

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
SEWER COMMISSION
STORMWATER COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday February 23, 2022

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Patricia Devine, Chair
Jose Garcia, Member

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

None

ALSO PRESENT

Robert Peirent, City Engineer
Kelly Curran: City of Holyoke Personnel Director
Ryan Allen, Board of Public Works Clerk
Mike Williams: Project Manager, Suez North America Co.
Mike Burke: Director of Operations, Suez North America Co.

1. OPENING OF MEETING

Motion was made by Commissioner Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Devine to open the meeting. Meeting was opened by a 2-0 vote at 5:00pm.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Commissioner Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Devine to approve the previous minutes for the 2/23/22 Board of Public Works meeting. Motion passed by a 2-0 vote.

3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT- (None)

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION TOPICS

Commissioner Devine (Chair):

4. Discussion on having Meeting Minutes Posted Online: Board of Public Works Chair Devine stated that she had spoken with Acting Superintendent Amie Chrzanowski and that this is something that can be done. It was noted that this would be happening soon so that the public can access the Board of Public Works meeting Minutes. Motion

made by Commissioner Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Devine to approve.
Motion Passed 2-0

Commissioner Garcia: No discussion items

5. Request to the City Engineer and Senior Civil Service Engineer of DPW to provide information on immediate, short, mid, and long-term projects to the Board of Public Works along with all responsibilities under the purview of the two engineers in order to get a better and clearer perspective of these positions so that the Board is prepared to initiate appropriate interim measures should the positions not be filled in a timely manner: Robert Peirent Holyoke City Engineer spoke and stated that he has a running list of projects and that this information is available on a spread sheet and that he shares this with the Mayor and Community Development and other pertinent departments in City Hall and that it is usually reviewed on a two week basis. It was noted that Bob had a meeting filmed with the Mayor giving updates on projects throughout the City. It was noted that Bob had grouped the projects into several different categories including roadway improvements sidewalk projects, etc.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS - OLD BUSINESS

6. Jourdain Order: No Discussion

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS - NEW BUSINESS

7. Suez: Mike Williams, Project Manager and Mike Burke, Director of Operations for Suez North America Utility Co. spoke and gave an update on work that Suez is doing via Powerpoint presentation. Mr. Burke and Mr. Williams spoke about various innovations that Suez has made including acoustic technology used to detect obstructions in the sewer lines and sensors installed in manhole covers that detects and alarms when there are backups in the system. It was noted that Suez has 17 Full-time employees that work on behalf of Holyoke and a flow chart was presented showing the administrative makeup of Suez. Suez also detailed some of their charitable works and community involvement noting that they sponsor a band in the St. Patrick's Parade and do the clean-up. It was also noted that Suez donates to the Holyoke Boys and Girls Club, charitable Gold Tournaments, Holyoke YMCA and others. It was noted that there have been several improvements made by Suez including replacing and upgrading the influent pumping system, replacing secondary clarifiers, installing waste activated sludge thickeners, replacing pumps at pump stations, installing new odor control systems, etc. It was noted that the current contract with Suez North America was set to expire in October of 2025 and that there are 3 years and 8 months remaining. It was noted that the contract with Suez may be renewed and extended on a 5 year basis renewal term. Commissioners thanked Mr. Burke and Mr. Williams for their presentation and their work on behalf of the City.

8. Personnel Director update on current and future vacancies within the DPW: Personnel Director Kelly Curran gave an update on employment status of the DPW and noted that there are three new hires coming and that they are awaiting drug screening results to be able to come on board.

SEWER COMMISSION - OLD BUSINESS - None

SEWER COMMISSION - NEW BUSINESS - None

STORMWATER AUTHORITY - OLD BUSINESS – None

STORMWATER AUTHORITY - NEW BUSINESS – None

REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

ADJOURNMENT.

Motion made by Commissioner Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Devine to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 5:58pm by 3-0 vote.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ryan Allen: Principal Acct. Clerk Holyoke DPW

