file order seeking a legal opinion relative to the question. She then commended the advocacy of the members of Girls, Inc. adding that her goal was to assure that the finding would be within the guidelines of the CPA law.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up Late File B out of order.

VACON -- that our City Solicitor provide a legal opinion re: is the use of CPA funds for a roof project for property owned by a private corporation an allowed use of CPA tax dollars?
---> Received and referred to the Law Department.

Councilor Puello stated that his main concern for voting against it in committee was the stated historical aspect of the building. He then thanked the organization for giving him a tour of the building and explaining the history in more detail. He then expressed an interest in hearing a legal opinion before taking a vote.

Councilor McGiverin stated that the historic component of community preservation was about saving any historic building that could be saved, adding that he believed CPA had done a good job vetting the project. He noted that the building had been the headquarters for the O'Connell corporation, a developer that stretches from Maine to New York. He then suggested that hearing from the Law Department would be a reasonable step. He then asked that the votes for Miracle League and Girls, Inc be separated to allow the first project to proceed without needing to wait for a vote on the second.

Councilor I. Rivera asked for clarification if the issue with funding maintenance was due to Girls, Inc being a non-profit and not city-owned. He noted that maintenance projects for city-owned projects such as painting and rooftops work at Wistariahurst had been funded through the CPA.

Councilor Jourdain clarified that the law barred any maintenance project. He then stated that the rule not being followed in the past was not a valid reason to continue not following it. He noted he had not been on the Council for the last four years, adding the CPA law had been adopted just prior to him leaving the

Council before. He then stated that while the city does not handle affordable housing, such projects could be additional leeway. He recalled that the arguments in favor of a vote to approve the CPA tax centered around supporting projects that the city may not be able to fund. He then expressed his willingness to support an expanded definition of projects to improve and repair city property were addressed first. He also suggested that deed restrictions should be considered if organizations later sell their property after using the CPA funds to improve their property.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti expressed frustration that she had been receiving mixed messages, being expected to follow what had been done in the past with some issues and not for other issues. She then stated that the CPA Committee should be trusted, noting they had done the work and likely had an understanding what they could use the funds for.

Councilor Givner emphasized that the CPA Committee existed to do the work of researching the requests and understanding the laws so that the City Council did not need to do it. She stated she would support the project because the CPA Committee had recommended it.

Councilor Maldonado Velez echoed the sentiments of the previous two speakers, suggesting that the motivations sometimes seemed centered around destruction. He then made a motion to approve both projects. Councilor Givner seconded the motion.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos emphasized that the CPA Committee members had been entrusted to do their work. He also suggested that while the CPA funds were not meant for maintenance, the slate roof of the building was a matter of preservation, adding that it was a part of the history of the building. He also noted that only two of the committee members voted against recommendation as two members had not been able to attend. He also commended the members of Girls, Inc for their advocacy and fighting for what they believe in/.

Councilor McGiverin expressed that while he was convinced the project was about preservation on a historic building, he respected the need to get a legal opinion on the question of maintenance. He then made a motion to separate the vote for the two projects. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to approve the \$350,000 allocation for Miracle League. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion.

President McGee expressed that the volunteers of the Miracle League were a phenomenal group engaged in an amazing achievement.

---> Miracle League of Western MA-Report of Committee received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 13--Nays 0 --Absent 0

Councilor Bartley made a motion to lay the Girls, Inc allocation on the table. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion. Motion failed on a show of hands vote.

Councilor Bartley expressed that volunteer boards were made up of wonderful people but questioned the implication that they were made up of experts. He also emphasized that the boards they did not have legal representation. He further emphasized that the City Council makes the final decisions after accepting or rejecting the recommendations of the boards. He then stated his intent to table was to address a legal question that had come up, noting a reasonable delay of a few weeks would not make a difference.

Councilor Vacon stated that it would not be obstructive to get a legal opinion when there had been practices that had not been subjected to legal questioning. She also emphasized that it was the job of the elected city councilors to make a decision and the Council should discover if mistakes had been made in the past that should not be continued.

Councilor Jourdain conceded that he expected to be in the minority on the Council on most votes, noting he had a different perspective and philosophy than many others on the Council. He then suggested that the Council should be considering how to protect taxpayers by assuring all details are addressed. He then suggested that too many decisions are made based on what people are passionate about. He then stated he had a duty to raise issues when they come up, adding that people should make sure they know the law before deciding they don't need a legal opinion. He also emphasized that saying yes to one project was inherently saying no to another, adding that it was a matter of prioritizing things. He then questioned why more projects for public buildings were not being submitted. He also emphasized that there were

additional open questions on whether the city council could authorize use of funds that wasn't allowed, if the funds could be retracted if granted and then found not to be allowed, or the city's potential liability if accidents happen on a city-funded project.

Councilor I. Rivera stated that all projects are run through the state coalition. He also stated that deeds come with a 30 year restriction which would require the funds to be returned if the property is sold within that time. He also stated that the Law Department does attend CPA Committee meetings. He also stated that he contacted to Chair of the state's CPA Committee to assure the project would be eligible. He then questioned the weight being placed on the position of the Taxpayer's Association over that of other people and organizations. He added that the project had been approved by the Mass Historical Commission.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti made a motion to condition approval of the fund disbursement on a legal review of the project. Councilor Anderson-Burgos seconded the motion.

President McGee asked for councilors to avoid calling each other and other organizations out directly. He then recalled attending the groundbreaking of a new hospital and hearing that working with Council and various committees had been a privilege, further emphasizing that opinions from various positions should be respected. He then asked that the members of Girls, Inc not see anyone's opposition to funding the project as opposition to mission of the organization itself.

Councilor Tallman reiterated that the project was not about Girls, Inc but about historic preservation of a building, and of the history of Holyoke. He then emphasized that the CPA Committee vetted the project. He then stated that he had to miss the committee meeting due to celebrating his anniversary, he would have supported the project.

Councilor Maldonado Velez asked to clarify if the implication of the motion made by Councilor Murphy-Romboletti was that the Council would need to wait for the Law Department to respond.

President McGee clarified that the motion would allow the Council to vote and that the disbursement of the funds would be pending a legal opinion.

Girls Inc Vote- Report of Committee received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 12--Nays 1 (Jourdain)--Absent 0.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 27B and 27J as a package.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order Petition for Segundo Solorzano for a Vendor License around Holyoke Streets have considered the same and Recommended that the order be denied without prejudice.

Committee Members:
Joseph McGiverin
Kevin A Jourdain
Will Puello
Juan . Anderson-Burgos
Peter Tallman

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

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order New Second hand application for Jonathan Maldonado located at 385 Main St have considered the same and Recommended that the order be denied without prejudice.

Committee Members:
Joseph McGiverin
Kevin A Jourdain
Will Puello
Juan . Anderson-Burgos
Peter Tallman

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor McGiverin stated that they had not been able to reach Mr. Maldonado had been able to be reached for the 385 Main Street petition and that when Mr. Solorzano was contacted for the Vendor License application, he did not know anything about the petition. He then stated that the petitions had to be disposed of without prejudice in case the applications were resubmitted.

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

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the "FY21 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT, \$20,150, IN KIND MATCH, " 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

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted.

Committee Members:

Joseph McGiverin
Kevin A Jourdain
Will Puello
Juan . Anderson-Burgos
Peter Tallman

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Jourdain suggested deferring to Jeff Trask, Emergency Management Director.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to allow Jeff Trask to address the Council.

J. Trask stated that the grant was received annually, came with a match, and would be used to purchase equipment to benefit multiple departments in the city. He added that the current year's would be to purchase a portable traffic light.

Councilor Bartley asked there was a match.

President McGee clarified it was in in-kind match.

---> 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 (Givner).

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the "S.A.F.E. FIRE EDUCATION \$6,275/ SENIOR SAFE \$3,255, TOTAL \$9,530, NO MATCH, " 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.

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted.

Committee Members:

Joseph McGiverin
Kevin A Jourdain
Will Puello
Juan . Anderson-Burgos
Peter Tallman

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Jourdain stated that the program was to provide safe fire education to students as well as for seniors.

Councilor McGiverin added that the grant was received annually. He then stated that the students receive materials and visits from Sparky the Dog in schools, and that seniors are provided instruction on what to do in case of fires in their homes.

Councilor Tallman recalled seeing Maria Pelchar from the Fire Department leading a discussion about various fire safety measures at the Senior Center the week before.

---> Report of Committee passed two readings and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays

--Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 27E and 27G as a

package.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2022, FOUR THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED FORTY AND 00/100 Dollars (\$4,440.00) as follows:

FROM:

15432-57700 VETERANS BENEFITS-DIRECT \$4,440.00

TOTAL: \$4,440.00

TO:

11522-53009 CONTRACTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES \$4,440.00

TOTAL: \$4,440.00

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted.

Committee Members:

Joseph McGiverin

Kevin A Jourdain

Will Puello

Juan . Anderson-Burgos

Peter Tallman

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2022, THREE THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$3,000.00) as follows:

FROM:

15432-57700 VETERANS BENEFITS - DIRECT \$3,000.00

TOTAL: \$3,000.00

TO:

19202-57200 OUT OF STATE TRAVEL \$3,000.00

TOTAL: \$3,000.00

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted.

Committee Members:

Joseph McGiverin

Kevin A Jourdain

Will Puello

Juan . Anderson-Burgos

Peter Tallman

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Jourdain stated that the transfer was for the Veterans Service Director, Jesus Pereira, to attend a conference relative to his area. He stated that Mr. Pereira would plan to provide a report of the benefit to the community.

---> Report of Committee passed two readings and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays

--Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2022, SEVENTY FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$75,000.00) as follows:

FROM:

12201-51105 FIREFIGHTER \$75,000.00

TOTAL: \$75,000.00

TO:

12201-51300 OVERTIME \$75,000.00

TOTAL: \$75,000.00

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted.

Committee Members:

Joseph McGiverin

Kevin A Jourdain

Will Puello
 Juan . Anderson-Burgos
 Peter Tallman

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Jourdain stated that the transfer was to cover the salaries of firefighters working extra hours due to the department being short several firefighters.

---> Report of Committee passed two readings and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays
 --Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2022, TWENTY TWO THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY EIGHT AND 00/100 Dollars (\$22,768.00) as follows:

FROM:		
11381-51103	INVENTORY CONTROL COORDINATOR	
\$7,293.00		
11381-51104	HEAD CLERK	15,475.00
TOTAL:	\$22,768.00	
TO:		
11381-51105	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE SPECIALIST	
\$11,672.00		
11381-51106	OFFICE SPECIALIST	11,096.00
TOTAL:	\$22,768.00	

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted.

Committee Members:
 Joseph McGiverin
 Kevin A Jourdain
 Will Puello
 Juan . Anderson-Burgos
 Peter Tallman

TOTAL: \$22,768.00 Recommended that the order be adopted.

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Jourdain stated that the request was for the Purchasing Department. He then stated that two positions in the department were being requested to be reclassified to higher grades, adding that they were doing additional and more complex work. He noted that it would require an additional \$15,000 a year in the department's budget, adding that the changes appeared to be appropriate and in the best interest of the department.

Councilor Vacon asked if the consulting attorney looked at the grading for the jobs.

Councilor Jourdain stated that the positions had been reviewed, involved a couple union positions, and that they had received internal approvals.

---> Report of Committee passed two readings and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays
 --Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2022, TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$200,000.00) as follows:

FROM:	
12101-51107 PATROLMEN	\$200,000.00
TOTAL:	\$200,000.00
TO:	
12101-51300 OVERTIME	\$200,000.00
TOTAL:	\$200,000.00

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted.

Committee Members:

Joseph McGiverin
 Kevin A Jourdain
 Will Puello
 Juan . Anderson-Burgos
 Peter Tallman

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Jourdain emphasized that the funds were coming from within the department's budget. He then stated that the department had many unfilled positions, adding that the overtime funds were needed to assure appropriate staffing levels. He then stated that even with this transfer, it would end up being the lowest amount of overtime used in a fiscal year in recent history.

Councilor McGiverin added that the Police Chief had been challenged to lower overtime costs when he had taken the job the previous year and had done a good job of it. He noted that the previous average of around \$38,000 of overtime per pay period had been lowered to below \$35,000.

Councilor I. Rivera asked if the overtime account would be better funded for their expected needed in the coming fiscal year's budget.

President McGee stated that part of the issue was budgeting for 93 patrol officers and having only 83 officers in the department, forcing people to work overtime.

Councilor I. Rivera suggested another system should be in place, expressing concern that a lot was being spent on overtime. He suggested comparing overtime spending in other communities. He suggested that auxiliary police should be used more to fill in for overtime.

Councilor McGiverin emphasized that the city had not chosen to shrink use of auxiliary but had been forced to due to a recent police reform law. He then stated that overtime requests should come before the City Council periodically to allow the departments to explain the need. He suggested that this had led to reduction of overtime spending.

Councilor Tallman stated that the overtime is often discussed during budget hearings and funding is set to allow for them to come back to explain their needs.

Councilor Jourdain suggested that if done the right way, a consultant would perform a cross review of all departments to compare how overtime is used and approved among several communities. He added that they should also compare benchmarks and standards.

Councilor Givner expressed her understanding that the need for departments to get Council approval for overtime transfers had been implemented for more transparency because there had been abuses in the past.

President McGee stated it was for a better understanding of how overtime is tracked.

Councilor I. Rivera asked if patrolmen and supervisors had different line items. He noted that someone higher on the scale working overtime would be at a greater cost. He added that while there was a process for determining who works overtime, there should be a mechanism to make it more beneficial for the city as a whole.

Councilor Tallman noted the difficulty in getting newer officers to work overtime, adding that older officers were often forced to due to staffing needs.

---> Report of Committee passed two readings and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays

--Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

(1:57:20)

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the street number (which is currently) 380R Dwight Street (021-001-005) changed to 382 Dwight Street. Confusion between buildings (map lot 021-01-003), and the derelict neighbor (map lot 021-01-005) has a detrimental impact on public safety and has led to confusion by HG&E and other utility service providers have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted.

Committee Members:
 Israel Rivera_I
 Kocayne Givner
 Todd A McGee

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor I. Rivera deferred to Councilor J. Rivera as the maker of the order.

Councilor J. Rivera stated that the order resulted from a constituent email detailing issues with deliveries and safety personnel responding to the wrong address. She then stated she was told that the City Engineer could make the change.

Councilor I. Rivera stated that the only difference between the two addresses was the letter A after the number. He added this had led to mail being delivered to the wrong place, police showing up at the wrong door, and GPS leading people to the wrong location. He noted that the City Engineer suggested it would be a simple fix.

President McGee added that such changes go through the authority of City Engineer's office following the City Council's recommendation.

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

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 28B through 28K as a package.

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order 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 have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:
Israel Rivera_I
Kocayne Givner
Todd A McGee

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order 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 have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:
Israel Rivera_I
Kocayne Givner
Todd A McGee

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that Capt. Moriarty provide an updated list of safety options or procedures put in place to deal with the security/safety at City Hall, sub committee meetings and full council meetings have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:
Israel Rivera_I
Kocayne Givner
Todd A McGee

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that OPED, City Engineer & DPW explore improving (replace fencing, cut back tall grass and brush) the canal side of the street as well as what it would cost to install a walk, bike, run lane stretching from Canal St. and N.Bridge St. to Canal St. and Appleton St have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:
 Israel Rivera_I
 Kocayne Givner
 Todd A McGee

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the city engineer look into potentially changing the driveway into Peoples Bank off of Beech St to only be an entrance. There have been safety concerns related to the slope of the driveway leading cars out of the property into traffic that is often rushing to make the light have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:
 Israel Rivera_I
 Kocayne Givner
 Todd A McGee

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the public safety committee invite in the new Chair and Vice Chair for the Bike Ped Advisory Committee to discuss the Bike Ped committee, projects, etc have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:
 Israel Rivera_I
 Kocayne Givner
 Todd A McGee

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order That the HG&E repair the lightening in Laurel Park on Laurel Street. The light in the park needs to be fixed asap and HG&E has fixed it in past and their help is needed once again have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:
 Israel Rivera_I
 Kocayne Givner
 Todd A McGee

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order That the DPW repair the fountain at Laurel Park on Laurel Street. The fountain head was damaged recently and needs to be fixed for Memorial Day opening. have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:
 Israel Rivera_I
 Kocayne Givner
 Todd A McGee

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the DPW put up warning signs informing drivers of upcoming raised sidewalks have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:
 Israel Rivera_I
 Kocayne Givner
 Todd A McGee

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order That the city takes serious steps to create methods of enforcement. There are many ordinances and laws in place to protect citizens and support businesses. What good are all these laws and ordinances without enforcement? Ongoing city wide enforcement issues include; parking in no parking zones created specifically to aid in visibility for drivers and pedestrians, parking in reserved parking zones created for businesses to receive deliveries and or include customer parking, well over the 25mph speed limit violations especially throughout our more populated neighborhoods, traffic light violations, stop sign violations, trash violations, snow removal violations, etc, etc
 have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:
 Israel Rivera_I
 Kocayne Givner
 Todd A McGee

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor I. Rivera stated that the orders had been a combination of older orders that were handled and newer orders with some discussion. He then stated that the discussion of item 28K regarding better enforcement of ordinances came down to trying to understand how the Police Department prioritizes enforcement. He then stated that the others had not been complex matters and that the intents being them had been straightforward.

President McGee added that the makers of the orders were fine with the orders being complied with as the discussions had taken place.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the Acting Mayor and City Council President present a plan and target date for opening city hall and resuming City Council meetings at City Hall

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:
 Israel Rivera_I
 Kocayne Givner
 Todd A McGee

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order 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
 have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:
 Israel Rivera_I
 Kocayne Givner
 Todd A McGee

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the public safety committee meet with the principal of Holyoke High School, the receiver, the mayor, the police chief and the vice chair of the school committee to discuss concerns about materials being promoted within the high school which seem to only further alienate the community from the police department. As an example of things to do

instead of calling the cops is: "don't feel obligated to defend property-especially corporate private property. Before confronting someone or contacting the police, ask yourself if anyone is being hurt or endangered by property theft or damage. If the answer is no, then let it be." The goal of the order is to build a greater understanding and respect between the police and the community.
have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Israel Rivera_I
Kocayne Givner
Todd A McGee

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor I. Rivera stated that the orders were filed in past sessions and the committee was continuing to clean out the committee jacket. He then asked his fellow councilors to reach out to him if they have orders they are looking to have taken up in coming meetings.

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order From Alicia M. Zoeller, Administrator, Office of Community Development, FFY2022 Community Development Block Grant Applications
have considered the same and Awaiting disposition.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
David K. Bartley
Joseph McGiverin
Jenny Rivera_J
Linda L. Vacon

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that the committee reviewed the block grant proposals as well as the recommendations from Community Development, the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), and the mayor. She then stated that there had not been major changes from the recommendations, other than allocating \$100,000 for sidewalks. She noted that funding had been moved from a micro-enterprise and small businesses grants proposal, adding that they had advocated for funding that proposal if additional funds become available following HUD's final allocation. She then stated that there had been questions about the cost for the Sparky the Dog fire training safety suit requested from the Fire Department. She added that the costs had been due to high quality of the suit, noting it had last been purchased 17 years ago. She also stated that a question came up about the first time home buyers program, adding that the program was free for Holyoke residents and the majority of the people who take the class are Holyoke residents.

Councilor McGiverin observed that the presentations of CDBD proposals by Alicia Zoeller makes the job of the committee a lot easier. He then noted that the Council makes recommendations while the mayor has the final say on the allocations. He then expressed hope that the mayor would give deference to the Council recommendations, specifically noting the value of the youth softball league and the need to help more families participate who may not be able to afford it. He then made a motion to adopt the resolution to accept the funds with the recommendations. He then expressed concern that funds from federal revenue sharing had decreased greatly in recent decades. Councilor Bartley seconded the motion.

Councilor Puello echoed Councilor McGiverin's sentiments about Ms. Zoeller. He then noted that he had questions at the committee meeting. He then stated that he had been concerned about a detail in the first time homebuyers proposal that appeared to show a \$100 fee for participants, adding that it had been an error. He also expressed that his concern remained about the \$3,500 quote for the Sparky the Dog suit, adding that he could find the same costume on Amazon for much less money. He then suggested that the cost may be that suit was coming from a national fire safety supplier.

Councilor Jourdain stated that the many great programs were being supported, specifically emphasizing the value of the school playgrounds as well as \$40,000 going to Margaret's Pantry. He noted he had heard

from many families struggling to stretch budgets, adding that Margaret's Pantry had long served a mission of providing food programs to the most needy in the community.

Councilor Bartley noted that the recommendations of the CAC had been taken seriously. He then suggested that a councilor needed to be appointed to serve on the CAC. He then stated that there had been some unique and unusual projects among the proposals. He specifically emphasized the unanimous agreement to add additional funds to the youth softball league allocation. He then recalled that the process had been a transparent one while former mayor, Terry Murphy, had served, adding that he had confidence that Mayor Garcia would continue to have an open process going forward.

Councilor I. Rivera echoed the sentiments of his colleagues relative to the value of Margaret's Pantry as well as the youth softball league, adding that they were both a benefit to the community. He then expressed concern with the way the Scott's Tower project was being presented. He emphasized that CDBG funds were supposed to be spend in specific areas in the community, specifically in low income areas. He suggested that using Scott's Tower's proximity to Beaudoin Village to make it eligible might be a stretch.

Councilor J. Rivera noted that in an email explaining Sparky the Dog, the suit the department uses comes installed with a dual fan cooling system to keep the operator cool. She then suggested that in a school with many children surrounding the person, it could get very hot.

Councilor Givner noted that as someone who had worked in costuming, she could attest to the differences in the quality of costumes between Amazon and the Robotico company the department was getting it from. She added that companies will often steal the images of quality costumes and use them for their listing but that the actual costume wouldn't hold up beyond one wear. She suggested that the previous one lasted for 17 years because they spend the money on a quality costume.

Councilor Tallman noted that he had intended to attend the meeting after another commitment, but the meeting had finished before he arrived. He then expressed his appreciation for the funding of sidewalk repair as well as funding for the warming center. He then stated that while he agreed with concerns about cost for Sparky the Dog, he understood that the previous one had held up a long time and its value would be earned in saving even one life.

Councilor Maldonado Velez asked to clarify what the process would be to ensuring that the funds would be spend for the specified purposes.

President McGee stated that the recommendations would go to the mayor for his final decisions. He then stated that each department receiving funds would handle accounting.

Councilor McGiverin clarified that the Community Development office has to track the funds, adding that the federal government regularly audits the department. He then stated that any funds not used can come back to be reallocated for other projects.

Councilor Maldonado Velez stated his intent was to assure that the funds would be used for what they were proposed for, noting that the first time homebuyers program had not been able to happen for a period of time due to the pandemic.

Councilor Puello suggested that an order be filed to have proponents of the projects present to the City Council. He then clarified that he was not against Sparky the Dog but wanted to assure the cost was appropriate. He then asked if there was a procurement law requiring them to get more than one quote. He then stated he would follow up with the department to get an answer.

Councilor Bartley suggested that with many good questions about the process, an order could be filed to ask Ms. Zoeller to come in or at least send a communication to explain how the funds were being used after being allocated.

---> Report of Committee received and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

(2:05:25)

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order That the Honorable City Council, in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 30B and the Holyoke Procurement Ordinance, vote that the City of Holyoke accept the proposal and sell 144 High Street for \$5,000 to Carlos Peña and Katy Moonan of Paper City Clothing Company. The property is described in the Holyoke Assessor's Records as Map 013, Block 02, Parcel 004, consisting of an approximate 5,460 square foot building on 3,354 square feet of land. The property is zoned as Downtown Business (BC) with an assessed value of \$88,100

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be adopted.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti

David K. Bartley

Joseph McGiverin

Jenny Rivera_J

Linda L. Vacon

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that 3 responses to the RFP had been submitted for this property, adding that they were all for the same amount. She then stated that the proposal would be for an existing business, currently located on Dwight Street. She stated they would renovate the space and turn it into commercial space on the first floor and residential space on the second floor.

Councilor Puello expressed his intent to oppose the project. He then suggested that the deals the city was entering into with these properties could be better. He recognized that while the business planned to invest a lot into the building, there were open questions on if they would actually spend that money as well as what rights the city would have when the project was done. He also expressed concern that they would rehab the building and rent out apartments at market rate. He then suggested that the apartments be offered at 75% poverty level for a specified period of time. He clarified that he was not against the business but believed the proposal was too good and details needed to be changed.

Councilor McGiverin noted that the property had been condemned at one time. He then stated that the goal of the city in taking over properties is to return them to the tax rolls as soon as possible. He then emphasized that the sale price takes into account what the new owner planned to invest into the property. He then reiterated that the building was about to be torn down. He then suggested that downtown needed more market rate housing so that the return matched the investment put into the property. He also emphasized that the city has the right to execute the reverter clause put into all sale contracts if the purchasers fail to do what they said they would with the properties.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos stated that investment would be good for Holyoke. He added that High Street was on its way to helping boost the economy of the city. He then stated that any investment in a building that was near being demolished was a god thing.

Councilor Bartley expressed appreciation that there would be private investment in the downtown area. He noted that the purchased had an investor as well as backup investment, if necessary. He then emphasized that what was an eyesore was going to be become commercial and residential space. He then commended Councilor Puello for bringing up concerns with the sale price, noting a situation with a building that had come before the Council, had been rejected, and later was sold for 10 times the original offer resulting in much greater investment. He then stated that while he would vote for this proposal, he recognized the validity of the concerns being expressed and hoped that they would spark better conversation about consideration for more appropriate sale prices.

Councilor Jourdain recalled a questionable deal in the past when the city sold the old Dean lot and allowed CVS to place a clause in a proposal precluding any retail development on any adjacent parcel, leading to an adjacent parcel's value dropping and being sold for much less than it could have been. He then stated he would support this project, adding that he recognized there would be difficulty getting a traditional loan for the project. He also stated that there should be assurances that a reverter clause was in place. He recalled one property went through 4 different reverter extensions before the owner eventually gave the property back to the city.

Councilor Maldonado Velez noted that he and Councilor Puello filed an order to assure that the process for RFP's was more transparent.

Councilor I. Rivera asked to clarify that the reverter clause could lead to the city taking the property back and having to take it down if the purchaser didn't follow through with their plan.

President McGee stated that the city did not have to exercise the reverter clause.

Councilor I. Rivera noted it had been on the list to get town down, adding there had not been any other offers.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti clarified that there had been 3 bids.

Councilor I. Rivera stated he wanted to assure that the city wouldn't eventually just lose money by taking it back later on.

Councilor Tallman recalled that there had been many properties sold for \$1. He suggested that the conversation to try to get more for properties should be had. He then emphasized that the purchaser of this property would be fixing up a dilapidated property.

Councilor McGiverin emphasized that reverter clauses rarely have to be executed. He then stated that while he believed the points being made were good, he did have concerns about trying to get too much and having properties become a bigger issue. He recalled several buildings the city acquired and become major safety issues for the surrounding sidewalks, streets, and adjacent properties.

Councilor Maldonado Velez expressed his understanding the reverter clauses have benchmarks built into them to assure purchasers are meeting specific timelines for development of the properties.

Councilor Puello reiterated that the property had multiple offers, adding that the prior owner had acquired it through RFP, emphasizing that interest in the property put the city in a position to put conditions on the sales and be selective on who they are sold to.

Councilor Jourdain made a motion to add a two year reverter clause to the sale. Councilor Puello seconded the motion.

Councilor McGiverin stated that while he had no issue with the motion, he questioned if the City Council had the authority. He emphasized that the mayor negotiates the sale and the City Council approves it.

Councilor Bartley recalled that reverter clauses were already standard language in the sales.

President McGee suggested that while he was sure that was accurate, he believed the intent of the motion was to assure that it was there.

Councilor Jourdain stated that his intent was to avoid leaving nothing to chance.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos suggested that the Law Department attended meetings to address these kinds of questions.

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

Atty Bissonnette stated that every bidder was notified that they would have to sign a 2 year reverter deed, adding that there were additional conditions that would outlive the reverter.

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order City council invite Sarah Greenleaf, Urban Forester, of DCR's Urban & Community Forestry, to a future DGR meeting to discuss DCR's ongoing free tree-planting program for Holyoke. DCR staff and its volunteers have planted hundreds of trees in designated areas of the city. Sarah and DCR have planted trees on both public and private property and are looking to plant more in 2022. Refer to DGR. Copy to Conservation. have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
 David K. Bartley
 Joseph McGiverin
 Jenny Rivera_J
 Linda L. Vacon

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that Ms. Greenleaf provided information had a goal of planting 3,000 trees around the state, adding that Holyoke was one of the cities where trees could be planted for free.

Councilor Bartley emphasized the value of having a discussion with Ms. Greenleaf, noting she is often around talking to people. He then noted they had hit around 2,100 of their goal for planting trees, adding that Holyoke should do what it can do help them reach their goal. He then expressed hop that she would send a communication to the city on a regular basis.

Councilor I. Rivera noted that he was seeking to add trees to an island that he had recently adopted. He then noted that when having a tree planted, people also take on the responsibility of wearing the trees.

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that the D&GR Committee invite Lynn Gray, new General Manager of the Holyoke Mall, to allow for an introduction to the Holyoke City Council.

have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
 David K. Bartley
 Joseph McGiverin
 Jenny Rivera_J
 Linda L. Vacon

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that Ms. Gray gave updates on how the mall was doing. She then stated that despite the status of retail broadly, the mall was doing well and taking a unique approach to adapting to the economy.

Councilor Bartley stated that it had been great to get an update on the mall since she had last visited the Council the previous year, adding that she was a staunch advocate for the city.

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

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 30C and 30D as a package.

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order Petition for Joint or Identical Pole Location Verizon New England, Inc. and Holyoke Gas & Electric Department, request permission to locate poles, wires, cables and fixtures, including the necessary anchors, guys and other such sustaining and protecting fixtures to be owned and used in common by your petitioners, along and across the following public way or ways:

Northampton Street: Relocate one (1) jointly owned pole numbered T.287/E.244 to a point on the easterly side of Northampton Street approximately one hundred seventy-two (172) feet southerly from the center line of Shawmut Avenue.

Reason: Relocate one (1) jointly owned pole on Northampton Street to accommodate and electric company upgrade; and to provide for the distribution of intelligence and telecommunications and for the transmission of high and low voltage electric current

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw without prejudice.

Committee Members:
 Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
 David K. Bartley
 Joseph McGiverin
 Jenny Rivera_J
 Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order Petition of Verizon New England , Inc. to place one pole on the northerly side of Harvard St. at a point approximately one hundred seventy-three (173) feet Easterly from the center line of Pleasant St. have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw without prejudice. .

Committee Members:
 Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
 David K. Bartley
 Joseph McGiverin
 Jenny Rivera_J
 Linda L. Vacon

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that the items were brought up as part of ongoing work to clean out the jacket.

Councilor Bartley expressed an expectation that Verizon would come back with new petitions.

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order Petition of Carmen Rivera for a new special permit for a home occupation at 170 Oak St. for a towing business have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw without prejudice..

Committee Members:
 Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
 David K. Bartley
 Joseph McGiverin
 Jenny Rivera_J
 Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 30B and the Holyoke Code of Ordinances procurement ordinance, the City Council declare the Old Rock Valley Road parcel identified by the Holyoke Board of Assessors records as Map 183, Block 00, Parcel 006 as surplus property available for disposition. Said parcel is a vacant lot approximately 4 acres in size. The property is described by the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 1828, Page 162. The property was awarded to the City via a Land Court Decree with a Final Judgment recorded on September 30, 2015 in Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book 20894, Page 42. The property is zoned Agriculture and Single-Family Residence (RA). have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:
 Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
 David K. Bartley

Joseph McGiverin
 Jenny Rivera_J
 Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 30B and the Holyoke Code of Ordinances procurement ordinance, the City Council vote to declare two parcels formerly owned by the Geriatric Authority of Holyoke as surplus property available for disposition. Said parcels are described as follows: parcel 117-00-018 located at 45 Holy Family Road consists of approximately 8.684 acres more or less with a nursing home building, is zoned RO and was previously assessed at \$7,046,200.00; parcel 117-00-0145 located at Lower Westfield Road consists of approximately 9.530 acres more or less of vacant land, is zoned RO and was previously assessed at \$326,000.00. The parcels are more particularly described in deeds recorded at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 20577, Page 189 and Book 16921, Page 558. have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:
 Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
 David K. Bartley
 Joseph McGiverin
 Jenny Rivera_J
 Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that Neighbor to Neighbor Holyoke its staff and membership be invited to the Development and Government Relations Committee to discuss their organization and the work that they do, including their areas of priority/focus. have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:
 Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
 David K. Bartley
 Joseph McGiverin
 Jenny Rivera_J
 Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that That MassDot come into DG&R Committee to discuss what traffic options can be done with regards to Dillon Ave, Dwight St. and Northampton St. have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:
 Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
 David K. Bartley
 Joseph McGiverin
 Jenny Rivera_J
 Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that the City Council adopt a resolution opposing HB 3320 and SB 1209 also referred to as the Roe Bill and send it to our State Representative and Senator. These bills expand MA abortion laws beyond Roe v Wade; allow for late term abortions, eliminate parental consent for minors and allow a baby born alive to be denied medical care, as some of the proposed

changes

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
David K. Bartley
Joseph McGiverin
Jenny Rivera_J
Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that the City Council convey parcel # 117-00-148 (1.350 acres) to Holyoke Housing Authority for \$1.00. have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
David K. Bartley
Joseph McGiverin
Jenny Rivera_J
Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that the DG&R committee meet with the superintendent of the DPW to develop a specific planned schedule for snow removal on the sidewalks adjacent to all of the canals within the city. The goal is to make certain that the length of time persons would need to walk in the road is as minimal as possible have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
David K. Bartley
Joseph McGiverin
Jenny Rivera_J
Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that the directors of community development, the office of planning and development, the Holyoke Housing authority meet with the DG&R committee to discuss the potential usage of HUD Section 108 funds to accelerate the redevelopment of the many city owned vacant lots within the city have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
David K. Bartley
Joseph McGiverin
Jenny Rivera_J
Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order That the paper street adjacent to 72 Mueller Rd (parcel ID 182-00-032) and Rear County Road (parcel ID 182-00-035) be declared surplus and made available for sale have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:
 Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
 David K. Bartley
 Joseph McGiverin
 Jenny Rivera_J
 Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that the two, two acre parcels on Mountain Rd adjacent to the conservation area be placed into the conservation area. (across from 315 Mt. Rd in front of the old shooting range).
 have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:
 Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
 David K. Bartley
 Joseph McGiverin
 Jenny Rivera_J
 Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order The City Council adopt a resolution affirming the City of Holyoke's commitment to being a safe and accepting community. That a copy of this resolution be provided to Senator Humason, State Representative Vega, and Governor Baker. Proposed resolution wording is included within.

RESOLUTION DECLARING HOLYOKE'S COMMITMENT TO BEING A SAFE AND ACCEPTING COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Holyoke City Council has asserted that the City of Holyoke does not tolerate hate crimes and other expressions of hate, such as in its April 2016 Resolution "Affirming the City of Holyoke's Commitment to Civil Rights and Ensuring Equity for All People in Holyoke and Beyond"; this April 2016 Resolution included language such as: "Basic concepts of human and civil rights dictate that discrimination based on gender identity and/or sexual orientation is inherently wrong; and "The City of Holyoke acknowledges, respects, and values the diversity of its community"; and

WHEREAS, the Holyoke City Council believes in the rights of all people to lead lives of peace and dignity free from fear, harassment, and violence; and

WHEREAS, the Holyoke City Council is adamantly committed to protecting this community's residents from racist, Islamophobic, anti-Semitic, misogynistic, homophobic, transphobic, anti-immigrant, and anti-refugee sentiments and acts and all other targeting of residents based on their identities or perceived identities; and WHEREAS, the Holyoke City Council stands in strong opposition to the authoritarianism, policies, and rhetoric that engender hatred; and

WHEREAS, the City of Holyoke supports respect for civil and human rights and recognizes that pursuant to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations in 1948, Article 3, "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person" and Article 5, "No one shall be subjected to...degrading treatment;"

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Holyoke, Massachusetts redoubles its commitment to the values of freedom, justice, and equality that bind us as a community, and to protecting those whose security and well-being may be threatened in the current political and social climate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we stand in solidarity with, and advocate for the civil liberties and human rights of, every resident of Holyoke regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual and gender identity, national origin, or citizenship and immigration status.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recommit to working towards a community, country, and world that are non-discriminatory, welcoming, just, inclusive, and pluralistic.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we vehemently condemn acts of vandalism, harassment, and violence that express hatred towards members of our community and beyond;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Holyoke is a hate-free zone in which hate crimes and discriminatory actions will not be tolerated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon all members of our community to engage in positive community-building and take the necessary and courageous steps to prevent and respond to discrimination and hatred whenever and wherever they see it. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we are committed to holding our state and federal leaders accountable to the values and commitments expressed in this resolution.

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
David K. Bartley
Joseph McGiverin
Jenny Rivera_J
Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order The management of Wistariahurst provide to the City Council a report documenting the \$250,000.00 grant it received (circa 2010). The grant was referenced in a letter from DLS dated 3/19/18 and the deficiency from the grants (\$124,921.00) was discussed in City Council 3/20/18 and paid for by city taxpayers to balance the FY18 budget. Provide a narrative of the source of the funds, what they were used for, and how the fund had a deficiency. Please provide prior to the city council's budget review time.

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
David K. Bartley
Joseph McGiverin
Jenny Rivera_J
Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order The Mayor or the Law Department or anyone with knowledge of the two Casey contracts please advise City Council as to who drafted the two contracts between the City of Holyoke and Rory Casey as it was disclosed by the city's law department at Ordinance meeting on 10/8/19 that it did not draft the city contracts signed by the Mayor and Mr. Casey

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
David K. Bartley
Joseph McGiverin
Jenny Rivera_J
Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order WHEREAS, on October 16, 1991, the Geriatric Authority of Holyoke entered into a 99 year lease with the Holyoke Housing Authority for a portion of the property located at 45 Holy Family Road (Assessor's Property Id # 117-00-018);

And WHEREAS, the Holyoke Housing Authority obtained monies from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (formerly Executive Office of Community Development) to construct a Congregate Living residential units (property address of 43 Lower Westfield Road) for elderly and disabled individuals of low income pursuant to M.G.L. c. 121B Section 39 and 40 and consisting of 20 units (c. 667);

And WHEREAS, said building has been maintained and operated by the Holyoke Housing Authority and

said Housing Authority has paid all electrical, gas, water, sewer and related municipal expenses related to the operation of said building;

In accordance with Section 8(c)(1) of Chapter 1097 of the Acts of 1973, the lease between the Geriatric Authority and Holyoke Housing Authority required approval by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Alderman (City Council). On October 15, 1991, the Board of Alderman voted to approve the lease by a vote of 13-0 (with one absent and one vacancy). A copy of the lease and vote is attached.

And WHEREAS on January 26, 2015 the City of Holyoke obtained said parcel #117-00-018 in its entirety through a tax taking;

And WHEREAS, the Holyoke Housing Authority desires to own said parcel that the Raymond P. Murphy Congregate House is located - see attached plan

Now Therefore, it is requested that:

1. The Holyoke Housing Authority procure and hire a surveyor to complete an Approval Not Required Plan to subdivide the land that said Congregate Building from the remaining property as shown on plan attached;
 2. That the City Council declare that portion of said parcel #117-00-018 that said Congregate House is placed on surplus;
 3. That the City of Holyoke convey to the Holyoke Housing Authority said parcel for \$1.00
- have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
David K. Bartley
Joseph McGiverin
Jenny Rivera_J
Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order Be it Resolved for All Time that Holyoke is a welcoming community and we, the City Council, do hereby recognize, support and cherish all of Our City's citizens, businesses, government employees and visitors. have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
David K. Bartley
Joseph McGiverin
Jenny Rivera_J
Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order City Council receive a communication regarding the Casey contract with an effective date of March 22, 2019, from city Auditor/Treasurer. The communication should include all invoices and payment copies relative to this contract. Please specify the accounts in the budget from which funds were paid. Further, the City Auditor or any relevant official shall provide all reports produced as a result of this contract. Finally, the City Auditor or any relevant official shall provide documentation of what was delivered to the City by Mr. Casey for the \$2,000.00 contracted amount. Please provide these to city council by the first regular city council meeting in November 2019

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
David K. Bartley
Joseph McGiverin
Jenny Rivera_J

Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order City Council receive a communication regarding the Casey contract with effective dates of November 19, 2018 to June 30, 2019, from city Auditor/Treasurer. The communication should include all invoices and payment copies. Please specify the accounts in the budget from which funds were paid. Further, the City Auditor or any relevant official shall provide all reports produced as a result of this contract. Finally, the City Auditor or any relevant official shall provide documentation of what was delivered to the City by Mr. Casey for the \$9,999.00 contracted amount. Please provide these to city council by the first regular city council meeting in November 2019.

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti

David K. Bartley

Joseph McGiverin

Jenny Rivera_J

Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that a representative from Roca come before the Public Service subcommittee. We are looking for a overview of their services and the great work they are doing for the Cities Department of Public Works have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti

David K. Bartley

Joseph McGiverin

Jenny Rivera_J

Linda L. Vacon

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

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that in accordance with M.G.L. ch30B and the Holyoke Code of Ordinances procurement ordinance, the City Council consider declaring a portion of parcel on Easthampton Rd. as surplus property available for disposition subject to certain reuse restrictions. This parcel is shown as "Proposed Parking Lot Easement" measuring approximately 0.70 acres on the "Easement Plan" dated June 6, 2018 and prepared by R. Levesque Associates, Inc. attached hereto. The parcel is a portion of premises identified by the Holyoke Board of Assessors records as Map 212, Block 00, Parcel 001 and more particularly described at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 16740, page 126.

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Tessa Murphy-Romboletti

David K. Bartley

Joseph McGiverin

Jenny Rivera_J

Linda L. Vacon

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

ORDERS AND TRANSFERS

(3:05:30)

RIVERA_J Ordered, that That a handicap sign be placed in front of 60 Northeast St. for Mariano Gomez , Placard # PLH108 .

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

RIVERA_I Ordered, that Order that honorable city council invite organizers of the Holyoke HUB to come in and present on what the Holyoke HUB is and how it will benefit the city of Holyoke.

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

RIVERA_I Ordered, that Order that legal review the Boston Cannabis Equity program ordinance and begin to draft language similar to it for the purposes of creating a Holyoke Cannabis Equity program.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee. Copy to Law Department.

VACON, Puello Ordered, that City Councilors request the Mayor to utilize marijuana stabilization money to help to mitigate odors from marijuana facilities for the benefit of the community; residents, existing businesses and other potential business investors.

---> Received and adopted. Referred to the Mayor Garcia.

VACON, Jourdain, Puello Ordered, that an update on heroin related overdoses be provided by our Police Department to the City Council. The last reports provided indicated 2014-42 OD calls (11 fatalities), 2015-83 OD calls (12 fatalities), 2018- 222 OD calls (19 fatalities).

Also provide an update on initiatives to deter drug dealing in our city.

---> Received and adopted. Referred to the HPD. Copy to Public Safety.

VACON, Jourdain, Puello Ordered, that That a Legal opinion be issued to clarify allowed uses of marijuana impact fee money. For example,

if odor from a facility is a problem in the community can the money be used for mitigation?

---> Received and adopted. Copy to Ordinance.

VACON Ordered, that Ordered that Ordinance 26-33 Emergency Management Director be examined and updated to reflect the current responsibilities of the position.

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

ANDERSON-BURGOS, Jourdain, Puello Ordered, that Ordered, that the public safety committee invite in relevant departments to address safety concerns at the intersection of Beech St and West Franklin. A resident recently lost her life crossing the street, and other residents have also expressed concerns. What can prevent future tragedies? What are the state's plans and timeline? What can be done in the meantime? Invite in Mayor Garcia, HPD, DPW, HG&E, MassDOT.

---> Received and referred to the Public Safety Committee. Copy to Mayor Garcia, HPD, DPW, HG&E, MassDOT.

BARTLEY, Puello Ordered, that The DGR committee invite GEORGE MULRY, Volleyball Hall of Fame Executive Director, to a meeting in May (or thereafter) to discuss the new Hall inductees, the future of the Hall in Holyoke and other programming related to volleyball in order to help promote the game in the city and region.

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

BARTLEY Ordered, that The DPW patch the pot holes on Woodland St and Holyoke St asap. Constituent request.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to amend to add Holyoke Street.

---> Received and adopted. Referred to the DPW.

BARTLEY, Puello Ordered, that The Mayor develop a schedule of projects/programming to the CC's DGR committee to be funded via marijuana stabilization funds. If possible, please send said schedule on a quarterly or semi-annual basis in order to promote consistent and efficient project development. Copy to Mayor and City Auditor.

---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee. Copy to Mayor Garcia & Auditor.

BARTLEY, Givner, Puello, Rivera_J Ordered, that Ordered that the Holyoke City Council review and amend Section 5.4 of the Zoning Ordinance to allow for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) in the DR zone, in addition to amending Section 2 Definitions, and any other sections that may apply to allow this use in the DR zone.

Accessory dwelling unit (ADU) is a smaller, independent residential dwelling unit located on the same lot as a stand-alone (i.e., detached) single-family home. (planning.org)

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

GIVNER Ordered, that That a handicap sign be placed at 204 Oak St. for Josephine Rivera, Placard #P59864114.

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

GIVNER Ordered, that With community support: That the city post a snow parking restriction on its website at least twelve hours before towing begins. In other words, towing will not begin until the parking restriction has been up on the website for at least twelve hours.

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

GIVNER Ordered, that With community support: That the city paint new crosswalks and stop lines on the t-bar of Brown and Laurel. People run the 3 stop signs constantly. If you're a driver who doesn't know the area, it can be confusing as to where to stop and when. These were not repainted last year and are now completely faded. This intersection has become extremely dangerous for drivers and pedestrians alike. There have been both serious accidents and many near misses.

---> Received and adopted. Referred to the DPW. Copy to Mayor Garcia.

GIVNER Ordered, that With community support: That the Holyoke City Council adopt, and create a method of enforcement for, a wage theft ordinance for all contractors doing projects for the city or receiving special tax incentives by the city similar to Easthampton and Springfield with the following purposes: prevent misclassification of employees as independent contractors; assure that employers are paying all payroll taxes and workers compensation premiums; comply with state laws governing the payment of prevailing wages; assure that contractors provide opportunities for Holyoke residents, veterans, people of color and women.

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

GIVNER Ordered, that With community support: Create single lane out of two laned one way roads in ward 4 to include:

- Beach between Hampshire and Hampden Streets
- Linden between Hamden and Sargeant Streets
- Hampden between Lincoln and Pearl Streets
- Dwight between Nonotuck and Linden Streets

If we are serious about wanting safer streets for our residents we must create deterrents to speeding. By eliminating these lanes and turning them into marked turning lanes, added parking, and additional bike lanes, we will discourage speeding while creating traffic safety through clarity, and additional parking. This would also encourage biking and make our neighborhood streets safer for all who use them.

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

GIVNER Ordered, that With community support: That the city revisit existing traffic light projects and consider rotaries in their place. Traffic circles require no lights and therefore no maintenance cost. They are also less expensive to build than traffic light intersections. They are proven to deter speeding as they

require reduced speed upon approach, during use, and returning to travel lanes. They force driver attention adding to overall safety. Other U.S. research has shown that roundabouts lead to 37% less collisions and 90% less fatalities than traffic lights. Conversion to roundabouts also lead to quicker traffic flow, with a reduction in delays of anywhere between 20% and 89%. Our neighboring communities have studies reflecting a wide range of benefits to traffic circles and roundabouts including the following:

"A 2001 Institute study of 23 intersections in the United States reported that converting intersections from traffic signals or stop signs to roundabouts reduced injury crashes by 80 percent and all crashes by 40 percent. Similar results were reported by Eisenman et al.: a 75 percent decrease in injury crashes and a 37 percent decrease in total crashes at 35 intersections that were converted from traffic signals to roundabouts. Studies of intersections in Europe and Australia that were converted to roundabouts have reported 41-61 percent reductions in injury crashes and 45-75 percent reductions in severe injury crashes.

Because roundabouts improve the efficiency of traffic flow, they also reduce vehicle emissions and fuel consumption. In one study, replacing a signalized intersection with a roundabout reduced carbon monoxide emissions by 29 percent and nitrous oxide emissions by 21 percent. In another study, replacing traffic signals and stop signs with roundabouts reduced carbon monoxide emissions by 32 percent, nitrous oxide emissions by 34 percent, carbon dioxide emissions by 37 percent, and hydrocarbon emissions by 42 percent.¹⁰ Constructing roundabouts in place of traffic signals can reduce fuel consumption by about 30 percent.^{9,11} At 10 intersections studied in Virginia, this amounted to more than 200,000 gallons of fuel per year.⁸ And roundabouts can enhance aesthetics by providing landscaping opportunities."

<https://www.northamptonma.gov/FAQ.aspx?QID=151>

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

GIVNER, Maldonado-Velez Ordered, that Ordered that the Holyoke City Council review and amend Section 86-322 of the Zoning Ordinance to allow for restricted electric vehicle charging station parking spots. Adding Subsection F to include ;

F. Electric vehicle charging stations.

The following locations are designated as electric vehicle charging stations:

Parking Area Location Area/Number of Spaces Time Limit/Class (CHART) (Attached)

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee. Copy to HG&E.

JOURDAIN Ordered, that That the Retirement Board be requested to ensure that the City of Holyoke has no retirement investments in any way affiliated with Russia. The state is currently going through this process with the Governor's Executive Order 597 and Holyoke and PERAC should do likewise. A copy of this order be sent to both Mr Dulude at the Holyoke Retirement Board and PERAC.

---> Received and adopted. Referred to the Retirement Board. Please respond within 30 days.. Copy to PERAC. .

JOURDAIN Ordered, that That the City Council please be provided a copy of all agreements related to tax payments from entities such as the new Baystate Behavioral Health Hospital, Miravista behavioral hospital and other similar entities that the City Council should be aware of so we can evaluate the city's overall financial health.

---> Received and adopted. Referred to the Auditor.

JOURDAIN, Bartley, Rivera_I, Vacon Ordered, that That the Mayor be requested to provide the City Council and CPA Committee a list of historic preservation related repairs needed on city buildings such as City Hall, Wistariahurst, City Hall Annex and other city owned buildings. Apparently, the CPA Committee has no city owned projects to support and is making requests to us for non-city owned projects.

Councilor I. Rivera asked to be added to the order.

Councilor Bartley asked to be added to the order. He then noted that the walls in City Hall chambers were in disrepair and suggested that CPA funds be sought for the repairs.

President McGee stated that CPA funds were not being used for the walls, adding that ARPA funds were

planned for that project. He noted there was a long list of items being requested.

Councilor I. Rivera asked for suggestions for other uses of CPA funds at city buildings.

---> Received and adopted. Referred to the Mayor and CPA.

JOURDAIN, Bartley, Puello Ordered, that That the Mayor and Parks and Recreation department please fund the Spanish Festival with \$5,000 for their staging and sound equipment. This money was allocated for them in the FY 22 budget but was transferred apparently. This has been a very important program the city has supported for many years and we need to continue it now that the pandemic is over with and the event has returned. If there are insufficient funds for some reason in the Recreation dept (originally funded with \$33,000 in staging and events lines) budget then please make a transfer request from another other area up to and including stabilization if need be. The organizers were counting on these funds. This is a small amount of money for an event that brings so much joy to so many thousands of people. Thank you in advance for your support.

---> Received and adopted.

MALDONADO-VELEZ Ordered, that That all city council committees take up and act on any order in their jackets/abled that are dated before February 15th, 2022. Rule 61 of the City Council rules states that "all orders sent to any subcommittee be acted upon (take up, not disposed of) within 45 days".

---> Received and adopted. Referred to the All Committee Chair's.

MALDONADO-VELEZ Ordered, that That we add a city council rule which requires a unanimous vote to continue meetings past 10pm.

---> Received and referred to the Charter and Rules.

MALDONADO-VELEZ, Rivera_I Ordered, that Order that we add a Grant Manager position to oversee, streamline, and expand our grant applications and money for our city.

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

MALDONADO-VELEZ Ordered, that Order that we allow for overnight parking on city parking lots for people to sleep in their cars. This would be an added measure in the work already being done to provide a safe, temporary place for our unhoused population until a more long term solution is created.

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

MALDONADO-VELEZ, Rivera_I Ordered, that Order that we work on expanding the Community Responder Model (see communication) that the Holyoke Police Department is already participating in with local organizations.

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

MALDONADO-VELEZ, Anderson-Burgos, Givner, Murphy-Romboletti, Rivera_I, Rivera_J Ordered, that A resolution in Support of a Fair Share Amendment. (See attached)

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

MALDONADO-VELEZ Ordered, that Order that the city council invites a representative from the Department of Early Education and Care to an Ordinance committee meeting to discuss home day cares – their current processes, licensing, and if a special permit at the local level is a suggested practice.

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

MALDONADO-VELEZ Ordered, that Order that we create a Cannabis Committee to strictly deal with Marijuana special permits and ordinance changes related to cannabis.

---> Received and referred to the Charter and Rules Committee.

MCGIVERIN Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the "AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR EQUIPMENT PROGRAM, \$2,420.42, NO MATCH" 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.

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, April 5, 2022.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2022, SEVENTEEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY SEVEN AND 47/100 Dollars (\$17,987.47) as follows:

FROM:		
12101-51104	LIEUTENANT	\$3,883.22
12101-51105	SERGEANT	6,723.80
12101-51107	PATROLMEN	7,380.45
	TOTAL:	\$17,987.47
TO:		
12101-51180	INJURED ON DUTY	\$17,987.47
	TOTAL:	\$17,987.47

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, April 5, 2022.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

---> Passed two readings and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

MURPHY-ROMBOLETTI Ordered, that That the City Engineer look into whether installation of a traffic light at the intersection of 141 and Bemis Rd is necessary in order to mitigate traffic concerns and potential accidents.

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

MURPHY-ROMBOLETTI Ordered, that Order that we invite our US Congressional and Senatorial Representatives to a DGR meeting.

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

PUELLO, Maldonado-Velez Ordered, that That OPED be invited to discuss the RFP process for city properties offered to the public for bid beginning from the point of city acquisition to the end of the time period the city has to reclaim the property. This conversation will inform the public of steps they can take if they're interested in acquiring city properties and allow us to identify areas for procedural improvement.

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

PUELLO Ordered, that That OPED and legal identify the impact and possibility of adding the following two conditions as standard to the RFP process for city properties.

1. If a chosen proposal is projecting XX amount in building rehab costs, that the city be entitled to require proof showing that said amount was actually spent upon completion. If the actual cost is under the estimated amount, that the city be entitled to additional payment or conditions that value said amount.
2. Chosen proposal property must require electric or natural gas HVAC systems.

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

PUELLO Ordered, that That the DPW provide quotes and an acquisition plan for movable speedbumps/humps and required lights/signage to establish temporary traffic control points for each ward, (7) to be paid for through cannabis stabilization. Additionally requested to explore whether existing

movable police signs/radars with custom lettering would provide sufficient signage for the TCPs. Councilor Jourdain emphasized that stabilization funds are usually handled in the Finance Committee. Councilor Bartley clarified that the order would just be a discussion but would not include actually handling funds.

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

PUELLO, Vacon Ordered, that That the city invite El Corazon/Heart of Holyoke Project community artist and owner of Creativity Art, Yolanda González and her artists, to discuss artistic programming opportunities for youth and to present and approve upcoming art designs for fire alarm boxes located at Main and Sergeant, Main and Jackson as well as High and Hampshire Streets.

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

LATE FILED ORDERS & COMMUNICATIONS

From Mayor Garcia and Sup. Soto, regarding middle school building phases

---> Receive and refer to Joint Committee of School Committee and City Council.

VACON Ordered, that our City Solicitor provide a legal opinion re: is the use of CPA funds for a roof project for property owned by a private corporation an allowed use of CPA tax dollars?

---> Received and adopted. Referred to the Law Department.

Adjourn at 11:30 PM.

A true record

ATTEST:



City Clerk