

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

June 6, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President McGee at 7:05 PM

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The name of was Councilor Puello pulled to head the roll call voting.

LAID ON THE TABLE

From Mayor Joshua A. Garcia letter of Veto for the CPA ballot question to be placed on the November 2023 local election.

---> Laid on the table.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(1:25)

Whitney Anderson, 237 Lacus Drive, expressed his belief that councilors all sought to be a part of this body for a reason, out of a desire to do good in some way, and to collectively come together to represent and do good for Holyoke. He then stated that this was a time to come together. Referring to a pending vote on the middle school, he then suggested that councilors would do the best they can for Holyoke.

Jackie Glasheen, 30 Mount Tom Avenue, stated that she served on the School Building Committee and was also a 31 year employee of the Holyoke Public Schools. She then asked the Council to vote for the new middle school. She then observed that the collaboration over the past year between the mayor, treasurer, superintendent, School Building Committee, as well as families that had participated in the process had been nothing like she had ever seen. She then suggested that now was the time to do the right thing for kids, adding that it was fiscally prudent for the city.

Victor Machado, 40 Suffolk Street, stated his intent to speak on the mayor's veto power and the topic of a ballot question for the coming election date. He then stated that it was an important question for the city, adding that he had learned during his conversations with residents that they did not have much idea what was going on. He then suggested that while the veto may have come from good intentions, it was taking away voting from the people of the city of Holyoke.

Helene Florio, 31 Wellesley Road, spoke on behalf of the Holyoke Taxpayers Association. She then emphasized that in speaking on the topic of the CPA, the City Council took a fair and legal vote to place the question regarding reduction of the CPA tax on the ballot. Referring to the intimation that not enough people will vote in a municipal election, she noted that in 2019, the voters voted down a school proposal

in a municipal election. She then stated that it was their position that the veto was not legally valid or appropriate, and that they were requesting that the question be placed on the ballot. She then suggested that the public could vote no if they did not like the proposal. She then stated that they were also addressing the DGR Committee's recommendation to allocate ARPA funds for infrastructure improvements, particularly restoration of Water Street Main Improvement project. She then stated that this was essential for development and would have a multiplier effect for a 16 1/2 acre strip of land. She noted there was an offer for purchase provided that water would be available. She then suggested that this was an opportunity to show that Holyoke was business friendly.

Wendy Weiss, 3 Fairfield Avenue, spoke as a parent, social worker, and business owner in the community. She then stated that she witnessed all of the School Building Committee meetings and found the members to have worked very hard. She then noted that they city had pared down the previous proposal of two buildings to one in order to replace a 50 year old building with a new building with fresh paint and new energy. She then stated that she had chaperoned a kindergarten field trip earlier that day and met some of the city's future middle schoolers. She observed that they were smart and caring, and eager to learn. She then asked that the City Council vote yes on the school, adding that the students deserved it.

Mike Sullivan, 43 Park Slope, asked that the Council accept the recommendations of the DGR Committee for allocation of ARPA funds. He then stated that the work of the Citizens Advisory Committee, OCD (Office of Community Development), and DGR was to be commended. He then expressed concern that while other grants and programs may be available in the future, this is here and now, and any funds in the future for infrastructure would surely not be enough. He then emphasized that the city's water and sewer systems were antiquated and could not support the city's future needs for housing and businesses. He added that stormwater separation was federally mandated and climate change was real. He then stated that while all of the requests had merit, he asked the Council to focus resources on the building blocks for future generations.

Camila Garcia, 532 South Summer Street, stated that she was a mother of 2 children attending the middle school and was also a member of the School Building Committee. She then emphasized that a lot of work had been done for the project and that she believed it would be beneficial for future generations of students and teachers. She then expressed that she would be grateful for the project.

David Yos, 20 Sydney Avenue, thanked the Finance Committee for their vote of confidence in the School Building Committee, noting the difficult balance between a project the city needed to do and a backwards municipal funding system in a regressive tax system that was inequitable between poor and wealthy communities. He then suggested that the city had come full circle from 2019 when a project was presented that was not the most fiscally responsible. He then commended the design team for presenting an economically efficient design with strategies to carry it out in the most efficient and cost effective way.

Mildred Lefebvre, 118 St. Kolbe Drive, stated that she was the Vice Chair of the Holyoke School Committee. She then thanked the School Building Committee for their time and dedication into the project. She further thanked the Finance subcommittee for valuing concerns brought to them by constituents and working to come to a common ground. She then expressed hope that the City Council would vote to appropriate the funds to construct the new middle school. She then emphasized that it was a monumental vote that would show the state that Holyoke valued education as well as sending the same message to students, families, and the city as a whole.

Thomas Smith, 211 Apremont Highway, stated that the previous middle school plan encroached on the Lawrence playground which was Article 97 protected, as well as protecting by the Department of Interior under the Land Water Conservation Fund. He then suggested that the architect claimed the playground was not protected land, and that a city official also claimed it was not protected land. He then questioned if that had been an error, but that he did not believe it was. He then stated that as the project went through committees and all kinds of reviews, he questioned that nobody picked up that the parking lot was on a playground. He then stated that the current plans showed encroachment onto Crosier Field. He suggested that while the plans may have changed within the last day or two, it showed encroachment up until then. He then stated that the City Solicitor claimed that the encroachment was an error. He then emphasized that the city certified with the MSBA that all laws, regulations, and ordinances would be followed. He then suggested that the city did not follow all general laws to notify the EEA, did not follow MEPA regulations, and did not follow the MSBA regulations to submit environmental assessments with public comments. He then expressed his desire to submit a public comment and that he had been denied that right.

Cathy Ortiz, 40 Suffolk Street, thanked the Council for listening to the project, adding that it was very meaningful for them and for the students of the city. She then asked that the Council vote in favor of the middle school project. She then emphasized that hard work was done to research in order to ensure the project could be affordable for the city. She added that they ensured that the best of the best were brought onto the project. She then quoted U.S. Secretary of Education, Miguel Cardona, "investing in our children is no different than investing in defense--both protect our tomorrow."

Stephen Rosenbush, 1155 Northampton Street, spoke in favor of allowing the citizens of Holyoke to vote on the CPA as quickly as possible. He then suggested that these were not prosperous times. He then observed that in speaking with other residents of Ward 7 - noting it to be one of the more prosperous wards - he found them to be anxious and suffering, struggling to make ends meet. He noted one woman was trying to scrape together enough to put on a pizza party for her child's 11th birthday and was impacted by spending \$55 at the gas station. He added that the city was not getting all of the money the state promised. He also suggested that voters also needed an alternative to suspend the CPA participation until the general election in 2 years.

Anja Duffy, 118 Sycamore Street, stated that she was a professional landscape architect working in surrounding communities as well as in Holyoke. She stated that she was a member of the School Building Committee and found it to be an amazing process. She applauded the city for putting together the group of citizens that worked together. She then stated that the design presented to the MSBA was smart, economical, ticked off the boxes in terms of environmental efficiencies and being fiscally responsible. She asked that the Council vote yes on the middle school building project.

Nathan Chung, 9 Prue Avenue, Apt 4A, thanked the Council for motions to address traffic safety. He noted that there was a coming paradigm coming among traffic engineers and planners that road design should be the first priority before putting emphasis on enforcement and signs in order to calm traffic. He suggested that many of the roads focused on in the orders were wide for residential areas, making them conducive to speeding. He suggested that paints and other geometric designs could be used to create naturally slower roads. He added that these experiments could be done cheaply. He then suggested that if people were concerned about paying the CPA tax, they should first verify how much they were personally paying to the surcharge. He suggested most people would save \$20-\$27 a year without the surcharge.

Kevin Noonan, 36 Jeffrey Lane, Amherst, stated that he worked in Holyoke with El Colibri and was asking for a recommendation to the mayor in support of APRA funds being allocated for a women's shelter

operating from November through April. He emphasized that 10 to 15 women were on the streets every winter despite good agencies in the city.

Lori Belanger, 16 Roland Avenue, spoke in favor of putting the CPA question on the ballot in the current election cycle. She then noted that in the mayor's veto letter, he expressed support for voters having a say but wanted to put it on the election for the presidential cycle to have better representation. She then suggested that the current could not guarantee that the current ballot question proposal would make the ballot next year. She added that it conflicted with what will be a new City Council makeup. She asked what would happen if there was no will among the next Council to put it on the ballot. She also suggested that the mayor not be in office the next term, noting that the city had 3 mayors in one year recently. She added that the position of letting the voters vote required that the question move forward in the current election cycle.

President McGee stated that there had been confusion about emailing public comments. He noted that the Council agreed months earlier that there would not be public comment from emails. He then stated that two people had not understood that and sent in comments. He stated that he would read them but that there would be no public comments from email going forward.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to allow the emails to be read into the record.

President McGee read from the emails:

Jim Rossmeisl, 47 Evergreen Drive, stated that five years ago, he was in agreement with the surtax because the state matching was a fair rate. He then stated that the state was now pulling out or not putting in as much monies or percentage as it did before. He added that the city should at least reduce to 1% from 1.5% or pull out and not get involved in it anymore. He asked that the CPA question be put on the ballot for November.

Marc Hickey, 16 Oakwood Avenue, stated that he would ask this city council to put the CPA percentage on this year's ballot. He stated he was originally from Northampton and warned of the bad idea that is the CPA many years ago. He also stated that the city has a chance to unburden itself of one third of its costs, adding that this was an opportunity that should go directly to the voters ASAP. He also stated that accountability to the voters was something Holyoke has prided itself on. He further stated that this council could go a long way for itself by being accountable to the voters instead of other politicians.

Jessica Perella, 534 South Bridge Street, spoke in support of the proposed middle school. She then stated that had been a Holyoke resident and single parent of four public school students. She noted that Holyoke was unique in its system, grade range, and curriculum. She suggested that consideration in Holyoke's design appeared to derive from larger families and accommodations for pickup and drop off of multiple school age children. She suggested that this model deprived 6th through 8th grade students of experiences, lessons, growth, and learning that could only come from being enrolled in a standard middle school. She added that a middle school was more than a building but was an environment created by and for the community, a place for an age group with its own challenges, and a place for children to independently find and be themselves.

Councilor Givner stated that the mayor had signed a proclamation the previous week to create awareness around gun violence. She then read from the proclamation and asked for a moment of silence for those

affected by gun violence.

“Whereas every day more than 100 Americans are killed by gun violence and more than 200 have sustained non-fatal firearm injuries over the last five years. Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed than people in other developed countries;

And whereas protecting public safety and the communities they serve is a mayor’s highest responsibility. Support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand in hand with keeping guns away from dangerous people;

And whereas mayors and law enforcement officers know their communities best, are the most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to understand how to keep their citizens safe;

And whereas June 2nd, 2023 would have been the 26th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President’s Obama’s second inaugural parade and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later. To honor Hadiya and the hundred Americans whose lives were cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day. A National Coalition of organizations has designated June 2nd, 2023 as the National Gun Violence Awareness Day;

And whereas the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya’s friends who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange. They chose this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods. And orange is the color that symbolized the value of human life.”

She then stated that it was proclaimed by Mayor Joshua Garcia on Friday, June 2nd that Friday was National Gun Violence Awareness Day. She added that they were encouraging citizens to join the campaign by annually pledging to wear orange on the first Friday to raise awareness about gun violence and honor all victims and survivors of gun violence. She noted that the proclamation was presented to Anne Thalheimer who was a survivor. She then asked for a moment of silence.

A moment of silence was observed for victims of gun violence.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 17C, 17E, and 17F out of order as a package.

Councilor McGiverin stated that the 3 orders would be handled in reverse order to first take care of quick housekeeping matters.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that the City appropriate the amount of eight-five million, five hundred four thousand, five hundred ninety-two (\$85,504,592) Dollars for the purpose of paying costs for the construction of the new Peck Middle School, 1916 Northampton Street, Holyoke, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the “Project”), which school facility shall have an anticipated useful life as an educational facility for the instruction of school children for at least 50 years, and for which the City may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under M.G.L. Chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The City acknowledges that the MSBA’s grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the City incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City; provided further that any grant that City may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) eighty percent (80%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; provided that any appropriation hereunder shall be subject to and contingent upon the City being awarded a grant from the MSBA for the Project; and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to

this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the City and the MSBA.

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 this order was the original language submitted to the City Council in April. He then stated that they were advised to add additional language to benefit the city's long term affordability issues and bonding.

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

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that the city complies with MGL 30 section 62A and the required environmental notification form is filed for the school project so the Secretary of Environmental Affairs can make a determination as to whether an environmental impact report is required, prior to any application for financial assistance.

If the environmental notification form is filed before the May 16, 2023 city council meeting, that it be provided as a communication to the city council.

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

Committee Members:

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

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor McGiverin stated that this order was filed as a result of a constituent's request that the Council look at the issue of the Secretary of Environmental Affairs having the right to determine on if there was the requirement for an environmental impact report for the middle school project. He stated that after hearing concerns, discussing the process of this project and various other projects Project Manager Margaret Wood had been involved in, it was their understanding that the environmental affairs concerns were satisfied.

Councilor Vacon stated that the report of the meeting was accurate but that there was information brought forth following the meeting relative to an encroachment into the park. She then expressed her understanding that it had been acknowledged as an error in the plans and that it was being corrected. She then suggested that they be allowed to address the question.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to allow Margaret Wood to address the Council.

M. Wood introduced Chris Leblanc and Frank Tedesco from the design firm, Mount Vernon Group. She then stated that the landscape architect drew a fractional piece of ramp within the bounds of Chapter 97 land and that an adjustment had been made.

F. Tedesco stated that they took Mr. Smith's comments seriously and recognized there was an error done by the landscape architect in trying to restore the existing stairway and, in doing so, drew a ramp that went a little over. He emphasized that they would not touch the park. He then suggested that they had a right to repair the stairs but had not planned to do so at that time. He added that they should be improved. He reiterated that they would not be infringing on the park and there had not been any intent to do so. He added that the drawings were a schematic design and that there was plenty of time to do what was needed on minor things like this.

Councilor Vacon thanked the committee for taking it up, the design team for looking it over, and the citizen for raising the concerns. She noted that it had been a good public process.

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

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order That the City appropriate the amount of eighty five million, five hundred four thousand, five hundred ninety-two (\$85,504,592) Dollars for the Purpose and Introductions of paying costs for the construction of the new Peck Middle School, 1916 Northampton Street, Holyoke, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Project"), which school facility shall have an anticipated useful life as an educational facility for the instruction of school children for at least 50 years, and for which the City may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under M.G.L. Chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The City acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the City incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City; provided further that any grant that City may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) eighty percent (80%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; provided that any appropriation hereunder shall be subject to and contingent upon the City being awarded a grant from the MSBA for the Project; and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the City and the MSBA. FURTHER ORDERED: That the Treasurer is authorized to file an application with the appropriate officials of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts (the "Commonwealth") to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any and all bonds of the City authorized as of the date hereof, and to provide such information and execute such documents as such officials of the Commonwealth may require in connection therewith.

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 noted that almost every city councilor had been present during the meetings to review the designs when the proposal had been discussed. He then stated that School Building Committee had done tremendous work. He also commended the leadership of Mayor Garcia, Anthony Soto, Erin Brunelle as chair of the meetings, as well as every member of that committee. He then stated that they worked with the team to come up with a model school design that was accepted by the MSBA. He added that it fit into the location of the existing Peck Middle School. He emphasized that the existing school was in need of a lot of work and that Massachusetts would not give any funds to work on it due to its design and other reasons. He then explained that the school would house half of the city's middle school students. He expressed some disappointment that the original two school proposal would have housed 1,100 students and would have come with some savings with the consolidation of the elementary schools and the closing of some buildings. He added that this proposal took affordability concerns into consideration. He further explained that around 45-48% of the total cost of \$85,504,592 would partially be covered by the MSBA, to be reimbursed as the city spends it. He emphasized that the full amount had to be in the bond before the MSBA could reimburse the city. He then stated that the formula for reimbursement needed to be addressed by the governor and the state legislature. He then emphasized that building the new middle school made a lot of sense for the city's children, families, and for the future of the city. He then stated that City Treasurer, Rory Casey, provided information on options around affordability and forward projections, including existing debt service, as well as potential future capital needs. He also noted that more information would be coming later in the meeting on use of certified free cash. He then commended the work of everyone involved in the process, noting that their work to research and provide information made the City Council's job to consider the proposal much easier.

Councilor Jourdain recalled that 65% of voters sent a message that there needed to be a better approach to doing this, adding that it was a herculean effort for that many to coalesce around the belief that the city could not afford the previous approach, that it was not inclusive, and that it did not consider all of things that were considered in the current proposal. He then congratulated those citizens for the city getting to where it was now. He then stated that those who supported the previous proposal were also winners because this process got the city to where the city accepted the mandate that there needed to be a new middle school for the kids. He then expressed how impressed he was with the School Building Committee for their hard work, their willingness to hear and include contrarian voices, and their due diligence in addressing questions and concerns. He emphasized that the city was doing this with no tax override, adding that it was going to require fiscal discipline by everyone elected into city leadership. He noted that the state committed to almost \$2 million for needed improvements to the schools. He also suggested that this process created a blueprint for how the city should operate and had created a culture of collaboration.

Councilor Tallman stated that he was proud to be a member of the School Building Committee, noting that he served with dedicated individuals from every segment of the city. He emphasized that this was not just important for students but for the entire city, improving education for the students and showing that the city cares how the students learn. He also noted that the model school plan saved a lot for the city and will impact how the city handles the budget in the coming years. He also stated that the Treasurer brought forth a plan that the committee could understand. He commended Margaret Wood for her work ensuring any questions the committee had were answered.

Councilor Rivera_I thanked everyone who worked to bring the project to fruition, including the work during the last go around. He then expressed how thrilled he was to see unanimous support from the Finance Committee, emphasizing that focus on education had historically not always been fair in Holyoke. He also

expressed that he was a little torn that the community couldn't design a school with the kids in the community in mind but rather was taking an already designed school and making the kids in the community fit into it. He emphasized that it would save money and would provide the service, but that paying for something new should be the best bang for the city's buck. He suggested that it was an opportunity missed. He then reiterated that he appreciated all of the work that went into it, adding that it was good to see education finally get a win in Holyoke.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos stated plain and simple, thank you. He then called for a vote.

Councilor Maldonado Velez stated that he planned to support the project. He then expressed that it was a little bittersweet, noting he was a huge supporter of the two-school proposal four years earlier. He suggested that message being sent that the city can have a new school, but only for half of the city. He noted that some of the opponents of two schools suggested doing one now and then another one later. He expressed a hope that there would still be the same energy and support for that in the near future.

President McGee offered thanks to the School Building Committee, including Anthony Soto, Mayor Garcia, and Councilor Tallman. He also thanked Erin and Rory, as well as all of the families for getting involved. He emphasized that the past was in the past, the previous vote ended the way it did, and then the city came back and focused on what could be done based on the finances. He emphasized that coming together to invest in the education of children was something to be proud of.

---> 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.

Approved by the Mayor.

Applause erupted throughout the room.

COMMUNICATIONS

(1:04:40)

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 2 and 3 as a package.

From Mayor Joshua A. Garcia, letter appointing Ms. Lauren Niles, 40 Lexington Ave. to serve as an associate of the Planning Board for the City of Holyoke: Ms. Niles will serve a five-year term; said term will expire on July 1, 2028.

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

From Mayor Joshua A. Garcia letter appointing Mr. Michael Sullivan, 43 Park Slope as a member of the Holyoke Economic Development and Industrial Corporation (HEDIC) effective July 1, 2023: This seat on the Board of Directors represents the At-Large sector. Mr. Sullivan will replace Tessa Murphy-Romboletti who is not seeking reappointment. This is a three-year term which will expire on June 30, 2026.

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

From Mayor Joshua A. Garcia letter reappointing Mr. Jose L. Bayron, 610 County Rd. Unit 2 to serve as a Commissioner of the Parks and Recreation for the City of Holyoke: Mr. Bayron will serve a three year term; said term will expire on June 30, 2026

---> Received and appointment confirmed.

From Tanya Wdowiak, City Auditor General fund and sewer fund expense ending May 30, 2023.
---> Received and referred to the Finance Committee.

From Carl Rossi, Director Department of Public Works letter re: 2019 Partial City-Wide Traffic Signal Replacement Project.
---> Received and referred to the Public Safety Committee.

Communication from Councilor Bartley regarding The New Valley Springs Behavioral Hospital to open in Holyoke.
---> Received.

Communication From Councilor Jourdain, Regarding State Statute MGL CH 44B CPA.
---> Received and referred to the Finance Committee. Copy to Law Dept, Mayor.

Grant Completion form: Fund #1195, Community Mitigation Reserve Fund Grant, Massachusetts Gaming commission.
---> Received.

Mackenzie Lease Stadium, Valley Blue Sox

Councilor Bartley made a motion that it be approved right away. He then stated that it was well done, the rent was \$10,500 and the city was protected for liability purposes. He added that he liked the promotion of the city. He also noted other liability and guarantees that were good for the city. He further noted some givebacks to the Blue Sox as they were an asset to the city.

Councilor Jourdain asked if it was coming in for the first time.

President McGee stated that it was.

Councilor Jourdain stated that he had not yet had an opportunity to read it. He then asked if anyone else had read it.

Councilor Rivera_I stated that he had not yet read it either.

Councilor Jourdain stated that he would prefer to read it first, and that it either be tabled or referred to Finance.

Councilor McGiverin stated that while he appreciated the request, the new owner talked about the contract during a recent DGR meeting. He noted that their first game was the next day and that the contract should be in place if they were to be playing. He stated that he was comfortable with the contract.

Councilor Jourdain stated that if the game was the next day, he questioned how much time they had time send it in. He reiterated his request to give it at least 2 weeks.

Councilor McGiverin stated the there would be 55 orders going to Finance that evening and they could make it 56. He emphasized that it was not the fault of the owner of the Blue Sox but the city's fault that it had not yet come in.

Councilor Bartley suggested that it could be tabled.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos asked Councilor Bartley if he had a chance to look at it and felt comfortable with it.

Councilor Bartley stated that he did.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos expressed his faith that Councilor Bartley would not let the city fall into a trap. He suggested voting on it right away.

Councilor Jourdain reiterated his motion to table it. Councilor Rivera_I seconded the motion. Motion failed on a voice vote.

Councilor Vacon made a motion to accept the contract. Councilor Tallman seconded the motion.

Councilor Jourdain stated that he would not vote for things he had not read. He suggested that people should not vote for things if they don't know what's in it.

Councilor Rivera_I stated that he would vote no for the sake of consistency.

Councilor Vacon asked to clarify that it was received on Friday as part of the packet from the City Clerk.

Councilor Tallman stated that it was.

Councilor Vacon emphasized that it was not just received that evening.

Councilor Givner noted that the presentation about the Blue Sox projects and contract was pretty in depth. She added that although she had not seen the contract until the weekend, most of the things in the contract were what they talked about in the presentation. She then stated that while it was fair not to vote for it if someone hadn't read it, it shouldn't be assumed that nobody had read it.

Councilor Jourdain agreed that someone who read it and was comfortable should vote yes. He then emphasized that if the plan was to vote for things like this when they first come in, there should be a note letting councilors know the plan is to vote for it. He expressed his expectation that it would not come up for a vote right away.

Councilor Bartley stated that while he did not disagree with any points, the contract was dated May 15th and that there was ample time to get it to the Council. He then pointed out that if they play without a contract in place, there was no protection in place for the city. He stated that it was standard, contractual language.

---> Received and Adopted and a call of the roll of the yeas and nays--Yeas 11--Nays 2 (Jourdain, Rivera_I)--Absent 0.

From Board of Fire Commission minutes of April 13, 2023.
---> Received.

From Holyoke Redevelopment Authority minutes of April 12, 2023.
---> Received.

From Margaret Wood Owners Project Manager, regarding Public Comment, Peck Middle School Project.
---> Received.

PETITIONS

(1:16:00)

Petition of Andre Gamble for a special permit for a third floor dwelling (7.2.9) at 39-41 Portland St.

Councilor McGiverin noted that DGR had been getting a lot of permits that did not belong there. He stated that he had never heard of a third floor dwelling permit.

President McGee suggested that could be figured out in DGR.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that it had become confusing when people apply for a special permit application, have them referred to DGR, only to have the committee informed that they should have gotten another permit or that the Council cannot even approve the request.

Councilor Vacon suggested that the application be tabled and that a copy be sent to legal to review if the permit can be approved.

Councilor Bartley suggested sending it to committee, noting that DGR was established as the one to review permitting of this nature. He emphasized that the City Clerk gets these applicants coming in and they do the best they can with the applications. He added that guidance from the Law Department could be sought during discussions in committee, noting that this area of law can be dense.

Councilor Givner noted that this was a two family residential zone and this may require an ordinance change.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to allow City Clerk Murphy McGee to address the Council.

City Clerk Murphy McGee clarified that when applicants go into the office with projects they are unsure about, they do recommend the applicant meet with Planning first. She added that when they submit the application, they often will not fully write down what it is. She emphasized that with the application, the request for a third floor dwelling in an R2 zone was on the list of City Council special permits.

Councilor Maldonado Velez noted that councilors did not receive a copy of the petition.

Admin Asst Anderson-Burgos stated (off microphone) that permit applications typically were not included in the packet of communications sent prior to Council meetings.

Councilor McGiverin noted that Planning had told the owner of a Bed & Breakfast that a special permit for nonconforming use was his answer for what he was trying to do, emphasizing that it was totally wrong but only discovered after a public hearing was scheduled and noticing costs were incurred.

President McGee asked where it should go.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos suggested that it could be referred to Ordinance but also copied to DGR.
---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee. Copy to DGR, Law Department.

Petition of Salmar Realty LLC c/o Peter Martins for a special permit for a Proposed Coffee shop/Drive Thru Restaurant at South Street Plaza, A Portion of 209 South St.

Councilor Jourdain noted that there was a similar request at this location around 20 years ago. He suggested finding the archives of that history.
---> Received and referred to the Development and Governmental Relations Committee.

PRESIDENTS REPORTS

(1:23:05)

President McGee offered thanks to Admin Asst Anderson-Burgos as well as the DPW for coordinating removal of the dividers.

He also stated that free certification had come in at \$4.1 million.

He thanked Jesus Pereira as well as councilors who participated in Memorial Day services. He also commended those who participated in the 22 push up challenge.

He thanked those who worked on the ARPA funding recommendations. He emphasized that there was \$62 million in requests with \$19 million available to allocate.

He thanked the School Building Committee for their work.

He then stated that Councilor Jourdain and he sat with the mayor and the Law Department to discuss outstanding legal opinion issues. He then stated that for those interested in the CPA ballot matter, it would be going out for an opinion to get it resolved.

Noting a recent article highlighting Councilor Tallman's planned retirement from the Council, he thanked him for his service and dedication to the city.

Everyone in the room applauded Councilor Tallman.

Councilor Tallman expressed his appreciation to his colleagues. He noted that when he joined the Council, it was then called the Board of Alderman. He recalled being asked in 1992 if he would support a change of name. He noted he took a little break to spend more time with his daughter, adding that her kids were now that age and that it was time to spend time with them and do other things around the house. He also stated that he wanted to be more involved in veterans' issues. He emphasized that he

would continue to be involved and vocal in the city. He also stated that he had learned a lot and that it had been a great opportunity to serve the community.

President McGee stated that they would plan to do the City Council picture for the term on October 3rd, including a group picture for the 150th commemorative book.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos stated that the PrideFest would take place at Veterans Park on Saturday, June 17th, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. He stated that he and Councilor Maldonado Velez had been working hard to make it a success for the community.

Councilor Rivera_I stated that the Latino Scholarship Fund dinner would take place on Thursday, June 8th. He noted that tickets were still available.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(1:28:50)

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order Petition of Katherine Sanchez of 15-12 Dwight St, for a Street Vendor License

have considered the same and Recommended that the license be granted with the following conditions: That the hours be set as Thursdays and Fridays 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays 2 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Committee Members:

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

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Vacon stated that the petitioner asked that the condition be amended, adding Wednesday and extending the time to 9 p.m.

Motion was made and seconded to amend the days and hours, Wednesday through Friday, 4 p.m. - 9 p.m., as well as Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Councilor Maldonado Velez offered his support for the petition, noting that the applicant was planning to make Puerto Rican style food in larger sizes.

---> Report of Committee received and recommendation 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 Division 2 of our Ordinances be amended to require the Mayor and Personnel Dept. create and implement a job evaluation system for city

employees so that all employees receive goals, standards of performance and a thoughtful annual evaluation against those standards. Ordinance 2-312 currently requires the Personnel Administrator to maintain the job evaluation system. Problem is no such system actually exists to be maintained. The new ordinance should be designed to require the existence of the system but management will be allowed the flexibility to draft it according to their needs and professional opinion. It is unacceptable that for too long such a system that is so necessary for all workplaces our size still does not exist in our city government. Absent the City Council requiring such a system it is almost certain that no such system will come into existence independent of us or it would have by now. There is no current objective measurement of employee performance that rewards high quality employees and holds poor quality employees accountable. Management in this city needs to take action as soon as possible.

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 idea of having a performance evaluation system in place and formalized to support recommendations around reimbursement was a good move for the city in order to reward the professionals serving the city.

Councilor Jourdain thanked Mayor Garcia and Personnel Director, Kelly Curran, for embracing the initiative. He then emphasized that this was about the Council stating that the city would have a job evaluation system. He added that the mayor and the personnel director would have the autonomy to develop the system. He emphasized that having a system of evaluation and standards was important to having an effective system of government.

---> 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.

Councilor Jourdain suggested taking up the ARPA recommendations after this next set of orders is discussed. He noted that some in the audience were waiting for that item.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 16C, 16E, and 16F as a package.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that in the police department, the rate for Matrons be set at 18.00/hr and the rate for Reserve/special officers be set at \$22.00/hr. per ordinance.

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 Schedule C of 2-35 be updated to reflect a new title and salary for police matrons

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 recommendation Adopted.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order That the Schedule C of 2-35 be updated to reflect competing salaries for police reserves

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 recommendation Adopted.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up item 20A out of order.

(1:36:55)

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order From Alicia M. Zoeller, Administrator, Office of Comm. Development, 2023 ARPA Allocation Spreadsheet.

Committee Members:

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

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that she spoke with the State Ethics Commission a few weeks earlier since she was the chair of MassHire, one of the applicants for the ARPA funds. She then stated that she would abstain to avoid any conflict issues.

Councilor McGiverin stated that he was President of the Friends of the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round who also had an application. He stated that he would abstain due to an appearance of a conflict of interest. He noted that he received a different opinion from the State Ethics Commission that day but it was not in time for him to file the appropriate paperwork with the City Clerk.

Councilor Maldonado Velez stated that he would abstaining due to being an employee of Enlace de Familias.

Councilor Rivera_J stated that she would be abstaining for the same reason, noting that she and Councilor Maldonado Velez worked together.

Councilor Bartley stated that the committee walked through each of the proposals with the help of Alicia Zoeller from the Office of Community Development. He observed that they did their best to hit the goals of the department as well as the overall goals of the city. He commended the CAC (Citizens Advisory Committee) members for their work. He noted the allocations were at the discretion of the mayor, but that he referred it to CAC, OCD, and DGR for recommendations.

Councilor Jourdain commended Councilor Bartley and the rest of the committee for a fantastic job, noting he was impressed with the recommendations. He also thanked the Holyoke Taxpayers Association for speaking strongly in favor of the Water Street project. He suggested it would be catalyst for economic development in that area. He then suggested an amendment, noting how moved he was by testimonies of non-native speakers that had recently moved to Holyoke and found the community education project had been powerful in helping them learn English and assimilate. He then made a motion to amend the recommendations, increasing \$20,000 to \$40,000 for this program by reducing that amount from the

Public Health Response recommendation of \$300,000 to \$280,000. Councilor Tallman seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Councilor Rivera_I noted that Homework House applied twice, one for after school programming which was zeroed out. He emphasized that was the main thing they had been running for years. He questioned if the intent was to zero that out, noting that \$100,000 was instead recommended for their mental health programming proposal. He stated that he would support that as long as that was the intent.

Councilor Bartley stated that was the intention. He added that he was familiar with what they were about, noting that they had been funded through CDBG for years. He then suggested that this was a way for Homework House to diversify itself. He then suggested finding the \$100,000 elsewhere, such as the \$2.5 million recommended for Holyoke Housing Authority.

President McGee clarified that the explanation was that the recommendation was the intent.

Councilor Rivera_I questioned if that was really the case, noting that he did not believe that was addressed at the meeting. He then reiterated that he would support the mental health programming as long as that was what was intended. He then noted that he had asked for additional explanations for various proposals at the DGR meeting and was told that's not how things were done. He emphasized that his job was to represent the people, even if his vote did not matter at the end of the day.

President McGee clarified for the benefit of the public that the Council was voting to recommend use of ARPA funds after several committees met to suggest how to allocate them. He then emphasized that the mayor would then decide how to allocate the funds but would look at what positions were taken by the committees. He suggested that motions could be made to reduce recommendations from other proposals to get what was being sought for Homework House.

Councilor Rivera_I noted that if he was proposing to take from one line to another, he would like to know what he was taking from. He noted that there wasn't a lot of background provided so that he could know what he was voting on.

President McGee emphasized that it was a lot of moving pieces. He then agreed that was important to understand the impact of moving funds around from one proposal to another. He emphasized that with \$19 million to divide up for \$63 million in requests, a lot were not going to get what they were looking for.

Councilor Bartley made a motion to reduce the \$2.5 million recommendation for Holyoke Housing Authority by \$100,00 and apply that to the Homework House after school programming. Councilor Vacon seconded the motion. He noted that HHA had been supported 100% during the first round of ARPA funding. He also noted that he had brought up on multiple occasions their board's decisions to move hundreds of thousands of dollars from their balance sheet to MMDT (Massachusetts Municipal Depository Trust), which was a quasi-public bank allowing them to collect interest. He suggested that they could move \$100,000 out of MMDT if they really needed it. He also emphasized that during the committee discussion, he always asks if there is further discussion before taking a vote so that everyone has a change to weigh in.

Councilor Givner stated that she would not support the motion. She further stated while she liked the idea of getting Homework House closer to what they needed, she did not believe in taking funds away from the Holyoke Housing Authority because she believed housing was more important.

Councilor Rivera_I stated that he agreed with Councilor Givner's point and would not vote to take funds away from a nonprofit that was servicing the city's most underserved communities.

Councilor Vacon noted that in sending these over, they were only recommendations to the mayor, adding that this was only letting him know that the Council thinks a program is worthy of funding. She emphasized that of all of the entities on the list, the Holyoke Housing Authority had the deepest pockets.

Councilor Jourdain expressed his support for the motion, stating that a great afterschool program in Ward 4 was a nice thing to have.

Motion to amend passed on a voice vote.

---> Report of Committee received and recommendation, as amended, Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays--Yeas 7--Nays 2 (Givner, Rivera_I)--Absent 0--Abstain 4 (Maldonado Velez, McGiverin, Murphy-Romboletti, Rivera_J). Councilor Maldonado Velez, Councilor McGiverin, Councilor Murphy-Romboletti, and Councilor Rivera_J abstained from the vote and did not participate in the discussion.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up item 19A out of order.

(1:59:55)

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order that the City Council hold interviews to appoint a member of the public to the Holyoke Media board.

have considered the same and Recommended that the order be referred to the City Council.

Committee Members:

Peter Tallman
Will Puello
David K. Bartley

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Tallman stated that Daniel F. Sullivan and Russell J. McNiff, Jr attended the meeting to interview for the position. He noted that the discussion focused on the importance of the City Council having a member on their board. He stated that they had been together for 6-7 years, just opened a new office, had a good budget financed from the cable company. He emphasized that there was not a recommendation and that it would be up to the Council to decide who to vote for, noting that councilors could vote for anyone they want.

Councilor Bartley emphasized that they both gave great interviews, adding that he hoped whoever wasn't appointed would apply for something else.

Councilor Jourdain stated that they were both phenomenal candidates. He also expressed his understanding that there were 2 additional at-large board seats open.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos stated that he was impressed with the interviews, specifically with Mr. O'Sullivan who gave him a call to discuss the position and that he addressed his many questions well.

Councilor Vacon stated that Mr. O'Sullivan followed up with her. She noted that she asked him about attending a board meeting and being open to expressing what may be a minority opinion relative to the flavor of the day. She explained that he assured her that his approach was looking at it as an open forum where all points of view should be welcomed.

---> Motion was made and seconded to go to the first ballot for the position of member of Holyoke Media Board of Directors. Daniel O'Sullivan 12 received votes (Anderson-Burgos, Bartley, Givner, Jourdain, Maldonado Velez, McGee, Murphy-Romboletti, Puello, Rivera_I, Rivera_J, Tallman, Vacon). Russell McNiff, Jr received 1 vote (McGiverin) Daniel O'Sullivan appointed to the Holyoke Media Board of Directors on the first ballot. The term will expire June 30, 2026.

Councilor Bartley asked if he had to see the City Clerk.

President McGee stated that he would be sworn in by the City Clerk and then see Scott MacPherson.

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that Ordinance 2-61 be amended as follows:

Amend Section B. Each member of the city council shall be furnished, by the city solicitor's office, a copy of every collective bargaining agreement clearly outlining all changes made to the agreement showing the prior language and the new proposed language, a minimum of ten days prior to the cost items of said agreement being submitted to the city council for approval.

Add Section C. That the City Auditor provide the City Council an accurate financial impact analysis of any such proposed agreement submitted to the city council for approval explaining the full cost of the proposed agreement and attesting to the city council if such agreement is projected to be affordable in all fiscal years impacted by the new agreement.

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 this was putting an existing informal procedure into formalized ordinance form.

Councilor Jourdain stated that this was effectively already occurring, but assuring it gets formalized.

---> 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.

(2:08:40)

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order 5yr Contract for the School Department
Transportation with VanPool and Durham

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 request was to approve allowing them to enter into a 5 year contract, noting that they could enter into a 3 year contract without the City Council's approval. He noted that the Council previously allowed them to extend their contract from 3 years to 5 to enjoy some savings of \$700,000. He then explained that this contract with Durham Services would be a savings of close to \$2 million over the 5 years.

Councilor Jourdain added that councilors should consider a longer term contract in the future, noting the city was being locked out of engaging with potential bidders because it was only a 5 year contract. He also stated that there was discussion of potentially partnering with other cities to do a regional contract to give more economies of scale, with potential big savings in the long term. He also commended the Purchasing Director for her work on putting this together.

---> Report of Committee passed two readings and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays--
Yeas 11--Nays 0--Absent 2 (Bartley, Givner).
Approved by the Mayor.

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 "MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES' LOCAL FOOD POLICY COUNCIL GRANT PROGRAM; HOLYOKE FOOD ECONOMY COALITION, \$8,000, 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 McGiverin stated that Aaron Vega and Stephanie Rodriguez were in attendance to discuss this. He then stated that the grant was from the Dept of Agricultural Resources and would be used to enhance food security in the city. He emphasized that Holyoke took that very seriously, adding that we want to be in the position to take advantage of different entrepreneurship and food security options. He noted there was no match on the grant.

Councilor Maldonado Velez offered a minor correction that it was Stephanie Colon.

Councilor McGiverin clarified that he had it correct in his notes but deferred to what the administrative assistant put in the agenda notes.

(Admin's note: Councilor McGiverin was correct)

---> Report of Committee passed two readings and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays--
Yeas 11--Nays 0--Absent 2 (Bartley, Givner).
Approved by the Mayor.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023, FIFTY FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$55,000) as follows:

FROM:

12101-51105 SERGEANT \$55,000

TOTAL: \$55,000

TO:

12101-51300 OVERTIME \$55,000

TOTAL: \$55,000

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 Chief of Police explained the surplus was due to vacancies in the sergeant position throughout the course of the year but that there would be enough to get to the rest of the fiscal year. He then explained that the overtime was to correct a discrepancy in the budget after the contract was passed earlier, noting it had not taken court time into consideration.

---> 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 (Bartley).
Approved by the Mayor.

(2:16:20)

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

18A. The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order That a flashing stop sign be installed to replace the current standard stop sign located on Magnolia Ave going up Portland St. Cars are speeding and ignoring the current stop sign.

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

Committee Members:

Israel Rivera_I
Kocayne Givner
Todd A. McGee

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Rivera_I deferred to Councilor Anderson-Burgos as the maker of the order to speak first.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos stated that the intersection was a horrible place to live near due to cars not stopping. He then noted that since the flashing stop sign was installed at West Franklin and Linden, accidents had decreased.

Councilor Rivera_I noted the City Engineer had concerns about the light impacting the neighbors but that Councilor Anderson-Burgos made the point that there was a bush that would block the light from the nearby house. He added that Councilor Anderson-Burgos had been in communication with the neighbors and found the light to not be a concern. He also stated that there was no funding for it but the Engineer believed he could manage finding the \$3,000 within his budget.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order Reach out to DPW/HPD to conduct a traffic study for the area, corner of Pine and Appleton Street, due to high speed travel and constant running of the Stop sign. Residents are concerned and have suggested that a camera could assist police department in identifying violators. In addition there is a problem with constant parking of vehicles in the alleyways between Pine and Walnut on the Appleton side street in which they conduct mechanical work and in summer time these illegally parked vehicles are utilized as launching pads for fireworks.

have considered the same and Recommended that a second stop sign on the left side be installed.

Committee Members:

Israel Rivera_I
Kocayne Givner
Todd A. McGee

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Rivera_I stated that the Engineer recommended a second stop be installed on Pine Street on the left hand side, adding that the second part of the request may not necessary be needed if the second stop sign was installed.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the city engineer review the inner section of Yale and Park Slope to determine what options are available (i.e. new signage) to help slow traffic in the area.

have considered the same and Recommend that the order be adopted to approve the installation of an informational sign at the Engineer's recommendation.

Committee Members:

Israel Rivera_I
Kocayne Givner
Todd A. McGee

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Rivera_I stated that the Engineer approved adding an informational sign.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the DPW place a "STOP SIGN AHEAD" on the G&E pole #8 near 59 Magnolia Avenue.

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

Committee Members:

Israel Rivera_I
Kocayne Givner
Todd A. McGee

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Rivera_I stated that the Engineer said he could do this on a separate sign or post but they could no longer post on HG&E poles.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos stated that this had been a constituent request.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the DPW change the size of the "no turn on red" signs located on the corner of Hillside Ave and Cherry St. The current signs are too small, making drivers unaware of them.

have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with, and the sign sizes be adjusted based on the Engineer recommendation.

Committee Members:

Israel Rivera_I
Kocayne Givner
Todd A. McGee

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Rivera_I stated that the Engineer recommended changing the sign after checking to see if they were already standard size or if they were smaller than they should be.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos stated that there was an issue at the intersection with near collisions happening due to drivers were ignoring the signs because they were too small to see from across the street.

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

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 18E through 199c as a package.

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order A study to address a possible right turning only lane, Hampden right turn only onto Pleasant is the goal.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer stated that there would need to be study and design done, noting that the signal had timing associated with it that would likely change if this was approved. He added that the Engineer stated that there would need to be study and design done, noting that the signal had timing associated with it that would likely change if this was approved. He added that the Engineer noted that in looking at the accident data from the last 3 years, there were 15 total accidents. He added that to make it onto the state's top 200 list, the cutoff was 27 accidents. He also stated that they planned to replace that light as part of a total of 11 being replaced in the city. He then stated that he did not recommend the request due to the detrimental impact on traffic going through the light.

Councilor Tallman stated that this was tried years ago with the bridge coming from South Hadley. He added that he was concerned that with the new White Hut going up, there may be some issues, especially with the two lanes merging into one as they pass the Dunkin Donuts. He further stated it was good to have it on their radar to keep as eye on it after the White Hut opens.

Councilor Rivera_I stated that the Engineer was planning several traffic studies around the city.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order Clinton & Dwight street corner in need of crosswalk or light and some kind of bump out to keep cars from parking up to corner blocking visibility for pedestrians, currently pedestrians have to walk to almost the middle of street to see incoming traffic. Vehicles constantly park in the -No parking zone-, not being enforced nor ticketed.

have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with, and be referred to the mayor to request funding for bulbouts as recommended by the Engineer.

Committee Members:

Israel Rivera_I
Kocayne Givner
Todd A. McGee

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Rivera_I stated that the Engineer recommended installing curb extensions as the likely best solution to shorten the amount of space for pedestrians to walk as well as making them more visible, but that the issues would be funding it.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order DPW repaint the crosswalk on Hillside Ave near Coit.

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 Rivera_I noted that the Engineer stated that maintenance items could be addressed directly by reaching out to the DPW and having them turned into work orders without needing to file orders.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order Due to concerns at Metcalf school, ordain, : right turn only' when exiting the parking area.

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 Rivera_I noted that Councilor Bartley believed there was nothing to add and that it could be complied with.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order Due to neighbor concerns, the city engineer review accident reports at the intersection of Linden and Hampshire Streets and, if needed, recommend traffic safety improvements at what now is a 3-way stop. Refer to public safety and copy to city engineer for a report in 60 days time. 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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer provided a memo with accident reports and that the corridor of Linden Street from Cabot to Mackenzie would be looked at in future traffic studies.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order From Barbara Blodgett, re: letter sent to Mayor Joshua A. Garcia addressing speeding on Hillside Avenue & Speeding within the City of Holyoke.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer had many conversations with Ms. Blodgett and noted some of the issues were general issues with speeding throughout the city. He added that the Engineer had done speed studies on Hillside and found that the 85th percentile did not exceed 30 miles per hour and therefore speed humps were not recommended.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order That DPW and or Holyoke Police department provide an update on what was the agreement when the Dunkin Donuts was built as to designate certain parking spaces for Eddie's Furniture located at 865 Hampden Street, to allow their delivery and Large cargo vehicles to have the necessary clearance to enter and exit safely from their lot. As it stands there are provisional handwritten no parking signs posted on cones that continually are being taken down thus preventing their business to function properly.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer spoke with Jeff Burkott in the Planning Department and understood that as it was private party, it would have been negotiated between the abutting owners. He added that a second phase of planned development on the Dunkin Donuts property had not happened and that there was not much the city could do.

Councilor Tallman noted that the issue came up with Dunkin was being built since Eddie's had been using the whole lot to back up trucks. He added that they were now backing up their trucks on Hampden, which can often be difficult. He expressed his understanding that they were going to try to block off the first couple spots to drop furniture off.

Councilor Rivera_I asked if he was referring to the public street.

Councilor Tallman confirmed that he was.

Councilor Rivera_I stated that there may have been a different order for that, possibly brought up by Councilor Givner. He suggested that parking spots could not be assigned to a business.

Councilor Givner stated that they were trying to work on an agreement, but nothing was hashed out legally. She noted that they were getting deliveries so it appeared things were functioning.

Councilor Tallman noted that some businesses on High Street have business parking signs.

Councilor Rivera_I stated that he agreed with that idea, noting the same was done with VCare transporting people. He suggested someone should follow up with Planning.

Councilor Tallman stated that he would speak with Jeff Burkott as well as with Eddie's Furniture.

Councilor Givner suggested that a new problem may come up with the White Hut opening across the street.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that our City Engineer recommend traffic calming measures for Whiting Farms Rd. Constituents are reporting drivers operating their vehicles in an unsafe manner.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer would look at these areas as part of the speed and vehicle count or the more detailed intersection analysis.

Councilor Vacon noted that the Engineer previously asked for more time to look over the entire city instead of intersections individually. She added that this as well as the area of Cherry and Dale would require more in depth analysis as high risk areas. She also recalled that he spoke of less expensive solutions such as using paint in specific ways instead of posting signs everywhere.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that SLOW CHILDREN AT PLAY signs be placed on at both ends of Locust St between West Franklin St and MacKenzie Ave.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer explained that these signs were no longer being used as research had shown them to be ineffective, as well as giving the perception that areas may be more safe for kids than necessarily true.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order That the City engineer draft the feasibility and associated costs of a raised crosswalk adjacent to 401 Main Street.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer explained that this was included in a project for 3 locations of raised crosswalks along Main Street that they were using cannabis impact funding for, noting they would be between Cabot and Spring, at the Spring Street intersection, and at Hamilton. He added that they

would be construction later in the year or early the following year.
---> Report of Committee received and recommendation Adopted.

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order That the City Engineer evaluate and make suggestions to address the speeding on Beech St, specifically the stretch between Portland St and Linden St. The residents that live on the side streets are concerned when tuning on to Beech St. As a side note the Holyoke High School is across the street and this makes that section a hazard to the students as well as the pedestrians.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer explained he would plan to collect speed and traffic count data at this location, emphasizing that there would not be a lot of options due to it being a 4 lane stretch of the road. He also noted that the Beech/Resnic light may have an impact, especially if it were to be reconstructed with a roundabout as part of a future MassDOT project. He also stated that the Engineer highlighted this as one the top 200 list for highest accidents in the state and that MassDOT had been looking at the intersection for a potential roundabout.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the city engineer evaluate the area of Cherry & Dale Streets for speed calming measures and the PD enforce speed limits. Pedestrians and drivers are reporting drivers traveling at high speeds failing to stop for the crosswalk and causing dangerous situations for drivers entering Cherry Street from Dale St. and driveways on Cherry St.

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 Rivera_I noted that Councilor Vacon addressed this a couple minutes earlier.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the City Engineer explore options for traffic mitigation on Whiting Farms Rd, specifically at the crosswalks on Farnum and Tokeneke, to ensure that drivers stop for pedestrians utilizing the crosswalks.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer would be looking at this area as part of this comprehensive speed and vehicle count study.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order 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.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer did a study at the intersection based on the 8 warrants required to recommend a signal and that none of the 8 warrants were met and the signal was not recommended.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order That the city engineer please explore the feasibility or repairing the raised crossed walk on West Franklin and Magnolia Ave. Concerns have been raised about its effectiveness.

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 Rivera_I deferred to Councilor Puello as the maker.

Councilor Puello stated that the Engineer explained this was part of a water project and that it would be fixed once they got that sorted out.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order That the City Engineer review the opportunity to put a raised sidewalk(s) in front of Blessed Sacrament School on Westfield Rd and report back to the City Council on our ability to do that. These were placed in front of Mayer Field on this street and should also be considered here as well for child safety.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer explained they had a Shared Streets grant with MassDOT and were able to change the scope given that the raised crosswalks proposed for Appleton would not work. He added that they shifted that to Kane Road as well as the Blessed Sacrament raised crosswalks.

Councilor Jourdain explained that they said they would do it and it was just a matter of when.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the city engineer study the intersection of Hamilton Street and Main Street in the hopes of adding safety measures. Some problems at this intersection have been “very dangerous to cross the street even with the marked crosswalk” and “dangerous when taking a left turn from Hamilton onto Main Street”. Any recommendations to how we can improve the safety at this intersection would be great!

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 Rivera_I stated that this was part of the same work explained in an earlier order.

Councilor Maldonado Velez expressed appreciation to the City Engineer for doing all of this research.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order That the DPW fully plow, sand, salt all of Ogden St.

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 Rivera_I stated that this was already complied with.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order That the DPW install a raised crosswalk at the intersection of Linden St and West Franklin St. Vehicles coming down Linden St are not coming to a complete stop.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer emphasized this as his top priority intersection, noting it was the only unsignalized intersection on the state's top 200 list.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the police department provide the city council with a report of the intersections with the highest rates of accidents. A discussion of safety concerns would be helped by having a broader picture of problem areas instead of discussing individual issues.

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 Rivera_I stated that a memo was provided by the Police Department. He added that the Engineer provided information on a website maintained by the state that showed the top crash locations in the state.

Admin Asst Anderson-Burgos noted that he had already posted a link to it on the city website.

Councilor Rivera_I stated that it would show the city's hotspots with regard to accidents, severity, and other information.

---> 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 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?

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer noted this was on the state's top 200 list. He added that MassDOT had undertaken a design and construction plan for reconstruction of the intersection, and that the city would have some input but it would be a MassDOT project. He also explained there would be time for public input once it reached the 25% design level and that the project was planned for 2027.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that the radar speed feedback sign be placed on Cherry Street near the curve (Beaudoin Village side of road) when approaching the intersection at Dale. Pedestrians have reported nearly being hit by drivers while in the crosswalk.

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 Rivera_I deferred to Councilor Vacon as the maker.

Councilor Vacon stated that she filed a new order for this intersection.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order that we install raised crosswalks, or other calming measures, on Main Street between Hamilton Street & Sargeant Street and Cabot Street & Spring Street.

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 Rivera_I stated that this was the same feedback as a similar order for the same area.

Councilor Maldonado Velez explained for the benefit of residents in that area that crosswalks should be coming within the next couple years.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order The City Engineer provide an update to a future Public Safety meeting on the status of funding repairs at the crosswalk at the main gate to H.C.C.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer explained the concept would suggest removing the current beacon and install RRFB's as well as rework the median. He then explained that they would also need to have ADA sidewalk ramps installed on each side of the crosswalk and additional sidewalk work on the campus side to feed into the existing sidewalks. He estimated that the cost would be \$120,000 to \$175,000. He added that a funding source would need to be identified.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order The crosswalk that was installed in Hampden Street next to Stop and Shop, to address our pedestrians but most importantly our blind residents, is missing essential functions and it would be most beneficial that a Spring-loaded In-Street Pedestrian Crosswalk Sign be placed in the middle with lines repainted that instill urgency to the motorist that they need to stop, slow down to allow our pedestrians to safely arrive to the other side. Currently motorists continue to speed up that hill ignoring the initial beep. It would be most beneficial to have a light such as that in South Street in front of Elmwood towers. Motorists that do stop to yield to pedestrians are most of the times almost rear ended by other speeding motorists and at times they try to dodge the stopped vehicle and go around creating a very unsafe atmosphere for pedestrians that now are obliged to step back out of the way.

have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with, and referred to the mayor to request funding for bulbouts as recommended by the Engineer.

Committee Members:

Israel Rivera_I
Kocayne Givner
Todd A. McGee

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Rivera_I stated that the Engineer recognized this as a dangerous corner with a long walk across the street as well as being located up a hill and around a turn. He noted that RRFB's (rectangular rapid flashing beacons) were installed as a mitigation measure but was unsure how well they were working. He then suggested that bulbouts could be installed. He also suggested that a pedestrian hybrid beacon (PHB's) known as HAWK crossings could be installed as a newer way of mitigating issues. He explained that such a crossing included three lights as a more prominent signal. He then explained that this style of pedestrian beacons had a cost of \$75,000. He added that the recommendation was that the mayor try to find the funding for the bulbouts.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order The DPW repair sidewalks on Hampden St. near 8 Williams St.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer was working on a comprehensive list of sidewalk requests and prioritizing them as well as noting potential funding sources to fix them. He then explained that the Engineer was seeking funding to do a city-wide sidewalk condition study and ADA transition study.

Councilor Tallman noted that it should include Allyn Street, explaining that a whole sidewalk was coming up due to some trees. He expressed his intent to file a new order to address that.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order The DPW, HPD and City Engineer report to City Council with its efforts to improve traffic safety at the corners of Linden/Hampshire Sts. and Linden/Locust Sts. as residents report speeding, accidents, and many instances of running the stop signs. Please produce any accident reports for the last two years for these intersections and send as a communication.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer provided accident reports in his memo. He added that that the corridor of Linden Street from Cabot to Mackenzie would be looked at.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order The Mayor and community development dept fund the following projects with either CDBG or ARPA funds: Repair Sidewalk on east side of Queen St. between Coit St and Queen St. and Build/Repair Sidewalk on west side of High St. from Norfolk St. to Parenteau Dr.; repave Merrick Ave.; repair sidewalk on south-side of Hampden St. between Nonotuck and Pleasant Sts. with the section near Thorpe Ave. (W-4) in need of immediate attention.

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 Rivera_I stated that all of these locations would be on the comprehensive list being looked at by the Engineer. He added that the Engineer learned sidewalks were not an eligible activity for ARPA funds, and some locations may also not be CDBG eligible and that the city would need to appropriate for those locations.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order With Community support, That all four way intersections include either red blinking lights or solar powered stop signs, AND that any new stop signs installed include solar powered lighting.

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 Rivera_I stated that the Engineer explained it would be close to \$13,000 per intersection throughout the city, not including the time for DPW laborers to install them, and that there was also

maintenance and intensity concerns. He added that the recommendation was that these should be saved for places that really needed them, places with a lot of non-compliance of stop signs.

Councilor Givner stated that part of the reason for looking at individual corners was the concern for residents and the potential for blinking lights shining into homes.

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

The Committee on Public Safety to whom was referred an order with special support from our blind residents and advocates, Order that a light signal with crossing sounds be installed at location of existing cross to Stop n Shop on Hampden St at Clinton Ave.

have considered the same and Recommended that the order has been complied with, and referred to the mayor to request funding for bulbouts as recommended by the Engineer.

Committee Members:

Israel Rivera_I
Kocayne Givner
Todd A. McGee

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Rivera_I stated that it was recommended that bulbouts be installed and that there also be a traffic study to determine the best way to address that area more broadly.

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

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to pull reappointment letter for Kate Kruckemeyer to serve on the Planning Board from the Public Service Committee.

An order From Mayor Joshua A. Garcia, letter reappointing Ms. Kate Kruckemeyer, 63 Fairfield Ave. to serve as a Commissioner of the Planning Board for the City of Holyoke: Ms. Kruckemeyer will serve a five year term; said term will expire on June 30, 2028.

Councilor Tallman stated that this was a reappointment, noting that she had initially been appointed to take over the term of a previous member who left after one year. He added that she submitted her resume a second time and that the Planning Board submitted two years of meeting minutes. He then explained that at the committee meeting Councilor Puello and Councilor Bartley suggested tabling it to give them an opportunity to read those minutes and meet with her a second time. He then explained that he believed after having her in for an interview, he felt it was fair to bring this up. He added that he had received several emails and phone calls from people who felt that she should be reappointed to the position. He emphasized that she had served well on the volunteer board and had been diligent in her work.

Councilor Puello stated that he did not support pulling this from committee because he understood Councilor Bartley had some questions. He noted that when she submitted her resume four years ago, he had not been on the Council and some constituents may not have been around four years earlier. He then emphasized that there was nothing malicious on his or Councilor Bartley's part in wanting to ask questions and look at the paperwork. He then expressed that while he would likely support her

renomination and found her to do great work on the Planning Board, he would not be in support voting on it that evening.

Councilor Tallman noted that the minutes had been asked for on Monday of that week and they had been provided that Thursday. He also noted that he informed her the discussion may get tabled at the committee meeting but she chose to attend because she had already planning to meet. He then reiterated that this was a volunteer board she put in several hours a week for and did a lot of research for.

Councilor Jourdain emphasized that she worked very hard on that committee. He added that he would be inclined to support her. He then questioned if a follow up could be done to invite her back to ask questions while allowing her to be reappointed.

Councilor Tallman stated that he agreed with that. He suggested that it was fair to have people come back for questions, or that any councilor with questions or concerns about any votes she took could call or email her. He stated that he did not believe it was fair to expect her to go through the committee again.

Councilor Jourdain stated that this could be done while honoring their request to ask questions.

Councilor Tallman stated that he did not believe it was fair to ask her to come through again.

Councilor Jourdain stated that not as a confirmation but someone could file an order to invite Planning Board members to come in and talk about minutes or other matters.

Councilor Rivera_I suggested that it sounded like that was direction Councilor Tallman was trying to go in during the committee meeting. He then stated that it was unfair for some volunteers on city boards to be called in for questions while others don't get the same treatment. He then commended Councilor Tallman for taking the step of pulling the item from committee.

Councilor Givner stated that there was a level of fatigue for city volunteers to be pulled into Council for questioning, especially given the level of work they do. She then observed that watching the Planning Board do their work was intense. She suggested that anyone could learn what they want to know about their members could be learned by watching their meetings. She then questioned the idea of asking someone to come in for a reappointment, especially given how hard it can be to find people.

Councilor Puello stated that while he agreed with what everyone was saying, he was observing there may be a conflict on the setting of where questions would be asked. He emphasized that this was about asking questions publicly, adding that he did respect Ms. Kruckemeyer's time and appreciated her for coming in and providing what was asked.

President McGee suggested that it appeared a new order may be filed to invite the Planning Board in to answer questions.

Councilor Jourdain clarified that he had not suggested he would file an order but that it would be the right of any councilor if they have questions.

Councilor Tallman suggested that this may be creating a precedent that would lead people to question if they want to serve on a board if they'd be called into Council to get grilled for reappointments. He noted that he did inform Councilor Bartley he would be attempting to do this tonight if there were the votes to pull it from committee.

Councilor Jourdain suggested that nobody was disagreeing with what he was saying.

Councilor Tallman suggested that it sounded like there was still a plan to ask her to come back in.

Councilor Jourdain stated that was not the idea.

Councilor Vacon questioned characterizing the meeting as an interrogation.

Councilor Tallman stated that some things were said that were not appropriate.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos called the motion.

---> Received and appointment confirmed.

President McGee stated that there were no reports from the Charter and Rules Committee or the Joint City Council and School Committee.

ORDERS AND TRANSFERS

(3:16:40)

President McGee implored councilors to not debate orders that were going to committee.

PUELLO — That speed humps be placed on South Summer St. Petition attached.

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

PUELLO — That the traffic trailer please be placed facing Maple St, at the intersection of Maple and Hampshire streets. Constituent concern raised about speeding.

---> Received and Adopted. Copy to HPD.

PUELLO — That the police chief please provide reports for second, most recent, accident involving mayor vehicle.

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

RIVERA_J — That a handicap sign be placed in front of 16 Center St. for Sylvia Robello, Placard #PL 6020201.

---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee. Copy to Disabilities Commission.

RIVERA_I — Order that the mayor, public health department, and sheriff department, veteran services department come into public safety to converse about the possibility of developing a Returning Citizens

department under the public health.

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

RIVERA_I — Order that the city engineer put Willow street in the traffic study list. Constituents are concerned about speeding and the volume of cars going up and down the street and would like to explore a variety traffic calming measures that could help make the street safer.

Councilor Rivera_I noted that day he was putting his daughter into the car and she almost ran into the street just as someone was flying by. He added that he had avoided putting something in for this street because he didn't want to look like he was doing it for himself, but it needed to be done.

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

RIVERA_I — Order that employees at the Holyoke Police Community Center come into public safety and present on the services offered as well as any other projects they maybe working on that is important for the community to be aware of.

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

RIVERA_I — Order that the Holyoke Hub come into public safety and present and updates they may have on the work they have been doing since the Hubs inception.

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

RIVERA_I — that the city council recognize fiesta cafe (Juan Montano) with a proclamation for his consist dedication and work with the Holyoke Transitions Academy.

President McGee asked if Mr. Montano would be invited to a meeting to receive it or if it would be presented out there.

Councilor Rivera_I stated that he would speak to Transitions Academy since they were the ones who recommended it.

---> Received and Adopted.

RIVERA_I — that city council invite representatives of the Sheriff department into public safety to present recidivism and release data specifically to Holyoke.

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

VACON — the radar speed feedback sign be placed on Cherry Street near the curve when approaching the intersection at Dale

---> Received and Adopted. Copy to HPD.

VACON — the radar speed feedback sign be placed on Whiting Farms Road on the travel side going toward the mall.

---> Received and Adopted. Copy to HPD.

VACON — that the road improvements be made on Homestead Ave from Cherry Street to Lower Westfield Rd, including repairing sinking/broken sewers etc. Please see citizens petition from residents. Refer to Mayor and Finance Committee to determine funding source as DPW and Veolia indicate there is no money available for the repairs.

Councilor Vacon stated that this was an order with a petition signed by 50 citizens who had been asking for Homestead to be dealt with for years. She emphasized that she had filed multiple orders over the years but that there had never been enough funding to fix the problems. She further stated that this was giving voice to the quality of life issues that were causing loud noises and vibrations for people living on the street, noting it was likely the most heavily truck traveled road in the city.

Councilor Tallman stated that he spoke with a former city employee who lived on that road and found it difficult to get the issues fixed. He suggested that some areas where there were water repairs were an issue. He expressed his intent to reach out to the mayor and suggested other councilors do the same.

Councilor Vacon noted the issues ran from Cherry Street to Lower Westfield Road
---> Received and referred to the Finance Committee. Copy to Mayor.

VACON — Repair sidewalk on Kane Rd at #35 and #55. Tree roots are causing sidewalk to lift and buckle creating a safety hazard near McMahon School.
---> Received and Adopted. Copy to DPW.

VACON — Remove the dead tree on Evergreen Drive across from #79. It is a safety hazard near the wires and road.
---> Received and Adopted. Copy to DPW, Forester, HG&E.

VACON — the radar speed feedback sign be placed near 427 Southampton Rd next on the schedule.
---> Received and Adopted. Copy to HPD.

VACON — The undersigned seek a meeting of the City council and have the question to vote for a CPA rate of 1% or 1.5% placed on the November 2023 ballot as voted by a majority of the City council on April 4, 2023. This is the first opportunity we have to vote on the tax surcharge since was approved 5 years ago. We object to any delay in our ability to vote on this tax surcharge, whether we support a reduction or support the current rate.

Councilor Vacon stated that petition was signed by 65 citizens calling for a meeting of the Council and for the question to be placed on the November ballot. She suggested that it be tabled pending a response to the questions addressed earlier.
---> Laid on the table.

VACON — a camera be placed at the intersection of Westfield Road and Homestead Ave. to monitor truck traffic to ensure/assist with compliance with “no truck traffic between 8pm and 6 am.” on Homestead Ave southbound.
---> Received and Adopted. Copy to HPD.

ANDERSON-BURGOS, MALDONADO-VELEZ — Ordered, that the City Council present a proclamation to Jessica Wild, contestant from RuPaul’s Drag Race and Drag Race All Stars, who will be headlining this year’s Holyoke PrideFest on June 17th.

Councilor Maldonado Velez made a motion to amend to add a proclamation for Mary Lambert, noting she was also a headliner for Pridefest, having been on the Grammy’s and won an MTV Award. Councilor

Anderson-Burgos seconded the motion. Amended passed.
---> Received and Adopted.

BARTLEY, MURPHY-ROMBOLETTI, PUELLO, TALLMAN, VACON — That the City further honor its medal of honor recipients by improving and adding-to the signage at the Medal of Honor Way near Mitchell Field. DPW to work with City Council to design a signage depicting the names Mueller, Beaudoin and McKenzie and installing it along the Way. Include on each sign the name of the medal winner, dates of service and a picture of the medal of honor. Receive, adopt, refer to DPW, copy to DGR. Our goal is to have the signs approved by early fall and installed in time for Veterans' Day.
---> Received and Adopted. Copy to DPW.

Councilor Puello noted that item 43 was a copy of 42 and could be given a leave to withdraw.

BARTLEY, MURPHY-ROMBOLETTI, PUELLO, TALLMAN, VACON — The city further honor its three medal of honor recipients by causing enhancements to the Medal of Honor Way near Mitchell Field. The city shall install appropriate individual signage for McKenzie, Mueller, and Beaudoin highlighting their names, service branch, and the symbol depicting the medal of honor. Receive, adopt, refer to DPW, copy to DGR. Let's plan to put signs in place by Veterans Day after a design review in committee.
---> Given a leave to withdraw.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos asked Councilor Vacon why she voted against the proclamations for Jessica Wild and Mary Lambert. He noted this was a time for the community to come together.

Councilor McGiverin noted that was out of order.

President McGee stated that votes cannot be questioned.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos stated that he found it shocking.

Councilor Tallman stated that Councilor Bartley reached out to him and asked that his (Councilor Tallman's) name be taken off of item 42 since he was taking up that other item. He stated that it was something he had heard of before.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti asked if someone can ask to do that.

Councilor Tallman stated that he had not heard of that in 25 years.

Councilor Murphy-Romboletti stated that as she was also on the order, she wanted him to stay on it.

Councilor McGiverin stated that the order was already voted on and should stay as it was.

Councilor Rivera_I questioned taking a veteran off of an order about veterans.

President McGee stated that a councilor who signed on to an order is the only one who can ask to be removed.

Councilor Jourdain noted that one of the first orders he filed as a new councilor was to name that roundabout Medal of Honor Way, filed with Evie Chesky.

GIVNER — Per constituent request, please remove the handicap sign at ~~1820~~ 16/18 Linden as the previous owner has passed.

Councilor Givner made a motion to amend 1820 to 16/18. Motion to amend passed.
---> Received and referred to the Ordinance Committee.

GIVNER — By recommendation of the City Engineer, that there be a traffic study of the Hampden St corridor from 202 to Nonotuck, as well as the Dwight St Corridor from Nonotuck to Beech Street. These areas are heavily walked, biked, used for street parking on both sides of each street section. The random two lane blocks of Hampden between Lincoln and Pleasant streets, along with two lane blocks of Dwight between Nonotuck and School Streets inspire motorists to speed, pass one another, ignore pedestrians in crosswalks, and endanger bike, scooter, and one wheel riders. Bike lanes and designated street parking areas exist beginning at 845 Hamden and at Parker St on Dwight. All traffic calming measures should be explored and implemented throughout these corridors.
---> Received and referred to the Public Safety Committee. Copy to City Engineer.

GIVNER — By recommendation of the City Engineer, that informational Blind persons crossing signage be added to existing crosswalk on Hampden St at Clinton Ave.
---> Received and Adopted. Copy to City Engineer.

GIVNER — Per constituent requests, that additional informational parking sign be added at the corner of Division and High Streets to highlight available public parking.
---> Received and Adopted. Copy to City Engineer.

GIVNER — Per constituent requests, that trees/bushes be cut back at the corners of Beech and Dwight streets. There is very low visibility at that already dangerous intersection.
---> Received and Adopted. Copy to DPW.

JOURDAIN — Ordered, that Holyoke City Council adopt a resolution of support to Sen Velis and Reps Puppolo & Ashe's bills allowing small stakes gambling at senior centers in the Commonwealth. Our seniors enjoy playing card games, dominos, bingo et cetera and should be allowed to play with the reasonable small wagers they enjoy to make the games more fun. That this resolution be sent to our delegation, these 2 Representatives, State Senator James Eldridge and the governor's office with a copy to our Holyoke COA Director.
---> Received and Adopted.

MCGEE — That Rule 1 of the City Council be suspended for the purpose of the City Council going on Summer Recess and that the July 4, July 18 and August 15, 2023 meetings be cancelled.

Councilor Jourdain asked about the plan for September, noting there will be a lot of conflict between the primary and Holyoke Day.

President McGee stated that it could be a mess, but it would be addressed at the first meeting in August.
---> Received and Adopted.

MCGEE, Tallman — Order that the city accept and adopt proposed language from the City Solicitor as a home rule petition to the Great and General Court regarding the Acts 1929, c. 113, as amended by Acts 1979, C. 44. Specifically the clause requiring 2 members being of the second world war.

Councilor Jourdain noted they were struggling to find World War 2 vets.

President McGee stated that it was becoming challenging.

Councilor Tallman asked to be added to the order.

---> Received and Adopted.

MCGEE — Ordered, that the Finance Committee discuss the funding of interpretation of subcommittee meetings.

President McGee offered a reminder that subcommittee meetings can be interpreted but the funding could become an issue down the road.

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

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 53, 54, and 60 through 69 as a package.

MCGIVERIN — that the sum of \$10,500,000 is appropriated to pay costs of the Holyoke River Terrace Sewer Separation Project, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto and, without limitation, all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws, as amended (“Chapter 29C”); that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow said amount and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor under any enabling authority, including Chapter 44, Sections 7(1) or 8(14) of the General Laws and/or Chapter 29C; that such bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the City unless the Treasurer with approval of the Mayor determines that they should be issued as limited obligations and may be secured by local system revenues as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C; that the Treasurer with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow all or a portion of such amount from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (the “Trust”); and in connection therewith to enter into one or more loan agreements and/or security agreements with the Trust and otherwise to contract with the Trust and the Department of Environmental Protection, to expend all funds available for the project and to take any other action necessary to carry out the project.

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023, TWELVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$12,000) as follows:

FROM:
12101-51204 PRINCIPAL CLERKS \$5,000
12101-51201 MATRONS 7,000
TOTAL: \$12,000
TO:
12102-53210 MEDICAL \$6,000
12102-53190 TRAINING & EDUCATION 6,000
TOTAL: \$12,000

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the “2023 RECYCLING DIVIDENDS PROGRAM, \$7,700, 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, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the “2023 TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANT, \$82,300, 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, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the “SEWAGE NOTIFICATION ASSISTANCE, \$64,039, 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, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the “2023 COMMUNITY PLANNING GRANT AWARD, \$200,000, 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, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the “FY24 GREENING THE GATEWAY CITIES PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP GRANT AWARD, 30,000, 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, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the “FY23 MUNICIPAL ENERGY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM, \$15,000,

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, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the “FY24 GREENING THE GATEWAY CITIES PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION GRANT AWARD, \$100,000, 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, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023, ONE HUNDRED FORTY THREE THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$143,000) as follows:

FROM:

14211-51101 GENERAL SUPERINTENDANT \$10,000
14211-51103 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE MANAGER 20,000
14251-51107 HIGHWAY LABORER 33,000
14301-51102 REFUSE HMEO 80,000
TOTAL: \$143,000

TO:

16501-51300 PARKS OVERTIME \$3,000
14222-52302 WATER/SEWER CITY HALL 5,000
14222-52304 WATER/SEWER DPW 1,000
16932-52300 WATER/SEWER WAR MEMORIAL 1,000
14222-552303 WATER/SEWER ANNEX 8,000
14302-52902 REFUSE RECYCLING CONTRACT 45,000
14302-52900 REFUSE LANDFILL DISPOSAL 80,000
TOTAL: \$143,000

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023, TWENTY NINE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE AND 00/100 Dollars (\$29,975) as follows:

FROM:

14251-51105 HIGHWAYS POWER SHOVEL OPERATOR \$29,975

TOTAL: \$29,975

TO:

14222-52505 PROPERTY R&M SENIOR CENTER \$2,000

14222-52509 PROPERTY R&M POLICE STATION 3,000

14211-51300 ADMINISTRATION OVERTIME 4,000

14211-51400 ADMINISTRATIVE LONGEVITY 175

14221-51300 PROPERTY OVERTIME 5,000

14221-51400 PROPERTY LONGEVITY 50

14222-52502 PROPERTY R&M CITY HALL 5,000

14261-51300 AUTO EQUIP MAINT OVERTIME 4,000

14261-51830 AUTO EQUIP MAINT CLOTHING/TOOL ALLOW 750

14262-54800 AUTO EXP MOTOR VEHICLE FUEL 6,000

TOTAL: \$29,975

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023, FIVE THOUSAND 00/100 Dollars (\$5,000) as follows:

FROM:

14251-51105 HIGHWAY POWER SHOVEL OPERATOR \$5,000

TOTAL: \$5,000

TO:

14302-54800 REFUSE EXP MOTOR VEHICLE FUEL \$5,000

TOTAL: \$5,000

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 55, 56, and 57 as a package.

MCGIVERIN — that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023, TWO THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SIXTY TWO AND 72/100 Dollars (\$2,362.72) as follows:

FROM:

12201-51105 FIREFIGHTER \$2,362.72

TOTAL: \$2,362.72

TO:

12201-51180 INJURED ON DUTY \$2,362.72

TOTAL: \$2,362.72

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023, SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE AND 06/100 Dollars (\$675.06) as follows:

FROM:

12201-51105 FIREFIGHTER \$675.06

TOTAL: \$675.06

TO:

12101-51180 INJURED ON DUTY \$675.06

TOTAL: \$675.06

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

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

MCGIVERIN — that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023, TWENTY THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY THREE AND 48/100 Dollars (\$20,823.48) as follows:

FROM:

12101-51105 SERGEANT \$10,287.42

12101-51107 PATROLMEN 10,536.06

TOTAL: \$20,823.48

TO:

12101-51180 INJURED ON DUTY \$20,823.48

TOTAL: \$20,823.48

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor McGiverin stated that these were for accountability when a police officer or firefighter was injured on duty and still receiving their salary.

Councilor Vacon asked if there were counts.

President McGee stated that item 55 was 1 employee, item 56 was 1 employee, and item 57 was 8 employees.

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

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 58 and 59 as a package.

MCGIVERIN — that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023, ONE HUNDRED SEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND 00/100 Dollars (\$107,700) as follows:

FROM:

14251-51104 HIGHWAY HME0 \$107,700

TOTAL: \$107,700

TO:

14251-51300 HIGHWAY OVERTIME \$5,000

14212-57100 ADMIN EXP IN STATE TRAVEL 200

12941-51300 FORESTRY OVERTIME 1,500

14302-52901 TRASH EXP HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECT 36,000

14302-53100 TRASH EXP OTHER SERVICES 22,000

14222-52104 PROPERTY EXP ENERGY PELLISSIER 22,000

14222-52504 PROPERTY EXP R&M PELLISSIER 15,000

14222-52505 PROPERTY EXP R&M SR CENTER 2,000

14222-52509 PROPERTY EXP R&M POLICE STATION 2,000

14222-52510 PROPERTY EXP R&M CENTAL FIRE STATION 2,000

TOTAL: \$107,700

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

---> Received and returned to the Auditor.

MCGIVERIN — that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023, EIGHT THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$8,000) as follows:

FROM:

14251-51104 HIGHWAY HMEO \$8,000

TOTAL: \$8,000

TO:

14222-52511 PROP EXP R&M ELMWOOD FIRE STATION \$4,000

14222-52514 PROP EXP R&M W HOLYOKE FIRE STATION 4,000

TOTAL: \$8,000

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

Councilor McGiverin stated that these two orders were duplicates of orders already with the Finance Committee.

---> Received and returned to the Auditor.

Councilor McGiverin stated that the Finance Committee would meet jointly with the Ordinance Committee the following evening the discuss items pertaining to the wastewater treatment plant and a few related matters. He added that the purpose was to forecast what was happening at the plant the following year to help get through the budget process and help the Ordinance Committee and Board of Public Works discuss the impact on the sewer rate. He added that the city was under the mandate of the Clean Water and Air Act, and that CSO projects were starting to catch up where fines were about to be levied on the city. He added that the Finance Committee would meet on the 14th, noting that he had just learned that day about 35 new orders coming in from the mayor. He suggested it was good news that free cash was certified at \$4 million but learning of it 4 weeks before the end of the fiscal year was tragic for the committee. He noted the mayor wanted to transfer it into several uses.

MURPHY-ROMBOLETTI — That the Honorable City Council, in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 30B and the City ordinance for property disposition, vote that the City of Holyoke accept the proposal and sell 107 Clemente Street for \$34,700.00 to Housing Innovations and Programming, Inc. (a division of Holyoke Housing Authority). The property is described in the City Assessor Records as Map 028, Block 03, Parcel 002, consisting of approximately 6,534 square feet of vacant land. The property is zoned as Downtown

Residential (DR) and has an assessed value of \$34,700.00.

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

MURPHY-ROMBOLETTI — That the Honorable City Council, in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 30B and the City ordinance for property disposition, vote that the City of Holyoke accept the proposal and sell 267 Elm Street for \$15,000.00 to GEM Holdings, LLC. The property is described in the City Assessor Records as Map 004, Block 03, Parcel 004, consisting of approximately 5,662 square feet of vacant land. The property is zoned as Downtown Residential (DR) and has an assessed value of \$34,500.00.

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

MURPHY-ROMBOLETTI — Ordered that the City Council invite representatives of the newly established High Street Business Association to discuss their efforts, challenges, priorities and ways the city can support their future initiatives.

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

LATE FILED ORDERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

(3:45:30)

MCGEE -- Ordered, to adopt Chapter 32B, section 20 and to create a Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund

Councilor Jourdain noted that there was already an order in committee to create this. He added that the mayor filed a transfer to add funds to this account but the account needed to be created first.

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

MCGEE -- Ordered, To create an Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund to receive and manage all funds received from settlements of national opioid litigation.

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

RIVERA_I, ANDERSON-BURGOS, MALDONADO VELEZ -- Ordered, to establish a Holyoke Food Coalition by city ordinance.

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

TALLMAN -- Ordered, To add revised language from the 1929 special act creating the Soldiers Memorial Commission to the existing Soldiers Memorial ordinance.

President McGee noted that the one approved earlier in the meeting had the language that the Law Department wanted.

---> Received.

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of SEVENTY FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$75,000) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 19412-57630 Legal Claims & Damages

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$50,000) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 11212-53009 Mayor Contracted Services: Local Ambulance Study

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023 from the fiscal year 2023 sewer enterprise retained earnings a sum of FIFTY SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY EIGHT AND 37/100 DOLLARS (\$56,998.37) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Sewer Retained Earnings

TO: 60402-53012 Sewer Fund Management Services Contract: Previous Years Invoice for FY2022

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023 from the fiscal year 2023 sewer enterprise retained earnings a sum of SIXTY ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN AND 63/100 DOLLARS (\$61,127.63) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Sewer Retained Earnings

TO: 60402- 53012 Sewer Fund Management Services Contract: Deficit

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2023 from the fiscal year 2023 sewer enterprise retained earnings a sum of TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$276,500) as follows:

FROM: 8812-10400 Sewer Stabilization

TO: 60402- 53012 Sewer Fund Management Services Contract: Deficit

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of FIFTY TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$52,500) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 12103-58002 Police Capital Outlay Other Equipment: Portable Radios Replacement

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of FIVE HUNDRED SIXTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$560,000) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 14253-58002 DPW Highways & Bridges Capital Outlay Vehicle- Plow Truck Replacement (2)

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 12992-54200 Office of Public Safety: Office & Professional Supplies

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$5,000) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: OPEB Trust Fund

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of FORTY FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$45,000) as

follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 12443-58001 Weights and Measures Capital Outlay Vehicle: Sealer of Weights & Measures

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of FORTY TWO THOUSAND THREE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$42,003) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 14223-58002 DPW Property Capital Outlay Vehicle: Building Maintenance Pickup Truck Replacement

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of FOUR THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$4,627) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 12202-53011 Fire Information Technologies: Replace Dispatch Computers

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$150,000) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 12942-53010 Contract Forestry Services: Trees

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 14253-58000 DPW Highways & Bridges Capital Outlay City Infrastructure: Sidewalk Improvement

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 16933-58001 War Memorial Commission Capital Outlay Building Improvements: Repair Elevator

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$100,000) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 8810-10400 Stabilization

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of ONE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY THREE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$1,481,473) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 8811-10400 Capital Stabilization

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of SEVENTY THREE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$73,000) as follows:
FROM: FY2023 Free Cash
TO: 14222-53009 DPW Property Contracted Services: Implementation of DLS Hazard Control Recommendations

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of SIXTY TWO THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$62,000) as follows:
FROM: FY2023 Free Cash
TO: 12203-58000 Fire Capital Outlay Vehicles: Deputy Chief Replacement Vehicle

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of SIXTY FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$65,000) as follows:
FROM: FY2023 Free Cash
TO: 12991-51102 Office of Public Safety: Housing Navigator / Homeless Liaison

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of THIRTY FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$35,000) as follows:
FROM: FY2023 Free Cash
TO: 11752-53166 OPED Historic Programs Costs

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$300,000) as follows:
FROM: FY2023 Free Cash
TO: 11212-53009 Mayor Contracted Services: Ongoing catchup work for Treasurer's Office

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$25,000) as follows:
FROM: FY2023 Free Cash
TO: 11512-53010 Legal Special Counsel

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$25,000) as follows:
FROM: FY2023 Free Cash
TO: 14223-58003 DPW Property Capital Outlay Equipment: Environmentally Controlled Radio Repeater Enclosure at Clock Tower

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of TWENTY SEVEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$27,000) as follows:
FROM: FY2023 Free Cash
TO: 14253-58001 DPW Highways & Bridges Capital Outlay City Equipment: Line Painter Replacement

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of TWENTY TWO THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$22,000) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 12103- 58000 Police Capital Outlay Vehicle: Cruiser MDT and Mounts

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$250,000) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 14223-58000 DPW Property Capital Outlay Building Improvements: Council Chambers Renovations

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY FOUR AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$250,574) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 12103-58000 Police Capital Outlay Vehicle – Installment Payment 6 Cruisers

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, That there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2024 from fiscal year 2023 free cash a sum of TWO HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$225,000) as follows:

FROM: FY2023 Free Cash

TO: 12102-53010 Police Data Management Equipment/Services: Records Management System Replacement

MCGIVERIN — Ordered, that the amount of FIFTY SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY EIGHT AND 37/100 Dollars (\$56,998.37) be authorized from the Sewer Enterprise Fund Department's Sewer Fund Management Services Contract (60402-53012) appropriation in fiscal year 2023 for services rendered in fiscal year 2022 which were unencumbered at the 2022 fiscal year end.

Adjourned at 10:54 PM

Brenna Murphy McLee