

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**  
**March 15,2022**

The meeting was called to order by President McGee at 07:05 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 name of Councilor Maldonado-Velez was drawn to head the roll call voting.

President McGee stated that Councilor Bartley began an outstanding tradition several years ago in advance of the annual parade.

The Caledonian Pipe Band was invited into Chambers, who marched around the room playing bagpipe music.

The St. Patrick's Parade Committee, Colleens, and award winners were invited into Chambers and were recognized and honored.

Councilor Bartley remarked that the same festivity at a Council meeting in 2020 had been the only parade that year, adding it was again the same group of honorees from that year. He offered thanks to the Caledonian Pipe Band, noting how the music fills the room and many people watch the meeting looking forward to it.

Parade Committee President, Marc Joyce, recalled that the 2020 parade had been cancelled earlier the same day as the Council meeting they had been invited to. He acknowledged the different feeling in the community since that time, noting the city's great anticipation of the coming parade. He also noted the committee hosted a concert the previous weekend and the well-attended breakfast that the Chamber of Commerce was hosting for the Parade Committee the next morning. He then acknowledged John J. Driscoll as the Grand Marshall for the parade, as well as John Beaulieu, the winner of the Daniel J. Gallivan Award. He then introduced Kathy Dulchinos, affectionately knows as the Colleen Mother, organizer the contest.

K. Dulchinos noted that Grand Colleen, Moira Catherine McDermott, as well as Miss Congeniality, Emily Couture, were unable to attend due to timing of final exams at Boston College. She then introduced Haley Dusseault and Trish Haradon. She also noted that Natalie Mayko was unable to attend due to work. She stated that she had been proud of how the Colleens conducted themselves over the three years.

M. Joyce noted that he had the distinction of serving as the longest serving Parade President in the history of the committee, adding that the same had been true of the award winners. He then joked that everyone should pray that the forecast rain for the road race that Saturday would not happen. He also joked that it was role of the Grand Marshall to ensure good weather, remarking that the two years without a parade had been good weather on the day they would have taken place.

**LAI D ON THE TABLE**

Councilor Jourdain asked if the materials for item 1 was ready.

President McGee stated that he had the legal draft.

Councilor Jourdain stated that it was not on desks of councilors.

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.

---> Laid on the table.

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

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that That the Ordinance Committee meet with the Water Department Superintendent and commissioners to amend the ordinance restricting activities such as fishing and dog walking etc., both to increase the fines and to authorize either State Police or Environmental Police as well as Holyoke Police to issue citations. Recommended that the order be adopted.

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Vacon stated that while everyone had legal language for the last meeting, it had not been in signed form at that time. She then stated that everyone should have had time to review it and that it was a straightforward 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 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order That the DPW Commissioners appear before the ordinance committee to discuss proposed language changes to Sec. 2-201 of the city ordinances. Recommended that the order be adopted.

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Vacon stated that changes to two separate ordinance sections were provided, adding that the changes were suggested by the DPW Commission to broaden the scope of applicants for the Superintendent position. She noted it renamed the position to Director of Public Works. She noted that the changes addressed qualifications and duties. She then referred to one section of the change which described the requirement of a "Bachelor's degree and 10 years of upper-level administrative experience," noting that the language later stated that a "college degree may be substituted with 15 years of experience." She then made a motion to amend the language to add in "relevant upper-level administrative" to for the purpose of making the language consistent. Councilor Jourdain seconded the motion.

Councilor Bartley stated that he would support the amendment, but would be offering an amendment to strike the sentence entirely, adding that the position should require more than a high school degree.

Councilor Jourdain stated that while he understood the concerns of Councilor Bartley, he believed there was a compromise to substitute extra experience without a degree.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to amend the previous motion, changing 15 years to 20 years. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos stated that an email had come thorough that day that should be read into the record.

President McGee noted that a communication had come from the DPW Commission Chair.

Councilor McGiverin stated that such emails should be received as a communication.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos made a motion to lay item 3 on the table. Councilor Givner seconded the motion.

President McGee declared the vote had failed on a voice vote.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos requested a roll call vote. Councilor Givner seconded the request. Councilor Maldonado Velez thirded the request.

Motion to lay on the table failed on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays--Yeas 6 (Anderson-Burgos,

Bartley, Givner, Maldonado Velez, I. Rivera, J. Rivera)--Nays 7--Absent 0.

On the previous motion to amend 15 years to 20 years, Councilor Jourdain requested a roll call vote. Councilor I. Rivera seconded the request. Councilor Givner thirded the request.

Motion to amend 15 years to 20 years failed on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays--Yeas 2 (Bartley, Vacon)--Nays 11--Absent 0.

On the initial amendment, the Chair was unclear on the voice vote.

Councilor Jourdain stated that the amendment should not be controversial, noting it was adding in the same four words to the no degree section as was in the two sections with a Bachelor's or Associate's degree.

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

Atty Bissonnette stated that the omission of those four words were unintended.

Motion to amend passed on a voice vote.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to strike the sentence which stated, "a college degree may be substituted with 15 years of relevant upper-level administrative experience in public or private employment dealing with a public works program." Motion failed for lack of a second.

---> 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 12--Nays 1 (Bartley)--Absent 0.

Motion was made and seconded to remove item 4 from the table.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the Ordinance Committee review and recommend ordinance language changes pertaining to our reservoirs including but not limited to: a) increase the fines/penalties from the current amount of not more than \$50 for any offense to a minimum of \$250 for subsequent offenses. b) expand the language in the ordinance to include Massachusetts Environmental Police (MEP) and State Police for issuing citations and fines. c) consider revising Section 90-53 to enforce that fines will be paid to the Holyoke Water Works. d) consider other revisions to ensure safety of the water supply, including uses and activities at the reservoir. Recommended that the order be adopted.

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Vacon stated that items 2 and 4 should have been taken up together as they both have different specificity's pertaining to the ordinance.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to remove items 2 and 4 from the table as a package.

Councilor Vacon stated that everyone reviewed the language, and the vote was finalizing the changes. Councilor Jourdain suggested that as items 2 and 4 were merged into one ordinance change, there did not need to be another vote.

---> 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 12--Nays 1 (Bartley)--Absent 0.

A motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules and take item 5 off 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.

#### UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Vacon stated that while the Planning Board recommended to deny, the Ordinance Committee unanimously recommended approval. She noted that special permits would include public hearings with abutters being notified so that concerns could be addressed.

Councilor Bartley stated that the change would give the Council an opportunity to do its work and allow the public to weigh in.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti expressed her intent to oppose the change. She then stated that it should be taken through another process if there is another body that would be more appropriate to address these concerns. She then noted that the proposed change was the result of one resident seeking the change. She then stated the matter should have gone through the Board of Appeals for the resident to seek a variance. She noted the City Council oversees many special permits already.

Councilor Givner noted that while she had supported the change at the Ordinance Committee meeting, she had read more information and now believed there were other agencies that would be better to handle this kind of request.

Councilor Bartley stated that before filing the order, he had worked with the Building Commissioner, Board of Health and Law Department and had been advised that there was no other avenue.

President McGee stated that when the issue came up, through working with other department, because of the way the law addresses side yards, this was the proper way to address the issue.

Councilor I. Rivera stated that while he supported the change at the committee meeting, he had not been privy to information about other processes. He then expressed a desire for more time to understand in order to avoid duplicating an available service.

President McGee stated that it had been recommended that a special permit be used in this type of situation. He then stated that variances were available for other types of changes, but this had been the suggestion with regard to swimming pools.

Councilor I. Rivera asked to find out if there is another process.

President McGee stated there are other processes for variances to build out for a house, but not for swimming pools.

Councilor Givner expressed concern that with the number of corner lots in the city, there could be more special permit applications resulting in many more corner lots with obstructed views for drivers. She suggested it should be tabled to gather more information.

Councilor Vacon stated that it had been clarified that bringing such matters to the Zoning Board of Appeals was not an option in this situation. She stated that both people who filed the order had done their due diligence.

Councilor Maldonado Velez emphasized that there were already over 70 City Council special permits while the Planning Board had 12. He then expressed his opposition, stating that not everything needed to be a special permit of the City Council and many other things already went through the City Council.

Councilor McGiverin suggested that the Board of Appeals can provide variances but the process requires property owners to establish a hardship. He then stated that a special permit allows the City Council to determine what is best for the neighborhood.

---> 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 denied on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 7 --Nays 6  
 (Anderson-Burgos, Givner, Maldonado-Velez,  
 Murphy-Romboletti, I. Rivera, J. Rivera)--Absent 0.

\*A motion to reconsider was made and accepted later in the meeting. The item was then laid on the table.

Motion was made and seconded to remove item 6 from the table.  
 BARTLEY Ordered, that An Act be approved Amending the Charter of the City of Holyoke regarding certain Mayoral Appointments.

**UNDER DISCUSSION:**

Councilor Vacon stated that the matter had been approved by the City Council during the previous term but language had not been drafted in time for the former mayor to sign it prior to the end of this term. She then observed that there were questions and concerns at the previous meeting from councilors who had not been able to participate in the debate. She then noted it had been tabled to allow for more time to understand, adding that Mayor Garcia could then decide if he would sign it.

---> Received and Denied on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 4 (Bartley, Jourdain, Puello, Vacon)--Nays 9--Absent 0.

Motion was made and seconded to remove item 7 from the table.  
 MCGEE Ordered, that That the City Council appoint Anthony Dulude as the third Board Member to the Board of Assessors.  
 Councilor McGiverin expressed support for Mr. Dulude, adding that he believed it would require a roll call vote.

---> Anthony Dulude appointed as third member of the Board of Assessors on the first ballot.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

(43:30)

Mary Hurley, 72 Lower Westfield Road, stated she was in support of item 32 regarding loud noises and exhaust pipe modification of vehicles. She then stated that the noise had been constant every night for the past three weeks. She then noted that it was illegal according to state law to make such modifications to a vehicle. She then asked for support for peace and quiet, and improved quality of life.

John Rivera, 125 Cabot Street, asked for the Council to withdraw item 35. He then stated that the actions of Columbus had been horrible. He then stated that Columbus had wiped out many of his ancestors, the Taino tribe of Puerto Rico. He then suggested that there were many other Italian heroes that holidays could be created for, adding that Columbus was not one of them.

President McGee read an email from Patricia Devine, 58 Magnolia Avenue, Commissioner of the Board of Public Works:

“RE ITEM 3 which was tabled  
 Honorable City Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with the ordinance committee to discuss changes to the 1948 ordinance referring to the DPW Superintendent and City Engineer.

As stated at the ordinance meeting, contrary to some rumors, we were not proposing these changes because we had a certain person in mind as the Superintendent. The language needed to be changed in order to expand our search for qualified candidates for Superintendent, City Engineer and Senior Engineer. Today I was informed that we had received only 4 resumes for these positions. Hopefully with some of these changes and perhaps salary increases our search will expand.

My one concern that perhaps someone can explain to the DPW Commission is what the following wording means in the ordinance:

Under duties: “In addition, the general superintendent of public works shall perform such other duties, not inconsistent herewith, as the city council may prescribe”

Has this language been deleted from the ordinance?

Thank you for your time and clarification of my concerns.”

## COMMUNICATIONS

From Mayor Joshua A. Garcia, letter appointing Mr. Jorge Colon, 101 St. Kolbe Dr. as a member of the Holyoke Redevelopment Authority: Mr. Colon will serve a two year term; said term will expire on November 1, 2024.

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

From Mayor Joshua A. Garcia, letter appointing Dr. Tiffany B. Curtis, 285 Hampden St. to serve as a member on the Library Board of Directors for the City of Holyoke: Dr. Curtis will replace Mr. Jason Lefebvre and will serve his remainder term; said term will expire on February 2023.

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

From Mayor Joshua A. Garcia letter appointing Ms. Lyn Horan, 100 Southampton Rd. to serve as a member of the Commission on Disabilities for the City of Holyoke: Ms. Horan will serve a three year term; said term will expire on March 2025.

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

From Brenna Murphy McGee, MMC & Jeffery Anderson-Burgos, Admin. Ass't. to City Council minutes of March 1, 2022.

---> Received and adopted.

Addendum to the Collective Bargaining Agreement the City of Holyoke and Municipal Employees Union, NAGE Local R1-180.

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

Communication from Councilor Israel Rivera regarding CPA Project Proposal.

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

From Holyoke Redevelopment Authority Annual meeting minutes of November 17, 2021, Regular meeting minutes of November 17, December `5, 2021 and January 19, 2022.

---> Received.

From Board of Fire Commission minutes of January 20, 2022.

---> Received.

## PETITIONS

Petition of Daniel LaFlamme for a zone change from DR to BH at 41 Temple St.

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

Petition of Yoeli Brene, for a street vendor license to be located on High street between Hampshire and Worcester Pl.

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

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President McGee stated that a proof was expected to be received that week of the Council's pictures from the previous term. He then added that the Council was caught up on the owed balances.

He then stated that Councilor Murphy-Romboletti had arranged for sign carriers from the Parade Committee to carry the City Council banner at the parade. He then stated that the parade would begin at 11:10, adding that road closures would take place at 10 AM and that councilors not attending the Ambassador Breakfast should plan to arrive by 10.

He then stated that the Chamber of Commerce sought a Council member to attend their monthly business meeting, adding that he had volunteered. He then stated that the Chamber would hold a leaders forum on

April 6th at 5:30 PM at the Volleyball Hall of Fame.

Councilor Jourdain asked if the Council would be received the photos from previous terms.

President McGee stated that they had been received but was still in a box waiting to be put up. He stated that the one still not received was from the immediate previous Council.

Councilor Jourdain asked to clarify that they had received the pictures from the three previous terms. .

President McGee clarified that the issue was that they had provided the pictures, but payments had not been caught up. He added that Admin Asst Anderson-Burgos had done the work of getting the information and catching the balance up to current.

Councilor Bartley commended the Admin Asst for his follow up. He then commended Mayor Garcia for his intent to put up more frames of past city government photos on a rotating basis.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up item 39 out of order. MCGEE -- that the City Council give a proclamation for city employees "employee recognition day" for all their dedicated service to the City of Holyoke during the COVID pandemic. President McGee stated that the coming Friday at 9:30 AM, there would be an employee recognition event for city employees for their efforts to keep city government going throughout the pandemic. He noted that Board of Health Director, Sean Gonsalves, had led the effort to hold the event. He also emphasized the importance of showing city employees who much they were appreciated for everting they did. ---> Received and Adopted.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

(58:00)

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 18A, 18C, 18E, and 18F as a package.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that a pedestrian crosswalk be placed where Portland St meets Beech St. A student was struck by a car as she tried to cross the street from the front of Holyoke High School have considered the same and Recommended that the Engineer's recommendation to not install a crosswalk be accepted.

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

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

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the city engineer review and determine if a four way stop sign(s) can be placed at Fairfield and Nonotuck have considered the same and Recommended that the Engineer's recommendation to not install a four way stop be accepted. .

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

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

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the City of Holyoke establish a three way stop sign at the corner of Mosher and North Bridge Streets have considered the same and Recommended that the Engineer's recommendation to not install a three way stop be accepted. .

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

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

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order That the City of Holyoke enforce no parking zones and implement warnings and or small fines for vehicles in violation. This is a danger and in many neighborhoods, makes it impossible to see oncoming traffic when turning onto or of side streets. Especially concerning in Ward 4 is the intersection of Hampden St at O'Connor Ave. have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

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

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Vacon stated that City Engineer did thorough explanations on his findings. She then stated that he provided many of the technical aspects behind the decisions for the benefit of new councilors. She added that many proposed changes may seem simple to councilors seeking improvements, but members learn of state laws and other rules that often present obstacles.

Councilor I. Rivera stated he would not go against the recommendations of the City Engineer, adding that he was not in favor of discounting the work of those the city hires to do their job. He then emphasized that the Council could go against their recommendations if they desired to, noting that the state would be unlikely to investigate individual changes. He then observed that a resident had been hit by a car while the conversation in committee was happening. He then suggested that state rules may not fit the circumstances in Holyoke.

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

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order That a "No Turn On Red" sign be installed, taking effect when northbound on Resnic Blvd and merging on to Pine St. This will restrict when merges to Pine St can occur to green lights only 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



UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Vacon stated that the Engineer’s review found that the complexity of the intersection warranted the change at the location.

Councilor Puello commended the report by the City Engineer, noting that the crosswalk was near a school.

---> 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 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 18G, 18H, and 18I as a package.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the City of Holyoke establish a four way stop at the corners of Race and Appleton Streets 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 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 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order That the DPW install the appropriate signage and convert the intersection of Chestnut and Franklin streets into a three way stop. Drivers are speeding on Franklin Street and an existing blind spot on Chestnut street poses a significant hazard have considered the same and Recommended that the Engineer’s recommendation to not install a three way stop be accepted.

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

---> 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 13--Nays 0--Absent 0.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order That the City of Holyoke adopt a camera speed violation system in order to deter speeding on commuters through streets especially Beach, Hampden, Dwight, Maple, and High Streets . Holyoke has a city wide speed limit of 25mph. A ticketing system would remove this burden from our police department in some of the busiest areas while creating revenue for our city. It would also greatly reduce speeding and the running of traffic lights, by default increasing resident safety and life quality in all of our neighborhoods have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:

Linda L. Vacon  
Jose Maldonado-Velez  
Kocayne Givner  
Kevin A Jourdain  
Israel Rivera\_I

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

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that our City Engineer recommend and implement safety improvements on Westfield Road at the curve near #292. Another driver ran off the road in December into two front yards and left the scene have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:

Linda L. Vacon  
Jose Maldonado-Velez  
Kocayne Givner  
Kevin A Jourdain  
Israel Rivera\_I

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Vacon stated that for item 18G, the Police Chief Pratt informed the committee that they can enforce no parking spots. She then stated that relative to 18H, he explained that they cannot adopt a camera based ticketing system within the city. She added that he asked for councilors to make his department aware of problematic areas and that he would work to prioritize those locations. She added that relative to 18I, the City Engineer would work on more line painting to diminish accidents in the area.

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

(1:08:35)

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order From Amy Landau, Administrator CPA , Communication regarding Recommendation for FY22 CPA Projects and list of projects. 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 McGiverin stated that the committee recognized that the project recommendations are a result of the hard work of the CPC and then come to the City Council for final approval. He stated that the Scott Tower project requested an additional \$30,000 to add to the work on Anniversary Hill, noting the importance of the project. He then stated that the Gloutek Woods project had some land already under city

control while other parts of the land had recently come under city control after the former owner decided not to develop it. He then stated that the Lady Liberty project requested an additional \$15,000 due to bids coming in higher than expected. He then stated that the Wistariahurst Museum request was to cover continued updating work, including painting interior and exterior parts of the building. He then stated that the final project was a request of \$80,000 to continue restoration of the stained glass windows at City Hall.  
 ---> 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 the City Council give the Holyoke Public Schools permission to file an MSBA statement of interest for 80% reimbursement of a Dean School boiler replacement and new windows and doors at McMahan, Donahue, and Lawrence.  
 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 McGiverin emphasized that the order was related to repair requests within school buildings, adding that they would qualify for 80% reimbursement. He then stated that the Dean School boiler was over 30 years old, adding that a replacement would be more efficient and save on costs. He then stated that the other projects were for windows and doors, adding that this would also result in greater energy efficiency. He then clarified that the order would allow the schools to express their interest, adding that a final vote to pay the city’s share of the cost for the repairs would come before the Council at a later date.

---> 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, FIFTY THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND 00/100 Dollars (\$50,600.00) as follows:

FROM:		
14251-51104	HEAVY MOTOR EQUIPMENT OPERATOR	
\$50,600.00		
TOTAL:	\$50,600.00	
TO:		
14251-51480	CDL CLASS A DIFFERENTIAL	\$600.00
14251-51301	SNOW REMOVAL OVERTIME	
50,000.00		
TOTAL:	\$50,600.00	

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:

McGiverin stated that the surplus was due to difficulties the DPW was experiencing in hiring more staff. He then stated that transfers were to cover workforce costs for snow removal.

---> 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, FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$5,000.00) as follows:

FROM:

12402-53010 OTHER CONTRACTED SERVICES \$5,000.00

TOTAL: \$5,000.00

TO:

11552-53100 SOFTWARE LICENSE/USAGE FEES \$2,500.00

11552-53180 SYSTEMS HARDWARE/MAINTENANCE 2,500.00

TOTAL: \$5,000.00

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 McGiverin stated that the surplus was due to the account not being used at the typical level. He then noted questions and concerns came up after the committee learned that when the Building Department replaced laptops, licenses for programs such as Adobe could not be transferred, leading to them needing to purchase new licenses with each new laptop.

Councilor Jourdain noted that Mayor Garcia had followed with information about the program licenses. He then stated that it had not yet been clear why the cost was \$2,500 when each license was \$250. He suggested a new arrangement needed to be considered as it was a waste of money to need to pay for new licenses every time laptops needed to be replaced. He then expressed a hope that the city's IT company, Whalley Computers, was working on establishing a better arrangement.

Councilor I. Rivera suggested that the city research a business license arrangement that would allow the software to be available on any city computer as part of the service.

Councilor Givner expressed that the situation did not make sense, suggesting that licenses should not be lost with every piece of hardware.

Councilor Jourdain suggesting inviting Whalley to attend a meeting.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti emphasized that the situation had not been anything the Building Department had done. She then stated she had not heard positive feedback about Whalley in her conversations with many department heads.

Councilor Tallman emphasized that the transfer should not be held up, noting the importance of the department being able to contrive doing their work. He then stated that more should be done to address the costs.

Councilor I. Rivera suggested all city department purchase services as a package to lower the costs to the city.

Councilor McGiverin stated that the transfer would allow the Building Department to purchase the licenses they need. He then emphasized that Adobe had come out with a new version that the department had not acquired but needed to continue doing their work. He then agreed that more research needed to be done to address the costs for the future.

---> 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, FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$5,000.00) as follows:

FROM:

14211-51103	OFFICE MANAGER	\$5,000.00
TOTAL:	\$5,000.00	
TO:		
14801-51105	PART- TIME CLERK	\$5,000.00
TOTAL:	\$5,000.00	

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 McGiverin stated that the transfer was with the DPW budget. He then stated that additional hours of the part time person were needed due to vacancies the office.

Councilor Vacon noted that employees willing to put in extra work was the kind of thing that should be commended at the employee recognition event later that week.

---> 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, THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00/100 Dollars (\$30,000.00) as follows:

FROM:

8815-59710 CANNABIS STABILIZATION \$30,000.00

TOTAL: \$30,000.00

TO:

19442-58400 CANNABIS-SITE IMPROVEMENTS \$30,000.00  
 XXXXX-XXXXX REPLACING SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF XXXXX  
 XXXXX-XXXXX 73 SERGEANT ST FROM RACE ST TO XXXXX  
 XXXXX-XXXXX MAIN ST XXXXX

TOTAL: \$30,000.00

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 McGiverin stated that the transfer request was part of an important issue the Council would be dealing with over the following several years. He stated that the funds were from the 3% impact fee assessed to marijuana industry businesses. He then emphasized that the funds received through 2020 had been deposited into the general fund, which had been incorrect. He added that a specific fund had to be established and the money had to be used for purposes related to the direct impact of the industry. He observed that the Cannabis Stabilization Fund had been created the previous year. He then stated that the city received an estimated \$1.5 million prior to the creation of the stabilization fund. He added that the Auditor earmarked project from those previous years as qualified uses of the funds, noting that the DLS (Department of Local Services) had yet to approve those earmarks. He also stated that the impact fee was above the 3% tax on sales. He also stated that the City Engineer explained the projects they were planning to use the funds for. He then stated that there were four purposes the money could be used for: infrastructure in the lower wards where traffic has an impact, workforce development, staffing for city offices handling industry matters, and preservation as a recently added 4th purpose. He noted that 4

projects came in as shovel-ready projects, the others to be explained later. He stated that this project was to address a sidewalk in need of repair due to increased foot traffic in front of the Boston Bud location. He also noted that the stabilization fund had \$320,000 available at that time. He noted other communities had begun to face lawsuits due to misuse of their funds based on the state guidelines.

Councilor Puello recalled having learned a lot about the use of the funds during the committee discussion. He then expressed some hesitance to support this specific project, noting the need to see the need at the location. He then stated that after visiting the location, the sidewalk appeared to be okay shape and that other areas should be prioritized above this sidewalk. He then questioned the use of impact fee funds to pay for repairs directly in front of a business.

Councilor Jourdain emphasized the need to consider what it means for something to be an impact. He then suggested that wards 1 and 2 should get a disproportionate share of the funds as they were the most impacted by the industry. He then expressed the need for caution to avoid believing that the only places to use the money would be on the street where specific businesses are located. He then emphasized the importance of considering where the need is highest when prioritizing where to use the funds.

Councilor I. Rivera suggested that the definition of community impact was changing, recalling that it had been touted by proponents of the industry coming into the city as a way to benefit the development of the lower wards. He then suggested that if the use of the funds is limited to directly around the businesses, funds may continue to come in without the space to be able to use the funds. He then suggested he may file an order to expand the IG zone so that wards 1 and 2 would not be the only wards feeling the impact of the industry.

Councilor Tallman expressed the need for photographs in the future when specific locations are prioritized for use of the funds. He then suggested a need for more consideration of how the industry affects the people in the community, adding a need to educate the public, specifically children, on the detriments of the product.

Councilor Vacon suggested that odor mitigation should be considered when prioritizing use of the funds, noting this had begun to become an unintended consequence of bringing the industry into the city.

Councilor Givner suggested that there should not be a problem with starting at the locations of the businesses and then expanding outward from there. She noted this was likely the first of many improvements that would come in the future.

Councilor Jourdain expressed that his concern had been the way the issue had been framed, specifically that the use of the funds need to be shown as having a direct benefit to the businesses. He then suggested that was not necessarily true and was not the standard. He added that impact should be defined as impact to the whole community. He questioned the argument that other locations could not be prioritized because they did not directly correlate to any specific business.

Councilor Bartley asked if there was an open process in choosing which projects to fund.

Councilor McGiverin stated that the appropriation comes through the mayor and the Engineer helped determine which projects to fund. He then noted that different sources of funds, such as community block grant money, are used to address needs in specific sections of the city. He then referenced a map provided by the City Engineer during the committee meeting which showed where there was need throughout the city. He then emphasized that the city is responsible for maintenance of streets and sidewalks, and liable for damage caused by lack of maintenance.

Councilor Bartley noted that appropriations originate with the mayor. He then suggested that any councilors concerned about prioritizing specific areas should reach out to the mayor to advocate for projects. He then stated that there should be a long term plan for use of the funds, noting they would be a finite source. He suggested that this would help avoid a point by point debate of every project.

Councilor Maldonado Velez stated that he was not against using funds to fix roads and sidewalks. He then suggested that there needed to be more community feedback on use of community impact funds. He expressed concern that using funds at the location of a specific business may lead to lawsuits from other businesses seeking to have their own locations prioritized.

Councilor Puello reiterated that there needed to be plan and vision, and more prioritization of residents'

needs.

Councilor McGiverin observed that the Council was made up of members who were qualified and elected to make decisions on behalf of the residents. He then emphasized that the city had several departments setting priorities and making decisions in open public meetings, adding that the map provided by the Engineer showed there was a plan of how he works. He then noted that the Engineer also understood the projects that MassDOT would be taking up in coming years. He then suggested that the Council should support this order as a shovel-ready project.

Councilor I. Rivera noted that he filed an order to develop a process for use of the funds. He then emphasized that while the Council was elected to make decisions for the city, he campaigned on promoting community voices.

---> Report of Committee received and Denied on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays --Yeas 8 (Anderson-Burgos, Givner, McGee, McGiverin, Murphy-Romboletti, Rivera\_I, Rivera\_J, Tallman)--Nays 5--Absent 0.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 19G though 19L 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, THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$300,000.00) as follows:

FROM:

8815-59710 CANNABIS STABILIZATION \$300,000.00

TOTAL: \$300,000.00

TO:

19442-58400 CANNABIS-SITE IMPROVEMENTS \$300,000.00

XXXXX-XXXXX IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL LOT XXXXX

XXXXX-XXXXX AT 63 CANAL ST INCLUDING NEW PAVING , XXXXX

XXXXX-XXXXX GENERAL BEAUTIFICATION & NEW FENCING XXXXX

TOTAL: \$300,000.00

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be returned to the Auditor.

Committee Members:

Joseph McGiverin

Kevin A Jourdain

Will Puello

Juan . Anderson-Burgos

Peter Tallman

---> Return to the Auditor

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2022, THIRTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$30,000.00) as follows:

FROM:

8815-59710 CANNABIS STABILIZATION \$30,000.00

TOTAL: \$30,000.00

TO:

19442-58400 CANNABIS - SITE IMPROVEMENTS \$30,000.00

XXXXX-XXXXX MUNICIPAL LOT AT 63 CANAL ST. XXXXX

XXXXX-XXXXX GENERAL BEAUTIFICATION & FENCING XXXXX

TOTAL: \$30,000.00

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be returned to the Auditor.

Committee Members:

Joseph McGiverin

Kevin A Jourdain

Will Puello

Juan . Anderson-Burgos  
Peter Tallman

---> Return to the Auditor

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:  
8815-59710 CANNABIS STABILIZATION \$75,000.00  
TOTAL: \$75,000.00

TO:  
19442-53009 CANNABIS - CONTRACTED PROF SERVICES \$75,000.00  
XXXXX-XXXXX TO STUDY PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS XXXXX  
XXXXX-XXXXX TO NORTH CANAL ST FROM THE SOUTH XXXXX  
XXXXX-XXXXX HADLEY BRIDGE TO THE WILLIMANSETT XXXXX  
XXXXX-XXXXX BRIDGE XXXXX  
TOTAL: \$75,000.00

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be returned to the Auditor.

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

---> Return to the Auditor

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

FROM:  
8815-59710 CANNABIS STABILIZATION \$100,000.00  
TOTAL: \$100,000.00

TO:  
19442-58400 CANNABIS - SITE IMPROVEMENTS \$100,000.00  
XXXXX-XXXXX IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ENTRANCE OF XXXXX  
XXXXX-XXXXX HADLEY MILLS RD XXXXX  
TOTAL: \$100,000.00

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be returned to the Auditor.

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

---> Return to the Auditor

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2022, FORTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$40,000.00) as follows:

FROM:  
8815-59710 CANNABIS STABILIZATION \$40,000.00  
TOTAL: \$40,000.00

TO:  
19442-58400 CANNABIS - SITE IMPROVEMENTS \$40,000.00  
XXXXX-XXXXX CROSSWALK, LIGHTING & PARKING XXXXX  
XXXXX-XXXXX STRIPING ALONG DWIGHT ST BETWEEN XXXXX



XXXXX-XXXXX MAIN & HIGH XXXXX

TOTAL: \$40,000.00

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be returned to the Auditor.

Committee Members:

Joseph McGiverin

Kevin A Jourdain

Will Puello

Juan . Anderson-Burgos

Peter Tallman

---> Return to the Auditor

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2022, FORTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$40,000.00) as follows:

FROM:

8815-59710 CANNABIS STABILIZATION \$40,000.00

TOTAL: \$40,000.00

TO:

19442-58400 CANNABIS-SITE IMPROVEMENTS \$40,000.00

XXXXX-XXXXX REPAVING RACE ST FROM CABOT ST XXXXX

XXXX-XXXXX TO SERGEANT ST XXXXX

TOTAL: \$40,000.00

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be returned to the Auditor.

Committee Members:

Joseph McGiverin

Kevin A Jourdain

Will Puello

Juan . Anderson-Burgos

Peter Tallman

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor McGiverin stated that the transfers were partly put forward to illustrate the range of projects that the funds could be used for. He then added that the projects would not be capable of being completed within the fiscal year and therefore could not be earmarked for use from the stabilization fund. He then stated there were additional questions about the amounts needed for the projects.

Councilor I. Rivera stated that item 19I was a good example of a community impact project, emphasizing the value of improving the canal walk area.

Councilor McGiverin noted that all of the projects make sense, reiterating that the City Engineer understands how city projects and funding sources are complemented by how the state prioritizes and funds projects within the city. He clarified that the project could not happen within the current fiscal because it has to line up with the state's timeline.

---> Return to the Auditor

(2:06:45)

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order From Mayor Joshua A. Garcia, letter appointing Stephen C. Fay, 218 Pleasant St. to serve as a commissioner to the Local Historic District Commission (Fairfield Ave): Mr. Fay will serve a three year term; said term will expire on July 1, 2025 have considered the same and Recommended that the appointment be confirmed.

Committee Members:

Peter Tallman

Will Puello

David K. Bartley

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Tallman stated that Mr. Fay was seeking to be more involved in the city. He then stated that Mr. Fay worked for the Berkshire Eagle, and had previously lived in Maine as well as California. He added that Mr. Fay was retired and had the time to participate on the Commission.

Councilor McGiverin commended that mayor for a good appointment. He then observed Mr. Fay had described a lot of fascinating ideas, adding that he understood the importance of preservation of a historic district.

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order From Mayor Joshua A. Garcia, letter appointing Mr. Marcos Marrero, 34 Pinehurst Rd. to serve as a Commissioner of the Gas & Electric for the City of Holyoke: Mr. Marrero will replace Robert Griffin, who's term expired on July 1, 2020. Mr. Marrero will serve a year term; said term will expire July 1, 2026  
have considered the same and Recommended that the appointment be referred to the City Council.

Committee Members:

Peter Tallman

Will Puello

David K. Bartley

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Tallman noted Mr. Marrero worked for the city for 9 years in the OPED office. He also stated that Mr. Marcos has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Puerto Rico, a Masters degree in Public Administration from Princeton. He observed that Mr. Marrero stated that the HG&E was one of the city's greatest assets. He added that he had development experience in Puerto Rico, New York City, as well as with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. He noted having learned that Holyoke was using 40% oil. He also noted that Mr. Marrero dispelled misconceptions that he was against natural gas. He noted that Mr. Marrero was very knowledgeable about energy matters.

Councilor Jourdain stated that Mr. Marrero did well to answer questions and address concerns about the gas moratorium. He then observed that in addressing any future uses of energy, it needs to be understood that the people of Holyoke alone cannot bear the costs. He added that if there are major changes, the impact on individual residents needed to be considered. He also observed that Mr. Marrero appeared to recognize and respect that. He added that getting such answers are why these hearings are held. He also recognized that Mr. Marrero made clear that he was not anti-gas and had good ideas about expanding efficiency and free up gas service for others. He then stated that electrification was not viable with a major infusion of funds from the state or federal level, noting it would be in the hundreds of millions of dollars to handle a citywide conversion. He then commended the work of Bob Griffin who was the outgoing member of the Commission, noting his 20 years of dedicated service to the Gas and Electric.

Councilor Givner emphasized the importance of responsible language, specifically in creating fear by telling people that their services are going to be taken away. She added that nobody is going to go into people's homes and force them to buy electric. She then commended Mr. Marrero for clarifying problems with systems, pointing out options for the future, while advocating for systems already in place.

Councilor Vacon observed that Mr. Marrero was intelligent and articulate, adding that she did not question his ability to get up to speed on the status of the HG&E. She then stated her main concern was that the current appointee had not been kept in place, noting that they were doing well.

Councilor McGiverin observed that Mr. Marrero recognized the value of Jim Lavelle as the HG&E Manager. He then stated that he understood the energy crisis, and the obstacles to the city getting the energy it needs. He also noted that the city deserved more credit for being its use of green energy. He then recalled that natural gas had been encouraged at one time as a cleaner replacement of fossil fuel energies.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos expressed that while he meant what he said during the committee meeting, he wanted to apologize for the way he conducted himself. He then emphasized that he always respected

when other councilors were speaking even if he disagreed with them and suggested that other councilors should offer the same respect of procedures. He then offered apologies to Mr. Marrero.

Councilor Maldonado Velez expressed his support for Mr. Marrero, noting he expected him to do well in the position. He also offered thanks to Mr. Griffin for his years of service, noting he did not know him but had heard many good things about it. He then offered a reminder that the appointment had initially been filed the previous year and referred to the DGR Committee rather than the Public Service Committee where such appointments would normally go. He also emphasized that items should not be put into committees to be buried, adding that discussions should be allowed to happen.

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

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up item 21W out of order.

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order The City of Holyoke look to rent/lease/purchase mobile trailers to conduct voting in have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Tallman offered thanks to the Administrative Assistant for providing a briefing on Google Drive. He then noted that the discussion provided insight into how items go into folders for committee, how tabled items are notated, and that it would be for the benefit of the public as well as councilors.

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order to remind council for the appointment of youth/students to serve on council have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

--> Report of Committee received and recommendation adopted.

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order Per residents request that Holyoke City Departments responsible for the quality of life issue of home owners and renters who are residing within Chestnut (around Holyoke Public library), Elm, Appleton and Cabot (near Lawrence School) address the blighted building/homes issue, the Opioids epidemic, Sex trafficking and homelessness within this particular corridor for the betterment and quality of life for the residents and their families residing in this area. ( Please attach a petition from residents)

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

Committee Members:

Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order the City Council invite in the Chief of Police and any appropriate mental health care professionals to inform us of best practices for dealing with overdoses in the field as well as current protocol for dealing with passive exposure to fentanyl and other

dangerous Opioids and/or narcotics  
have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order From Mayor Alex B. Morse letter appointing Carmen Morales and Margaret Lemire as Commissioners of the Council on Aging, they will serve a one year term; said term will expire on August 2019  
have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that State Representative Vega and Senator Humason request a moratorium on group home projects in the city of Holyoke and request that group homes be evenly place throughout the commonwealth. This is a request from several constituents have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that the Trustees of Soldiers' Home in Holyoke attend our next meeting of the City Council to address the timeline of recent events, and to address their plans moving forward. As The Soldiers' Home in Holyoke has accounted for nearly 20% of the Covid-19 fatalities within our city, we as a community had a reasonable expectation that this state-run facility would provide the best care its residents have earned through their service. As the ongoing tragedy has brought painful national attention to our city, it is also in the public interest that we fully understand where responsibility lies and that there is accountability  
have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that the legal department come before the city council to get and update on the Yale Street project  
have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that the law department, building commissioner, Mayor, and board of health review the MHA project at 11 Yale Street. Please provide the city with an opinion on if the project violates the Dover Amendment or if the project goes outside the scope of the amendment (please see McLean Hospital Corp. v. Town of Lincoln). Also, provide the city with guidance on if the city has any authority over such projects. This is a request from several constituents have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order That the City Council look into placing a history marker on the corner of Cabot St. and South Summer St. to describe the medal of honor recipients that lived in the said area. Please invite in Mr. Jim Bronson to a sub-committee have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that the City Council hold a hearing to explore preparation for the upcoming 2020 elections in September and November, including the feasibility of an all vote-by-mail election due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and that representatives from the Secretary of State's office, the Holyoke Registrar of Voters, the Holyoke City Clerk, and other relevant State and City departments, voting advocacy organizations, and members of the public be invited to testify (via remote teleconferencing if need be). have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order That the City Council adopt a resolution in support of nuclear disarmament and the prevention of nuclear war (see attached document for full text) have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that absentee ballots and mail in ballots shall be opened in City Council chambers with cameras on and recording to ensure they are witnessed and placed in a secure container to be counted have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:

Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that DPW look into replacing the tree surrounds on High Street with the use of Flexipave. Please provide the city council with a cost estimate for doing the work and if any grants can be used for such a product?  
have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

--> Report of Committee received and recommendation adopted.

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that DPW look into replacing the city council desks and chairs. Please provide quotes to the city council in 4 weeks  
have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that City Clerk/Registrar of Voters provides the current total of registered voters and describe the steps taken to ensure that it is current and has been updated for accuracy. This is a follow up to a previously filed order  
have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order From Mayor Joshua A. Garcia, letter appointing Ms. Jennifer Keitt, 63 Arthur St. to serve as a member of the Holyoke Redevelopment Authority: Ms. Keitt will replace Ms. Gladys Lebron-Martinez and will serve her remainder term; said term will expire on November 1, 2022  
have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order From Mayor Alex B. Morse letter appointing Fire Chief Jeffery Przekopowski to serve as the Emergency Management Director for the City of Holyoke: Chief Przekopowski will serve a one year term; said term will expire January 2021  
have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman

Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that we create a Food Economy Coalition to identify and propose innovative policies, programming, and/or project solutions to improve the Holyoke food system and food entrepreneurship. Recommendations will be made to aligned bodies, such as the Office of Planning & Economic Development, the City Council, and relevant city departments (eg. DPW, BOH, etc.) have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Tallman stated that the committee would discuss food insecurity to work with the Office of Planning and Economic Development as well as the Board of Health to try to expand access to healthy foods in the city.

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that the city Human Resources Department provide the demographics of the municipal government workforce be provided. What is the diversity rate compared to the city population and the relevant labor market? The purpose is to work with the administration and human resources department to identify where the workforce does not adequately reflect the diversity of the city of Holyoke have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that our Administrative Assistant be invited to provide a quick tutorial during a Public Service meeting on councilor use of Google Drive folders for better understanding of use of electronic files of orders and meeting folders. This will also be an opportunity to provide public understanding of access to folders that will be made available for their access in the near future have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello  
David K. Bartley

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

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order From Mayor Alex B. Morse letter appointing Mr. Marcos A. Marrero, 34 Pinehurst Rd. to serve as a Commissioner of the Gas & Electric for the City of Holyoke: Mr. Marrero will replace Robert Griffin, who's term expired July 1, 2020. Mr. Marrero will serve a six year term; said term will expire July 1, 2026 have considered the same and Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.

Committee Members:  
Peter Tallman  
Will Puello

David K. Bartley

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

### ORDERS AND TRANSFERS

(2:36:00)

PUELLO Ordered, that That the DPW install a “No Parking” sign within the appropriate required feet from the intersection of Elm and Sargeant adjacent to 140 Sargeant.. As recommended by the city engineer, this will inform residents of the feet, parking to intersection requirement and will reduce the hazard posed by the existing blind spot.

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

PUELLO Ordered, that That the legal office give an opinion regarding the implementation of a city ordinance banning store self imposed plastic bag fees. That an additional opinion be requested on establishing maximum bag fees, not permissible to exceed.

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

PUELLO Ordered, that That the Office of Planning and Economic Development be invited to discuss the reasons behind the absence of medical marijuana providers in the city, the original intended reason for cannabis legalization. The goal of this discussion is to come up with a viable pathway to provide this service for residents so they may enjoy their tax benefits and have their medical needs fulfilled. If a plan is already underway this discussion will inform residents of their upcoming benefits.

---> Received and referred to the Finance Committee. Copy to DGR and OPED.

PUELLO Ordered, that That the City engineer draft the feasibility and associated costs of a raised crosswalk adjacent to 401 Main Street.

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

PUELLO Ordered, that That a request be made to the mayors office to provide the current list of businesses that received ARPA funding through the city business grant and each dollar amount awarded, to include rejected applicants.

---> Received and referred to the Finance Committee. Copy to Mayor Garcia.

RIVERA\_J Ordered, that 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.

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

RIVERA\_J Ordered, that order to have the sidewalk repaired from 222 Lyman Street to 226 Lyman Street.

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

VACON, Puello Ordered, that create an ordinance that drivers operating/altering vehicles, causing repeated backfiring (sounding like gunfire/fireworks), disturbing the peace, will be ticketed for a moving vehicle violation.

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

Councilor I. Rivera stated he already filed orders similar to items 33 and 34, adding that HG&E as well as the DPW were actively working on the issues.

Councilor Jourdain suggested adding Councilor I. Rivera as cosponsor to the orders.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 33 and 34 as a package.

Councilor McGiverin suggested that Councilor Bartley should be added as well, noting he had long encouraged more work to be done at Laurel Park .



JOURDAIN, Bartley, Rivera\_I Ordered, that 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.  
---> Received and referred to the Public Safety Committee.

JOURDAIN, Bartley, Rivera\_I Ordered, that 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.  
---> Received and referred to the Public Safety Committee.

JOURDAIN, Vacon Ordered, that That Columbus Day holiday ordinance be changed so the holiday be known as both Columbus Day and Indigenous Peoples Day so everyone may celebrate both, one or the other, or neither if they choose according to their own conscience. This will allow the maximum amount of sensitivity to the issue.

Councilor I. Rivera noted that it was already a federal holiday and creating it locally would be duplicating a service.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos stated that when orders are filed, they should be to improve the city and bring people together. He then suggested that the order would create more division, noting that the holiday had been changed recently. He then stated that there was important work to be done. He then made a motion to give the order a leave to withdraw.

Councilor Vacon recalled that when she had sought to discuss an order at a prior meeting, she was told that it should be discussed in committee.

Councilor Jourdain clarified that there had not been an ordinance change. He then stated that another order had been filed on the same topic, adding that this order was filed as a response to the previous one. He suggested taking them up together in the Ordinance Committee.

Councilor Givner seconded the motion to give the order a leave to withdraw.

Councilor McGiverin stated that he would not support the motion, adding that every councilor has a right to file orders for discussion whether or not he agrees with them.

Councilor Jourdain noted that he had been against the original proposal but had not sought to block it from going to committee.

President McGee stated that he believed debate should happen in committee.

Councilor I. Rivera stated that he would give the filer an order the respect to explain their order in committee.

Councilor Maldonado Velez suggested that the language of this order could have been offered as an amendment to the previous order and that the discussion should have already happened in committee.

Motion to leave to withdraw failed on a voice vote.

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

JOURDAIN, Tallman Ordered, that That Representative Duffy and Senator Velis (or their representatives) be invited to City Council to discuss specific legislative bills they will file on our behalf to increase our local aid and various funding formulas affecting the city. They are requested to provide us a summary list of all state financial formulas affecting Holyoke, how our current aid is calculated (i.e. strictly by population size, number of students, miles of public roads, etc) so we can understand fully what is really driving our current local aid and what we need to change to get more aid. The current local aid model is unsustainable and Massachusetts needs to help Holyoke far more than it is currently. Councilors will also provide them with a number of suggestions for specific changes when we discuss.

President McGee asked if it should go Development and Governmental Relations Committee (DGR).

Councilor Jourdain clarified that he believed it should go the Finance Committee as the topic was related to financial matters.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti noted that she would not object to the order, they did recently discuss the

topic in the Development and Governmental Relations Committee recently.

Councilor McGiverin noted that the DGR Committee has a standing order to bring in the state delegation a couple times a year.

Councilor Tallman asked to be added to the order.  
 ---> Received and referred to the Finance Committee.

JOURDAIN Ordered, that That all City Councilors receive their traditional gold-plated Councilor badge as another traditional sign of their office. This tradition began in 1938 and we as institution should keep it. That the Administrative Assistant facilitate the order and they should be presented by the President when they arrive.

---> Received and adopted. Referred to the Holyoke Police Department, Admin. Assistant, President McGee.

MCGEE Ordered, that the legal department review the alley way near 5 Fairfield Ave to determine if it is city property and that the DPW repair the fence and alley from its vehicles going through. See attached photo.

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

MCGEE Ordered, that Ordered, that the ordinance be amended to change the City Council's Administrative Assistant's term from one year to two years.

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

MCGIVERIN Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2022, EIGHTEEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED TWENTY FOUR AND 22/100 Dollars (\$18,224.22) as follows:

FROM:			
12101-51104	LIEUTENANT		\$3,883.22
12101-51105	SERGEANT		6,723.80
12101-51107	PATROLMEN		7,617.20
		TOTAL:	\$18,224.22
TO:			
12101-51180	INJURED ON DUTY		\$18,224.22
		TOTAL:	\$18,224.22

To the City Council:  
 I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, March 15, 2022.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor McGiverin stated that the transfers were for accounting purposes to pay the salaries of public safety officials who were out of work due to being injured on duty.

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

MCGIVERIN Ordered, 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

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, March 15, 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, 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

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, March 15, 2022.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the "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.

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, March 15, 2022.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the "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.

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, March 15, 2022.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MURPHY-ROMBOLETTI Ordered, that 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.

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

**LATE FILED ORDERS & COMMUNICATIONS**

(2:52:30)

From City Solicitor Lisa Ball, Addendum, Collective Bargaining Agreement for Nage Local R1-180  
 ---> Received and referred to the Finance Committee.

MCGIVERIN Ordered, that that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2022, TWENTY TWO THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED SIXY 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	

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, March 15, 2022.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

Adjourn at 10:00 AM.

A true record

ATTEST:

*Brenna Murphy McLee*  
 City Clerk