

AGENDA FOR THE CITY COUNCIL
JUNE 3, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC COMMENT

REGULAR AND PENDING EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

1. -- November 1, 2022, December 5, 2023, February 6, 2024, and June 11, 2024
Executive Session Minutes - Reviewed and partially released as of April 15, 2025
2. -- January 22, 2024, September, 4, 2024 Executive Session and December 9, 2024
Finance Committee Executive Session Minutes - Reviewed and withheld in entirety as
of April 15, 2025
3. From City Clerk Brenna Murphy Leary and Admin. Assistant Jeffery Anderson-Burgos-
meeting minutes from May 20, 2025.

LAI D ON THE TABLE

4. The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that Hampden Street
Streetscape Improvements from Waldo St to Nonotuck St block are made based on the
recommendations of the city engineer, with necessary changes made in Ordinance to
support necessary upgrades.
Recommended that the order be adopted.
5. From City Clerk Brenna Murphy Leary and Admin. Assistant Jeffery Anderson-Burgos,
minutes of February 18, 2025 meeting.
6. The Committee on Charter and Rules to whom was referred an order With community
support, order that the following section of our Codes of Ordinances and charter be
updated to reflect use of email as sufficient for special meeting notice:
Sec. 12. – Special meetings of city council.
The Mayor or City Council President may at any time call a special meeting of the city
council by public posting through the city website along with written notifications thereof,
together with a statement of the subjects to be considered thereat, to be deposited in
the post office, postpaid and addressed to the persons to be notified, at least forty-eight
hours before the time appointed for such meeting, or to be left at the usual place of
residence of each member of the council, by email at least forty-eight hours before the
time appointed for such meeting. (Acts 1965, c. 187; Acts 1992, c. 189)
Recommended that the order be adopted.
7. -- The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that if someone is
putting in an RFP through the city for a property that is up for sale and the applicant has
outstanding issues with the Board of Health, Building Department, or any other city
department having to do with other properties they own, that they are not eligible to win
the bid for the RFP.
Recommended that the order be adopted.

8. The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the City accept Lynn Ann Drive and Richard Eger Drive as public ways.
Recommended that Richard Eger be accepted as a public way and Lynn Ann Drive be accepted as a public way, pending recommendation of the Board of Public Works.
9. Proposed FY2026 City Budget

COMMUNICATIONS

10. From Mayor Joshua Garcia, letter appointing several members to serve on the Recycling Advisory Committee. Members will serve a three-year term expiring August 2026.
11. Letter from David Conti, FY2026 Water Rates and Maintenance Charge
12. From Board of Fire Commissioners, meeting minutes from April 16, 2025
13. From Holyoke Redvelopment Authority- Memo to Council encl Meeting Minutes 2.19.2025, 3.19.2025, 3.27.2025 and 4.2.2025

PETITIONS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

14. The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that Vcare on High Street be allocated an additional parking spot. This request is necessitated by the increase in participants and the operation of two vans for transportation. Many of these participants are elderly individuals who rely on wheelchairs, electric scooters, and walkers. This action is essential to ensure their safety and accessibility.
Recommended that the order be adopted.
15. -- The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order With community support, Order that temporary speed humps be placed on Taylor Street to be followed by permanent speed humps for resident safety. This is a densely populated and highly trafficked through street due to its proximity to a grocery store and its one way direction.
Petition attached
Recommended that the order be referred to the mayor to request funding for study.
16. The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that flashing stop signs be placed at the intersection of Jackson and Commercial Streets.
Recommended that the order be received.
17. The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order The City determine a more efficient manner to remove Handicap/Disability signs. Perhaps a database should be maintained by the Clerk. City addresses with Handicap/Disability signs in front of a parcel's address should maintained and made public. Further, for example, on an annual basis, each addressee with such a sign should be notified and must affirm whether or not the sign should remain. Refer to Ordinance for a follow-up.
Recommended that the order be adopted.

18. The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the Zoning Ordinance be amended to add a section for Short Term Rentals, in addition to amending Section 2 DEFINITIONS, and any other sections that may apply to this use.
Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.
19. The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the Zoning Ordinance be amended to add a Section for Tiny Houses, in addition to amending Section 2 DEFINITIONS, and any other Sections that may apply to this use.
Recommended that the order be given a leave to withdraw.
20. The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order As per the property manager's request from Lyman Terrace Apartments, we are requesting three parking spots for the staff in front of 17 Hampden Street, along with signs indicating "Parking for Lyman Terrace Staff."
Recommended that the order has been complied with.
21. The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the Directors of the Board of Health, Zoning, Planning, and the Animal Control Officer and Law Department meet with the Ordinance Committee to discuss Ordinance Sec. 14-12 as it relates to #2 Hens, specifically the keeping of hens DEFINITIONS, SPECIAL PERMIT PROCESS, SPECIFICATIONS AND DIMENSIONS, GENERAL REGULATIONS, VIOLATIONS and any and all regulations whether State or Federal that may be pertinent.
Recommended that the order has been complied with.
22. The Committee on Finance to whom was referred a communication From MacMillan Law Offices, Refund of Community Impact Fees Paid Pursuant to HCA with Holyoke 420 LLC
Recommended that the order be received and referred to the Law Department.
23. The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order
 1. That the Mayor is authorized to sign Donation Certificates for the following temporary easements on City-owned property to facilitate the construction and maintenance of roadway and related improvements for the "Resurfacing and Related Work on Cabot Street and Race Street (City Center Connector) State Project #609065" Project, understanding that said easements will be for a duration of five (5) years and recorded on land records such that said easements will remain in effect in the event the City chooses to sell any of these properties before the termination of the five (5) year period:

Deed Reference (Book-Page)	Parcel Address	Map/Block/Parcel	Title Holder
16564-387	Cabot St	030-03-007	City of Holyoke
Easement ID	Type		Size (S.F. ±)
TE-24	Temporary (5 years)		482
Combined Value of Easements			Donated \$0.00

Deed Reference (Book-Page)	Parcel Address	Map/Block/Parcel Title	Holder
16826-128	61 Cabot St	030-03-008	City of Holyoke
Easement ID	Type	Size (S.F. ±)	Combined Value of Easements
TE-25	Temporary (5 years)	684	Donated
			\$0.00
Recommended that the order be adopted.			

24. The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order

1. That the Holyoke City Council introduce and read into record a proposed Order of Taking, to be acted upon at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting to be held on June 3, 2025, authorizing the eminent domain takings of seven (7) permanent easements and fifty (50) temporary easements for purposes of obtaining the necessary access and rights of way for the construction and maintenance of roadway and related improvements for the "Resurfacing and Related Work on Cabot Street and Race Street (City Center Connector) State Project #609065" Project (the "Project"), from certain owners of record of land abutting the Project in the City of Holyoke, Massachusetts;
2. That proposed payment for damages, totaling \$58,200 for all easements, be made using Chapter 90 funds;
3. That this item be referred to the Finance Committee for review and hearing on May 27, 2025 at 6:30 PM, in accordance with Section 78-83 of the City of Holyoke Code of Ordinances, such that the Finance Committee may recommend final action be taken to approve said Order of Taking by City Council at the upcoming meeting of June 3, 2025; and
4. That City Council be informed that affected property owners have been made aware of said proposed meeting dates by means of USPS First Class mailing.

Recommended that the order be adopted.

25. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred a Special Permit Application of Alan Fini for the creation of a Fini family cemetery at 2 Fini Road (179-00-003) per 9.3.
Awaiting disposition
26. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred a Special permit application of Holyoke Retail, LCC at 1504 Northampton Street to construct a drive through facility as accessory to proposed retail bank per 7.1.6.5.
Awaiting disposition
27. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order For earmarked funding, order that the Councilors review and approve attached

updates to City Council chambers.
Awaiting disposition

28. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order That the Historical Commission be invited to the DGR Meeting on June 2nd to determine whether any demolition to be done in the future in the City Council chambers are not against historical norms.
Awaiting disposition
29. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order hat the City Clerk meet with the City Council to discuss the potential streamlining of poll locations in Wards 1, 2 and 5 as we have already done in Wards 3, 4, 6 and 7. All of these other Wards seem to function fine with one polling location and it would be a potential cost savings and less administrative burden to use the one location per ward method.
Awaiting disposition
30. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred a communication From Adam Mulcahy and Christina Guesk-Notification of Intent to sell under MGL
Awaiting disposition
31. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred a communication From Assistant Solicitor Jane Mantolesky, letter regarding St. Vincent Lots
Awaiting disposition
32. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order to declare Parcel Holyoke Assessors Map 010, Block 01, Parcel 002, Cabot Street, Holyoke, MA as surplus property. The City has been approached by an abutter looking to purchase the property to secure the same and make it more visually appealing. The property is vacant land and currently assessed at \$13,500.00.
Awaiting disposition
33. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order to declare Parcel Holyoke Assessors Map 144, Block 00, Parcel 057, Easthampton Road, Holyoke, MA as surplus property. The City has been approached by an abutter looking to purchase the property to combine the lots and build a home on the same. The property is vacant land and currently assessed at \$8,500.00.
Awaiting disposition
34. -- The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that the council invite the DPW director of Chicopee to speak on their refuse pickup system that was developed several years ago and what the cost benefits are to their community.
Awaiting disposition
35. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order that representatives of the Water Department come in to DGR and elaborate on processing fee attached to payment when using a credit/debit card when processing

payment. Constituents have raised concerns on how much the are being charged on top of their water bill.
Awaiting disposition

MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS

36. DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, SIX THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SIX AND 64/100 Dollars (\$6,806.64) as follows:

FROM

12201-51103 CAPTAIN	\$3,663.90
12201-51104 LIEUTENANTS	3,142.74
	TOTAL \$6,806.64

TO:

12201-51180 INJURED ON DUTY	\$6,806.64
PP#24	TOTAL \$6,806.64

37. DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year EIGHTY THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIFTY SIX AND 00/100 Dollars (\$83,656) as follows:

FROM

11511-51202 PT ASSOCIATE SOLICITOR	\$83,656
	TOTAL \$83,656

TO:

11511-51201 PT ASSISTANT SOLICITOR	\$83,656
	TOTAL \$83,656

38. Devine-Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the "MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL CULTURAL DISTRICT INVESTMENT GRANT, \$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.

Sec 2-509 - Grant Reporting

Any city department, of which has received grant funding by approval of the city council pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, or any other authorizing criteria, shall within a reasonable period of time, but no later than 60 days from the conclusion of said grant, generate a detailed report which outlines the planned outcomes with the documented actual results. Said report shall be submitted to the city clerk for addition to the city council's next agenda.

39. DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, TWELVE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY NINE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY AND 00/100 Dollars (\$12,759,860) as follows:

FROM

19141-51999 HEALTH INSURANCE	\$12,759,860
	TOTAL \$12,759,860

TO:

10002-59753 TR TO DENTAL INS TRUST	\$ 315,000
10002-59790 TR TO HEALTH INS TRUST	12,444,860
	TOTAL \$12,759,860

40. DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED NINETY SIX AND 14/100 Dollars (\$48,596.14) as follows:

FROM

14251-51104 PAY HIGHWAY HMEO	\$48,596.14
	TOTAL \$48,596.14

TO:

16502-52300 PARKS WATER & SEWER	\$48,596.14
	TOTAL \$48,596.14

41. Devine- ORDERED To Police Chief Keenan: What are the current procedures for cash seizures?
42. Magrath-Smith - Ordered, that the City Engineer provide a list of approximate costs for often-requested services around traffic calming evaluations, temporary speed humps, permanent speed humps, flashing lights, and stop sign placement. Additionally, provide an updated list of such measures voted on by Council but awaiting available appropriation. Lastly, provide clarity on which budgetary line items such appropriations would be made out of in comparison to the financial cost of current pending work that has been approved by Council.
43. Magrath-Smith- Ordered, that the City Council review the FY26 Paving Program memo and consider how best to address our most pressing roadwork.
44. Magrath-Smith- Ordered, that City Council consider the possibility of structuring a standardized relocation bonus for positions with a residency requirement.
45. Rivera, I- Order that 5% of Cannabis revenue be set aside specifically for capital improvements within and around the communities that the industry is held in.
46. Rivera, I- Order that the honorable city council amend and restructure ordinance 74-36 (Recycling advisory committee) which reads: There is established a recycling advisory committee. The committee, as requested, shall provide advice, assistance and recommendations to the board regarding the recycling program. The committee shall be appointed by the mayor, confirmed by the city council, and shall consist of at least nine persons with a demonstrated interest in recycling, at least six of whom are residents of Holyoke. At least one member chosen shall be a user of or familiar with the city's recycling drop-off center, one member shall represent the private real estate industry (apartment management), and one member shall be a designee of the Holyoke Housing Authority. One member shall represent the business community, and one member shall represent nonprofit institutions. The term shall be three years. The director of public works, or his designee, shall be an ex officio member of the committee, per request of

the Commission of the Department of Public Works, as well as the Chair of the Recycling Committee.

47. Rivera, I- Order that the Mayor along with the director of the office of Community Development present on the current amount dollars currently accumulated via the Opioid class action law suit and how the city plans to allocate/spend the funding.
48. Rivera, I- Order that DPW and the Mayor develop an overflow trash system allowing residents to purchase bags locally that would allow for overflow trash to be collected.
49. Rivera, I- Order that honorable city council amend ordinance 38-73 (8) Enumeration of prohibited noises. Drums, loud speakers, and similar devices. To read:
The use of a drum, loudspeaker or any other sound-producing instrument or device for the purpose of attracting attention to any election campaign, performance, show or sale or display of merchandise by the creation of noise, except where authorized by special permit to be issued by the city Licensing board with recommendations from the Chief, who shall make reasonable rules and regulations therefor.
50. Rivera, I- Order that the Board of Health Commission along with the director come in and elaborate as to how the cap on issuing new tobacco licenses and ban on social consumption align with the city's economic master plan.
51. Vacon- ORDER: That a list of requests for permanent speed humps, temporary speed humps and raised crosswalks be created, posted on our city website & updated periodically.
52. Vacon- ORDER: That we amend our ordinance so a request for evaluation for eligibility for speed humps or raised crosswalks can be requested without a petition.
53. Vacon, Jourdain- ORDER: that a public hearing for residents to to speak on the budget be set for 6pm on June 9, 2025, at the beginning of the regular budget hearing, in the spirit of MGL ch 44 Section 32.
54. Vacon- ORDER: That a sign "SLOW "hidden or blind driveways ahead" or similar wording be placed on Lower Westfield Rd on the hill near the Homestead Ave intersection for drivers proceeding up the hill toward the Elks.
55. Vacon- ORDER: If consolidation of voting sites to one per ward occurs, then increase the daily stipend for election workers from 150/day to 170-180/day and staff each voting location in compliance with 950 CMR 53.01.
56. Vacon, Greaney, Sullivan, Jourdain, Bartley & Ocasio ORDER: that the City Council adopts the attached resolution in support of HG&E.

LATE FILED ORDERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Addendum:

Per City Council rule 2B, meeting shall end by 10 PM unless an extension is approved by a two-thirds majority of those present. If any items remain, those items will be added to the

beginning of the next regular meeting.

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the chair which may be discussed at the meeting.

Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law

City Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

February 18, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Murphy-Romboletti at 7:05 p.m.

The Clerk called the roll. Absent Members: 0 Present Members in person 12 (Anderson-Burgos, Bartley, Devine, Givner, Jourdain, Magrath-Smith, Murphy-Romboletti, Ocasio, I. Rivera, J. Rivera, Sullivan, Vacon). Present Members on Zoom: 1 (Greaney)

Motion was made and seconded to take a roll call vote that for the purposes of this meeting would be applicable to all motions to receive, refer items to committee, remove items from the table, place items on the table, package items together, comply with items, or suspend the rules unless there is an objection. Motion adopted.

The name of Councilor Magrath-Smith was pulled to head the roll call voting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alanna Rutledge, 75 Taylor Street, stated that she and several neighbors on her street had concerns that they had not been plowed since the recent snowstorm. She added that it had been difficult to get out of her street every morning. She also stated that it had not been sanded or salted, and she often fishtailed trying to get into her driveway. She also stated that a police car went up and down her street with a siren running but had not given any instructions. She added that after people moved their cars, the road was still not plowed. She also expressed concern with people falling, noting that a lot of older people lived on the street. She also emphasized that the road not being plowed had been a consistent issue.

Amelia Box, 57 Taylor Street, seconded Ms. Rutledge's concerns. She then stated that her car was an SUV and still found herself spinning out trying to get into the street from Hampden. She noted it was a one way street and observed that many other one way streets were also missed and had not been sanded or plowed.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the necessary rules to take up item 30 out of order.

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order Special permit application of F & M Hideway, Inc to reconstruct and renovate Schermerhorn's Restaurant and retail store per sec 4.7.3 at 224 Westfield Road (157-00-072).

have considered the same and Recommended that the special permit be granted.

Committee Members:

Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Carmen Ocasio

Juan Anderson-Burgos
Patricia Devine

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Givner noted that the applicants were in attendance. She then stated that they were planning to reconstruct Schermerhorn's by rebuilding exactly what was there before, adding that it will be up to code. She noted they sent in their building plans.

Councilor Devine thanked the applicant for sending in their plans. She noted that one of the neighbors had concern about parking, and she was impressed that the applicant offered to meet with that neighbor to address those concerns.

Councilor Vacon expressed support for the special permit. She also commended them for doing their due diligence and finding problem areas to do things the right way.

Councilor I. Rivera noted that many people were grateful that Schermerhorn's' would still be around.

Councilor Greaney stated that he hoped they would leave the sign up in the front.

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

LAI D ON THE TABLE

(10:35)

The Committee on Ordinance to whom was referred an order that the Police Department be allowed to hire a Crime Analyst past the Grade 10 mid-range (which is \$70,407) to \$78,000.

Recommended that the order be adopted.

---> Laid on the table.

Councilor Devine made a motion to suspend the necessary rules to remove item 2 through 6 from the table as a package. Councilor Anderson-Burgos seconded the motion.

Councilor Jourdain stated that he did not mind 3 through 6 being taken up as a package, but had concerns about unique issues with item 2 and would prefer to see that one separated from the package.

Councilor Vacon made a motion to refer the whole package to the Finance Committee as none of the orders had been taken up in committee. Councilor Jourdain seconded the motion.

Councilor Bartley stated they needed to be taken off the table first.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that she believed that had happened.

Councilor Bartley stated that he did not hear a vote take place.

Councilor Jourdain stated that he objected to it all being taken up together.

Councilor Givner expressed her understanding that there was a motion to take items out of order and there was a vote.

Councilor Bartley stated that there was not a vote on it.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that the body still needed to vote to take them up together. She then stated that item 2 would be taken up separately, and then 3 through 6 would be taken up as a package.

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

DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, TWENTY ONE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND 22/100 Dollars (\$21,600.22) as follows:

		FROM	TO
11211	51276	MAYOR'S CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS	21,600.22
15411	51103	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - COA	2,222.00
15411	51101	DIRECTOR COUNCIL ON AGING	3,030.00
11711	51101	CONSRVTN & SUSTNBLTY DIRECTOR	3,030.00
12441	51101	SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	2,525.00
16301	51101	DIRECTOR PARKS/REC FORESTRY	2,899.14
16301	51103	ASST DIRECTOR OF PARKS & REC	2,222.00
14211	51108	SAFETY OFFICER	2,020.00
15101	51101	DIRECTOR BOARD OF HEALTH	1,632.00
15101	51202	ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER	2,020.08
		21,600.22	21,600.22

UNDER DISCUSSION:

Councilor Vacon made a motion to refer items 2 through 6 to the Finance Committee. Councilor Jourdain seconded the motion.

Councilor Devine stated that all of these had been in Finance. She then stated that she provided a list of 22 people that were in these positions. She then emphasized that the Council could only talk about the appropriations and could not get into benefits because that was not the Council's prerogative. She then suggested that discussion of benefits may lead to an unfair labor practice charge. She then asked why item 2 should go to committee but not the others.

Councilor Jourdain explained that item 2 had extra rules. He then suggested that due to previous objections to an earlier package of items that had portions of interdepartmental transfers, the administration submitted items 3 through 6 as intradepartmental transfers. He then stated that the only other issues was that to pass those items, it would require both readings by a two-thirds vote. He then suggested that item 2 presented an interdepartmental transfer due to funds coming from the Mayor's Contracted Services line to other departmental salary lines. He then noted that the Law Department offered guidance that since this was for the same purpose, that would not follow the interdepartmental rule. He then asked for an opportunity to speak to DOR (Department of Revenue) on the following Friday to ask if they understood the funds were in the Mayor's budget and the others were all their own separate departments. He added that he could consider going along with it if the Law Department's guidance was accurate. He emphasized that there was not a contract negotiation line in each of those departments. He

then stated that items 3 through 6 had not come to the Council before, and there could be open questions about why there was extra money in some of those accounts.

Councilor Vacon explained that the reason for her motion because it was better for the committee to do their work instead of the entire body trying to do that work.

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

Councilor Devine asked Councilor Jourdain if he was speaking with the DOR.

Councilor Jourdain stated that he was.

Councilor Devine asked if they would be giving a ruling in writing.

Councilor Jourdain stated that he doubted they would give one in writing, noting that they had not given one in writing to the Law Department. He then stated his interest in confirming what the Law Department was saying was accurate because it was only a verbal report.

Atty Bissonnette stated that it was unfortunate that the accuracy and legitimacy of what the Law Department has reported was being characterized as fruit of the poisonous tree and not an accurate representation of what the DOR said. He then explained that they call the DOR for guidance on a regular basis and emphasized that they do not provide written opinions. He then observed that due to Councilor Jourdain enlightening everyone on the rules of interdepartmental transfers, the mayor put forward these orders to transfer funds already within those departments. He then recalled that during the budget discussions, \$25,000 was specifically put into the mayor's budget for contract negotiations. He added that the contract negotiations with the PSA had been prolonged and had resulted in a stalemate, and the budget needed to reflect what the settlement may be. He then stated that after explaining all of that to the DLS (Division of Local Services) led to them concurring that it was for the same purpose. He added that it was not an attempt to mislead anyone as it had been explained what it was for. He noted that there was also a communication from Atty Ball presenting a case law from 1913 that explained the first time an item appeared on an agenda was when an item was first read.

Councilor Givner stated that this information was not new and she did not believe there was any reason to send the items back to the Finance Committee. She then expressed frustration that one person repeatedly does not agree with the opinions of the Law Department. She then expressed hope that the Law Department's guidances could be taken as real. She added that these items were time sensitive as employees had been waiting. She added that losing employees would be more costly. She then questioned looking for reasons that would make people want to leave. She then stated that while she understood the desire to hear from the state personally, she believed the word of the Law Department should be trusted.

Councilor Jourdain stated that history had taught him that the Law Department had often been wrong, as everyone else was wrong at times. He then suggested that he may look into things more than others choose to do. He then explained that the original form of this item already showed him to be correct, which was why these items were now here. He then stated that he had made his points already about the expense to taxpayers to give more vacation time, benefits, flex time, and other giveaways beyond just par raises. He then emphasized that he just wanted to ensure the rules were being followed. He noted that he

had just spoken with Atty Ball the previous week to understand where she got her opinion and then reached out to them to seek to hear it for himself. He also expressed concern about longtime rules and practices of the Council being flipped. He emphasized that this was not about just trying to win on an issue, but about avoiding having bad precedent created. He then acknowledged that items 3 through 6 were eventually going to pass. He then expressed disagreement with the interpretation of section 22 of the charter regarding the two reding rule in that the second reading could not be taken up until a motion to pass the first reading was passed. He then stated that the section required that if both motions were done within 3 days of each other, it required two-thirds of the vote for passage. He then acknowledged that items 3 through 6 could eventually pass on a simple majority if at least 3 days were given between the votes to pass the first and second readings. He also emphasized that these items included retro pay going back to July of 2023 and another 2 weeks would not be the end of the world.

Councilor Devine agreed with Councilor Givner that the Law Department should be trusted. She then emphasized that with respect to getting benefits on flex time, there was not comp time for employees who often get called in for meetings in the evening. She then asked Atty Bissonnette what the difference was with the motions to pass first and second readings as they had been done before.

Atty Bissonnette stated that the argument was what constituted a reading. He then explained that an item being read by the president could constitute a first reading. He added that according to the interpretation of the SJC (Supreme Judicial Court), the referral to a committee was considered to be a first reading. He added that the language of section 22 on passing both readings was likely about getting things passed on the first night they were introduced. He noted that the city of Lowell that was the focus of the SJC decision had a similar charter to that of Holyoke.

Councilor Devine asked if these items could be passed that night if a motion to do so was made.

Atty Bissonnette expressed his understanding that the motion on the floor was to refer item 2 to the Finance Committee. He then stated that if that motion was defeated, a motion to pass item 2 could be made, and as these items were taken up as late files and tabled at the last meeting which constituted the first reading, these could be passed with only the second reading needed to be passed. He noted that items 3 through 6 would first have to be taken off the table.

President Murphy-Romboletti clarified that Vaco's motion had been to refer items 2 through 6 to the Finance Committee.

Councilor Vacon stated that was correct but understood that the discission was currently just about item 2. She then expressed concern that the Council had been sliding away from practices under the city charter over the last 2 years under the argument that it was outdated. She then explained that unless it were changed, the Council still needed to operate under it. She also expressed concern about recent arguments that the state law trumped the charter, while the Council had always followed the charter until those recent arguments. She then stated that at the last meeting, the motion had been to take them up and table them and they were not even read into the record nor were they even posted 48 hours before the meeting. She also questioned how the late files were emergencies. She then suggested that this was the first night the items were legally before the Council and the first night they were read into the record.

Councilor Sullivan, emphasizing that this was not a reflection of the current Law Department, recalled that the Council had been lied to by the Law Department regarding things that went on with the collapse, lawsuits, and practices with respect to the Essex Hotel. He then stated that it was not a lack of trust to

question the Law Department or any other department, but was due diligence and not a waste of taxpayer money. He added that the city lost millions on the advice of the Law Department at that time.

President Murphy-Romboletti clarified that she did read the items into the record at the last meeting.

Motion to refer items 2 through 6 to the Finance Committee failed on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays--Yeas 6 (Bartley, Greaney, Jourdain, Ocasio, Sullivan, Vacon)--Nays 7--Absent 0.

Councilor Devine made a motion to pass items 2 through 6. Councilor Anderson-Burgos seconded the motion.

Councilor Jourdain emphasized that a motion to take them all up as a package had not been passed.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that she had not recognized the motion.

Councilor Devine withdrew her motion and made a motion to pass item 2. Councilor Anderson-Burgos seconded the motion.

Councilor Jourdain stated that if this were to pass the first reading, he believed the second reading should be tabled in order to get confirming of what the Law Department was saying. He then expressed frustration in being questioned about seeking to get independent verification of what they were reporting. He noted that they had reversed their own opinions in the last few years, and had given verifiably bad opinions. He then stated that he believed they got it right and did their best most of the time. He then emphasized that Holyoke elected a split Council 7-6, adding that people did not get to change the rules because they did not like how the election turned out by trying to circumvent the rules that had been in effect for years. He then expressed concern that this new contract required flex time to be given which would tie the hands of the mayor going forward. He added that he also did not agree that managers should have been in the union. He also expressed concern about giving everyone an extra 2 weeks of vacation, along with extra longevity time, adding that the average Holyoker wasn't getting those benefits.

Councilor I. Rivera suggested that there was an irony in questioning when governments, both locally and nationally, should follow rules. He added that it appeared to be wielding power in a way that was not fair when people who disagree were being chastised. He then suggested that if the city had been working in collaboration with employees over the years, there wouldn't be a big hit all at once. He then stated that he could no longer be mad if an employee was asked to attend an Ordinance meeting and they couldn't show up if they were not going to be compensated. He emphasized that when the people of Holyoke are referred to, the employees were also among the people of Holyoke who needed to be thought about.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos expressed frustration with claims that the City Solicitor can't always be trusted. He then emphasized that these employees have been waiting since 2023 for these raises. He then questioned how anyone would feel about statements claiming that there was nothing wrong with waiting another two weeks. He also questioned the focus on when the City Solicitor was wrong when these people were just waiting to get paid. He also suggested that it was an insult that some councilors have a vendetta because of the results of an election. He added that the city had been in a rut for years and that was not on the newer city councilors who were being blamed.

Councilor Vacon raised a point of order, asking that the debate stay on topic.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that the comments were on topic as they were response to what was already said, adding that those earlier comments arguably had not been on topic.

Councilor Anderson-Burgos stated that the mayor was trying to get things done and this felt like trying to block him in order to be able to claim he was doing a horrible job.

Councilor Vacon stated that city councilors had a fiduciary responsibility. She added that once councilors receive opinions from the Law Department, it is on the councilors to vote based on the rules, emphasizing that the Law Department was advisory to the Council. She reiterated that the City Solicitor had changed their opinion to the complete opposite in just the last 2 years. She added that it was legal and fair for the Council to question the cost of an agreement. She also asked that the same empathy being expressed for these employees being also expressed for the taxpayers who have to pay for the contract. He added that it was the job of councilors to know the charter.

Councilor Devine emphasized that the professional employees on the list had been asked into meeting on numerous occasions. She added that she can't help it if someone has a \$600,000 house. She then asked to get these passed for the sake of the good people who work for the city.

Councilor Magrath-Smith called the question. Councilor Devine seconded the motion.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that the motion was to pass the second reading.

Councilor Jourdain asked when the motion to pass the first reading was.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that she read the order into the record at the last meeting and that was the first reading.

Councilor Jourdain stated there was never a vote to pass the first reading.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that she read the order into the record, adding that there was a legal opinion on the agenda citing case law. She added that this was not a new debate.

Councilor Jourdain stated that every single transfer that had come before the body had included a vote on the first reading and then a vote to adopt on the second reading.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that the item was tabled at the last meeting.

Councilor Jourdain stated that nobody made a motion to pass the first reading.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that there was a motion to table it after reading it.

Councilor Jourdain stated that the charter required a motion to pass the first reading.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that the Law Department as well as case law cited otherwise.

Councilor Jourdain stated that it was unfair.

President Murphy-Romboletti asked how that was unfair. She also noted that some councilors do things that make things unfair to her.

Councilor Jourdain stated that he could talk all night about he gets treated in meetings.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that she was not going to get into it. She then stated that Councilor Jourdain was out of order.

Councilor Jourdain stated that he had a point of order, reiterating that the charter required a passage of two readings.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that things sometimes get laid on the table.

Councilor Jourdain stated that there still needed to be a motion to pass the first reading and then pass the second reading.

President Murphy-Romboletti reiterated that the Law Department weighed in.

Councilor Jourdain stated that he did not ask for the Law Department to weigh in.

Councilor Devine stated that she had asked.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that she was going to listen to the Law Department.

Councilor Jourdain asked why this was going to be different than what had been done for 100 years. He added that the SJC case had not gone to committee for a discussion.

President Murphy-Romboletti questioned needing a discussion on everything that got communicated.

Councilor Jourdain stated that it should on a charter that everyone took an oath to enforce.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that she did not need reminding of the oath she took. She then threatened to end the meeting early.

Councilor Jourdain expressed frustration that this was censorship.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that it was not censorship.

Councilor Jourdain asked if the next step was going to be the police being called to kick him out.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that the behavior was outrageous. She then demanded that Councilor Jourdain not raise his voice at her.

Councilor Jourdain stated that the public needed to understand that this was censorship.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that it was not censorship, and she understood what censorship.

Councilor Devine stated that Councilor Magrath-Smith had a motion on the floor.

President Murphy-Romboletti called a five minute recess.

A five minute recess took place.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that she would recognize a motion to pass the first reading.

---> Passed two readings and Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas and nays--Yeas 7--Nays 3
(Greaney, Jourdain, Sullivan)--Absent 3 (Bartley, Ocasio, Vacon).

Councilor Magrath-Smith asked Atty Bissonnette if 7 was enough for passage.

Atty Bissonnette stated that the motion passed as DLS advised that the appropriation was made to fund the contracts.

Councilor Jourdain stated that as two readings had taken place on the same night, he believed that it was a violation of section 22 of the charter and should have required a two-thirds vote of the body.

Councilor Devine made a motion to suspend the necessary rules to take up items 3 through 6 as a package. Councilor Anderson-Burgos seconded the motion.

Councilor Magrath-Smith raised a point of order. She then asked if the body was just on item 3.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that was correct.

Councilor Magrath-Smith asked if this was the first reading or the second reading.

Councilor Devine stated that it was the first.

President Murphy-Romboletti asked for a motion to lay items 3 through 6 on the table, noting that the body had just argued about these for an hour and a half. She then acknowledged and was fine that half the Council was going to oppose her on everything she did, but expressed frustration if everyone was going to contradict each other.

Councilor Jourdain raised a point of order. He then expressed it was an example of unfair treatment for her to state that half the Council was going to oppose her on everything.

President Murphy-Romboletti stated that she was not going to continue doing this.

Councilor I. Rivera made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Greaney seconded the motion. Motion adopted.

DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, EIGHT THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY TWO AND 93/100 Dollars (\$8,182.93) as follows:

	FROM	TO
12401 51101 LOCAL INSPECTOR	8,182.93	
12401 51102 ASST BUILDING COMMISSIONER		3,132.93
12401 51103 CHIEF INSPECTOR OF WIRES		2,828.00
12401 51107 ZONING OFFICIAL		2,222.00
	8,182.93	8,182.93

---> Laid on the table.

DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, ELEVEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FORTY TWO AND 00/100 Dollars (\$11,342.00) as follows:

	FROM	TO
11751 51106 PLANNER I	11,342.00	
11751 51108 ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PLANNING		4,560.00
11751 51102 ASST DIR OF ECONOMIC DEV		4,560.00
11751 51105 SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER		2,222.00
	11,342.00	11,342.00

---> Laid on the table.

DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, FIVE THOUSAND FIFTY AND 00/100 Dollars (\$5,050.00) as follows:

	FROM	TO
16911 51104 ENTERPRISE COORDINATOR	5,050.00	
16911 51101 DIRECTOR WISTARIAHURST		2,828.00
16911 51103 CITY HISTORIAN		2,222.00
	5,050.00	5,050.00

---> Laid on the table.

DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SIXTY AND 99/100 Dollars (\$1,560.99) as follows:

	FROM	TO
15431 51104 INVESTIGATOR	1,560.99	
15431 51105 NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICER		1,560.99
	1,560.99	1,560.99

---> Laid on the table.

From Assistant Solicitor Jane Mantolesky, letter regarding St. Vincent Lots

---> Laid on the table.

COMMUNICATIONS

From Mayor Joshua Garcia, letter appointing Ms. Patricia Normand of 36 Pleasant St to serve as a member of the Conservation Commission. Ms. Normand will serve a three year term expiring February 1, 2028.

---> Laid on the table.

From Mayor Joshua Garcia, letter appointing Mr. Denis Luzuriaga of 6 Pinehurst Rd., to serve as a Commissioner of the Holyoke Housing Authority. Mr. Luzuriaga will replace Mr. Jose Maldonado-Velez and will serve the remainder of his term expiring April 1, 2029.

---> Laid on the table.

From Mayor Joshua Garcia, letter reappointing Ms. Lyn Horan of 100 Southamptn Rd., to serve as a member of the Commission on Disabilities. Ms. Horan will serve a three year term expiring in March 2028.

---> Laid on the table.

From Mayor Joshua Garcia, letter reappointing Ms. Jessica Lebron-Martinez of 102 Brown Avenue., to serve as a member of the Commission on Disabilities. Ms. Lebron-Martinez will serve a three year term expiring in March 2028.

---> Laid on the table.

From Mayor Joshua Garcia, letter reappointing Mr. Jeffrey Horan of 100 Southamptn Rd. to serve as a member of the Conservation Commission. Mr. Horan will serve a three year term expiring February 1, 2028

---> Laid on the table.

From Mayor Joshua Garcia, letter reappointing Ms. Rosemary Arnold of 30 Mountain Rd. to serve as a member of the Conservation Commission. Ms. Arnold will serve a three year term expiring February 1, 2028.

---> Laid on the table.

From Mayor Joshua Garcia, letter reappointing Ms. Sarah Wedaman of 28 Howard St., to serve as a member of the Commission on Disabilities. Ms. Wedaman will serve a three year term expiring in March 2028.

---> Laid on the table.

From City Solicitor: Lisa Ball- Case of Fuller v. Haines 224 Mass. 176 which addresses the first reading of an order

---> Laid on the table.

From City Solicitor: Opinion from KP Law

---> Laid on the table.

From Assistant City Solicitor Jane Mantolesky- Notice of Sale - 285 Main

---> Laid on the table.

From Councilor Councilor Givner- Boston Globe article on Impact fees

---> Laid on the table.

From DOR- Guideline on appropriation transfers

---> Laid on the table.

From Frank Demarinis, Shermerhorns site plan review

---> Laid on the table.

Cultural Humility Workshop Curriculum

---> Laid on the table.

From City Clerk Brenna Murphy Leary and Amin. Assistant Jeffery Anderson-Burgos, minutes from February 4, 2025 meeting.

---> Laid on the table.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order From Mayor Garcia, letter appointing Ms. Beverlyn Blanchard of 46 St. Kolbe Dr. to serve as a member of the Library Board of Directors. Ms. Blanchard will serve a three year term expiring February 2028.

have considered the same and Recommended that the appointment be confirmed.

Committee Members:

Juan Anderson-Burgos
Carmen Ocasio
Howard Greaney, Jr

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order From Mayor Joshua Garcia, letter appointing Ms. Beverlyn Blanchard of 46 St. Kolbe Dr. to serve on the Library Board of Directors. Ms. Blanchard term will expire Feb. 2025.

have considered the same and Recommended that the appointment be confirmed.

Committee Members:

Juan Anderson-Burgos
Carmen Ocasio
Howard Greaney, Jr

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order From Mayor Joshua Garcia, letter appointing Mr. Thomas Gilchrist of 26 Dunn Ave to serve on the Library Board of Directors. Mr. Gilchrist term will expire Feb. 2026.

have considered the same and Recommended that the appointment be confirmed.

Committee Members:

Juan Anderson-Burgos
Carmen Ocasio
Howard Greaney, Jr

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order From Mayor Joshua Garcia, letter appointing Mr. Joseph Black of 1015 Maple St. to serve as a member of the Recycling Advisory Committee. Mr. Black's will serve a three year term, expiring on August 1, 2027.

have considered the same and Recommended that the appointment be confirmed.

Committee Members:

Juan Anderson-Burgos
Carmen Ocasio
Howard Greaney, Jr

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Public Service to whom was referred an order From Mayor Joshua Garcia, letter appointing Ms. Tiffany Espinosa of 30 Amherst St Holyoke to serve as a member of the Holyoke Redevelopment Authority. Ms. Espinosa will replace Mr. Jorge Colon and will serve the remainder of his term expiring November 1, 2029.

have considered the same and Recommended that the appointment be confirmed.

Committee Members:

Juan Anderson-Burgos
Carmen Ocasio
Howard Greaney, Jr

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order Special Permit Application 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.

have considered the same and Recommended that the special permit be granted with the 32 conditions described in the Planning Board Site Plan Review Notice of Decision letter dated January 16, 2025

Committee Members:

Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Carmen Ocasio
Juan Anderson-Burgos
Patricia Devine

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order City Council explore with the Mayor a residential redevelopment plan for city owned vacant parcels has homes built then sold. City funds coupled with any available grant funding will be used for seed funding with the proceeds of the sales used to build more homes. The long term play for the city is the generation of all of the property tax revenue from these home sales, the new availability of great new housing, the reduction in city owned buildable lots and the growth of population.

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

Committee Members:

Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Carmen Ocasio
Juan Anderson-Burgos
Patricia Devine

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order The Law Dept., Building Commissioner and the city's property group provide its annual update on the City's Receivership program. Please send communication to the Clerk for the second city council meeting in January 2023.

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

Committee Members:

Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Carmen Ocasio
Juan Anderson-Burgos
Patricia Devine

---> Laid on the table.

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 "FY2025 FIREFIGHTER SAFETY EQUIPMENT GRANT PROGRAM, \$24,081, 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.

Sec 2-509 - Grant Reporting

Any city department, of which has received grant funding by approval of the city council pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, or any other authorizing criteria, shall within a reasonable period of time, but no later than 60 days from the conclusion of said grant, generate a detailed report which outlines the planned outcomes with the documented actual results. Said report shall be submitted to the city clerk for addition to the city council's next agenda.'

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

Committee Members:

Patricia Devine
Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, THIRTY THREE THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$33,000) as follows:

FROM

14101-51105 SR CIVIL ENGINEER	\$ 17,000	
14251-51102 HOISTING EQUIPMENT OPERATOR		16,000
TOTAL \$33,000		

TO:

14102-53010 PROF ENGINEERING SERVICES	\$33,000	
TOTAL \$33,000		

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

Committee Members:

Patricia Devine
Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$100,000) as follows:

FROM

12101-51107 PATROLMEN	\$ 50,000	
12101-51117 DISPATCH		50,000

TOTAL \$100,000

TO:

12102-53010 MAP/DATA MAINTENANCE \$100,000

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

Committee Members:

Patricia Devine
Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, EIGHTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$80,000) as follows:

FROM

12101-51105 SERGEANTS \$40,000

12101-51107 PATROLMEN 40,000

TOTAL \$80,000

TO:

12102-53010 MAP/DATA MAINTENANCE \$80,000

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

Committee Members:

Patricia Devine
Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, EIGHTY THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FIFTY SIX AND 00/100 Dollars (\$83,656) as follows:

FROM

11511-51201 PT ASSISTANT SOLICITOR \$83,656

TOTAL \$83,656

TO:

11511-51202 PT ASSOCIATE SOLICITOR \$83,656

TOTAL \$83,656

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

Committee Members:

Patricia Devine
Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order From Sean Sheedy, Maintenance Admin for Holyoke Public Schools, 2-4-2025 SOI ARP PROJECTS HPS

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

Committee Members:

Patricia Devine
Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that the City of Holyoke appropriates the amount of One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000) Dollars for the purpose of paying costs of conducting a Schematic Design Study at Kelly Elementary School located at 216 West Street Holyoke MA 01040 for a potential roof replacement, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Project"), which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the City of Holyoke has applied for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of Mayor Joshua Garcia. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7, Chapter 70B, or any other enabling authority. The City of Holyoke acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and if the MSBA's Board of Directors votes to invite the City to collaborate with the MSBA on this proposed repair project, any project costs the City of Holyoke incurs in excess of any grant that may be approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City of Holyoke; and that, if invited to collaborate with the MSBA on the proposed repair project, 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 of Holyoke and the MSBA.

FURTHER ORDERED: That the Treasurer is authorized to file an application to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any and all of the bonds or notes authorized to be issued pursuant to this Order, and to provide such information and execute such documents as may be required for such purposes. Further Ordered: That there shall be no change in the purpose of this bond authorization without prior vote of approval by the Holyoke City Council

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

Committee Members:

Patricia Devine
Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order That the City of Holyoke appropriates the amount of One Hundred Thousand(\$100,000) Dollars for the purpose of paying costs of conducting a Schematic Design Study at Lt Elmer J McMahon Elementary School located at 75 Kane Road Holyoke MA 01040 for a potential roof replacement, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Project"), which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the City of Holyoke has applied for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of Mayor Joshua Garcia. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7, Chapter 70B, or any other enabling authority. The City of Holyoke acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and if the MSBA's Board of Directors votes to invite the City to collaborate with the MSBA on this proposed repair project, any project costs the City of Holyoke incurs in excess of any grant that may be approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City of Holyoke; and that, if invited to collaborate with the MSBA on the proposed repair project, 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 of Holyoke and the MSBA. FURTHER ORDERED: That the Treasurer is authorized to file an application to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any and all of the bonds or notes authorized to be issued pursuant to this Order, and to provide such information and execute such documents as may be required for such purposes. Further Ordered: That there shall be no change in the purpose of this bond authorization without prior vote of approval by the Holyoke City Council

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

Committee Members:

Patricia Devine
Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order That the City of Holyoke appropriates the amount of Seventy-Five Thousand(\$75,000) Dollars for the purpose of paying costs of conducting a Schematic Design Study at Lt Clayre Sullivan Elementary School located at 400 Jarvis Avenue Holyoke MA 01040 for a potential partial roof replacement, including the payment of all costs incidental or related

thereto (the "Project"), which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the City of Holyoke has applied for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of mayor Joshua Garcia. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7, Chapter 70B, or any other enabling authority. The City of Holyoke acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and if the MSBA's Board of Directors votes to invite the City to collaborate with the MSBA on this proposed repair project, any project costs the City of Holyoke incurs in excess of any grant that may be approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City of Holyoke; and that, if invited to collaborate with the MSBA on the proposed repair project, 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 of Holyoke and the MSBA. FURTHER ORDERED: That the Treasurer is authorized to file an application to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any and all of the bonds or notes authorized to be issued pursuant to this Order, and to provide such information and execute such documents as may be required for such purposes. Further Ordered: That there shall be no change in the purpose of this bond authorization without prior vote of approval by the Holyoke City Council

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

Committee Members:

Patricia Devine
Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order That the City of Holyoke appropriates the amount of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand (\$150,000) Dollars for the purpose of paying costs of conducting a Schematic Design Study at Holyoke High School located at 500 Beech Street Holyoke MA 01040 for a potential roof replacement, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Project"), which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the City of Holyoke has applied for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of Mayor Joshua Garcia. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7, Chapter 70B, or any other enabling authority. The City of Holyoke acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and if the MSBA's Board of Directors votes to invite the City to collaborate with the MSBA on this proposed repair project, any project costs the City of Holyoke incurs in excess of any grant that may be approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City of Holyoke; and that, if invited to collaborate with the MSBA on the proposed repair project, 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 of Holyoke and the MSBA. FURTHER ORDERED: That the Treasurer is authorized to file an application to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any and all of the bonds or notes authorized to be issued pursuant to this Order,

and to provide such information and execute such documents as may be required for such purposes.
Further Ordered: That there shall be no change in the purpose of this bond authorization without prior vote of approval by the Holyoke City Council

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

Committee Members:

Patricia Devine
Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order That the City of Holyoke appropriates the amount of Seventy-Five Thousand(\$75,000) Dollars for the purpose of paying costs of conducting a Schematic Design Study at Maurice A Donahue Elementary School located at 210 Whiting Farms Road Holyoke MA 01040 for a potential partial roof replacement, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Project"), which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the City of Holyoke has applied for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of Mayor Joshua Garcia. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7, Chapter 70B, or any other enabling authority. The City of Holyoke acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and if the MSBA's Board of Directors votes to invite the City to collaborate with the MSBA on this proposed repair project, any project costs the City of Holyoke incurs in excess of any grant that may be approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City of Holyoke; and that, if invited to collaborate with the MSBA on the proposed repair project, 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 of Holyoke and the MSBA.

FURTHER ORDERED: That the Treasurer is authorized to file an application to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any and all of the bonds or notes authorized to be issued pursuant to this Order, and to provide such information and execute such documents as may be required for such purposes.
Further Ordered: That there shall be no change in the purpose of this bond authorization without prior vote of approval by the Holyoke City Council

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

Committee Members:

Patricia Devine
Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Joint Committee of City Council and School to whom was referred an order the School Department, the School Committee, the Receiver and Mayor present a plan for the future of Metcalf School. I'd like to hear long-terms plans as well as temporary ones. I would like the district to consider the City continue using the school in its current purpose: as a learning institution. If not in the plan, then let's consider it as the headquarters of the School Department. Should a committee be formed? What plans are being discussed? The building, erected 1911, is iconic and should be preserved and, if needed, rehabilitated and repurposed for City uses. Refer to HPS, Receiver, Mayor and Joint Committee.

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

Committee Members:

Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio
Howard Greaney, Jr

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Joint Committee of City Council and School to whom was referred an order From Mayor Garcia and Superintendent Soto, a Joint statement affirming the rights of immigrants

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

Committee Members:

Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio
Howard Greaney, Jr

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Joint Committee of City Council and School to whom was referred an order The Superintendent of Schools discuss his recent memo on affirming the rights of immigrants with the Joint Committee on City Council and School Committee.

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

Committee Members:

Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio
Howard Greaney, Jr

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Joint Committee of City Council and School to whom was referred an order From Sean Mangano, School Committee Finance Subcommittee 12.12.24

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

Committee Members:

Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio
Howard Greaney, Jr

---> Laid on the table.

The Committee on Joint Committee of City Council and School to whom was referred an order The Superintendent of Schools please update the Joint Committee on City Council and School Committee on any updated plans for the School Dept headquarters in light of their decision not to go forward with proposed High Street location.

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

Committee Members:

Kevin A. Jourdain
Carmen Ocasio
Howard Greaney, Jr

---> Laid on the table.

ORDERS AND TRANSFERS

Magrath-Smith, ordered that City Council review CPA Committee recommendations and approve funding for FY25 CPA projects.

---> Laid on the table.

Murphy-Romboletti- With community support, the City Council issue a proclamation to Gina Nelson, Executive Director of Community Roots Neighborhood Services, Inc. and the Veterans Lunch Program in recognition of the invaluable work they do for our community's veterans.

---> Laid on the table.

Vacon- ORDER: That the American flag protocol is followed for flags at public schools such as McMahon & on other city property, including; either lighting the flag or bringing the flag in each night and putting it up in the morning.

---> Laid on the table.

Vacon, Jourdain- ORDER: The Treasurer & Auditor provide the City Council with an update & timeline for the certification of free cash. Refer to Finance Committee
---> Laid on the table.

Bartley- Ordered that Schedule B, Compensation for Elected Officials of Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances be amended as follows:
City Clerk: \$90,000
---> Laid on the table.

Devine, Givner - ORDERED: that the Directors of the Board of Health, Zoning, Planning, and the Animal Control Officer and Law Department meet with the Ordinance Committee to discuss Ordinance Sec. 14-12 as it relates to #2 Hens, specifically the keeping of hens DEFINITIONS, SPECIAL PERMIT PROCESS, SPECIFICATIONS AND DIMENSIONS, GENERAL REGULATIONS, VIOLATIONS and any and all regulations whether State or Federal that may be pertinent.
---> Laid on the table.

Devine - ORDERED: that the City Engineer determine if a BLOCK THE BOX is warranted at Columbus Avenue and Northampton Street. Refer to City Engineer
---> Laid on the table.

Devine- ORDERED that the Law Department determine and render an opinion as to whether DPW supervisors/employees can ticket those automobiles/trucks that are impeding snow removal and plowing during a legal parking ban.
---> Laid on the table.

Devine-Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the "BYRNE STATE CRISIS INTERVENTION PROGRAM, \$84,458.79, 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.

Sec 2-509 - Grant Reporting

Any city department, of which has received grant funding by approval of the city council pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, or any other authorizing criteria, shall within a reasonable period of time, but no later than 60 days from the conclusion of said grant, generate a detailed report which outlines the planned outcomes with the documented actual results. Said report shall be submitted to the city clerk for addition to the city council's next agenda.

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, February 18, 2025.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor
---> Laid on the table.

DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, NINE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY ONE AND 52/100 Dollars (\$9,981.52) as follows:

FROM

12201-51103 CAPTAIN \$3,663.90

12201-51104 LIEUTENANTS	6,317.62
TOTAL \$9,981.52	
TO:	
12201-51180 INJURED ON DUTY	\$9,981.52
PP#16 TOTAL \$9,981.52	

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, February 18, 2025.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

---> Laid on the table.

DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 Dollars (\$25,000) as follows:

FROM

8811-10400 CAPITAL STABILIZATION	\$25,000
----------------------------------	----------

TOTAL \$25,000

TO:

12103-58003 HPD CAP OUTLAY- BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	\$25,000
---	----------

TOTAL \$25,000

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, February 18, 2025.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor

---> Laid on the table.

DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, ONE HUNDRED EIGHT THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED NINETY FIVE AND 56/100 Dollars (\$108,695.56) as follows:

FROM

8815-10400 CANNABIS STABILIZATION	\$108,695.56
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TOTAL \$108,695.56

TO:

19412-57630 SOLICITOR CLAIMS & DAMAGES	\$108,695.56
--	--------------

TOTAL \$108,695.56

To the City Council:

I hereby recommend the passage of the above order at the meeting of your Council to be held Tuesday, February 18, 2025.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor
---> Laid on the table.

DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, FIVE THOUSAND Dollars AND 00/100 Dollars (\$5,000) as follows:

	FROM	TO
12101 5119 POLICE RESERVE	5,000	
0010 57200 OUT OF STATE TRAVEL		5,000
	5,000	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, February 18, 2025.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor
---> Laid on the table.

DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, FIVE THOUSAND Dollars AND 00/100 Dollars (\$5,000) as follows:

	FROM	TO
1421 51102 DPW HOISTING EQUIP OPERATOR	5,000	
01010 57200 OUT OF STATE TRAVEL		5,000
	5,000	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, February 18, 2025.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor
---> Laid on the table.

DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2025, FIVE THOUSAND Dollars AND 00/100 Dollars (\$5,000) as follows:

	FROM	TO
12101 5119 FIRE FIGHTER LINE	5,000	
0010 57200 OUT OF STATE TRAVEL		5,000
	5,000	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, February 18, 2025.

Joshua A Garcia, Mayor
---> Laid on the table.

Givner- In the interest of transparency, order that the Collins Center for Public Management present its findings, working with Holyoke's Government Restructure Advisory Council, on Payments In Lieu of Taxes, PILOTs. Some cities and towns (Boston, Brookline) developed formal PILOT policies where the municipality asks the nonprofit to pay a portion of the taxes their tax-exempt property would have paid if it wasn't tax-exempt. Springfield and Concord are exploring the need for PILOT policies. Holyoke has hundreds of tax-exempt properties including group homes, charities, drug recovery agencies, hospitals, health centers, churches, schools, colleges, and more that were included in the study. ~Send to DGR
---> Laid on the table.

Givner- In an effort to promote efficiency while upholding quality of life standards, Order that the City Council invite department heads involved with permitting in to review special permit processes. Incomplete applications regularly come before DGR. The current process is incredibly inefficient wasting 8-10 hours, per applicant, in efforts from the Clerk's office, the Planning department, the Planning Board, building department, as well as City council and subcommittees. Our permitting Ordinance should be reviewed and updated if needed. ~Send to DGR for discussion / copy to ordinance for updates
---> Laid on the table.

LATE FILED ORDERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred an order Law Dept and Mayor be invited to the City Council to discuss an update on the city's use of the receivership program including current properties being targeted and others that are excellent prospects for required repairs. I also would like to see if we can use this for larger scale problem rental properties with the right receiver as has been done in larger metropolitan cities. I also would like to start an initiative as has been used in large urban settings where we have required landlord training programs when appropriate as well as a model like Kansas City Bad Apple Program for repeat offenders. Law dept. and Mayor will be encouraged to look at what resources we need to go bold on problem properties and develop a plan with us.

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

Committee Members:

Kocayne Givner
Michael Sullivan
Carmen Ocasio
Juan Anderson-Burgos
Patricia Devine

---> Laid on the table.

Adjourned at 8:59 p.m.



In City Council, _____, 2025. Adopted on a call of the roll of the yeas ____ and nays ____

The City of Holyoke, through its Honorable City Council and Honorable Mayor hereby petition the Massachusetts General Court to approve the following legislation for the purpose of amending the charter of the city concerning special meetings, and that said legislation be entitled:

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CHARTER FOR THE CITY OF HOLYOKE

And that said act read as follows:

SECTION 1: Section 12 of the City of Holyoke Charter shall be amended by deleting the current section in its entirety.

SECTION 2: Section 12 of the City of Holyoke Charter shall be further amended by adding the following new section:

SECTION 12–Special Meetings of the City Council;

The Mayor or the President of the City Council may at any time call a special meeting of the City Council by causing written notifications thereof, together with a statement of the subjects to be considered thereat, to be electronically delivered to all Council members at least 48 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting. Members of the City Council may elect to alternatively receive all such notices by mail, hand delivery to their place of residence, or to their City Hall desk by designating their preference to the Clerk or the Assistant to the City Council.

SECTION 3: So much of Chapter 438 of the Acts of 1896 and Chapter 327 of the Acts of 1936 and acts in amendment thereof and addition thereto, as is inconsistent with this act, is hereby repealed.

SECTION 4: The General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Mayor and City Council approve amendments before enactment by the General Court. The Mayor and City Council are hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

SECTION 5: This act shall take effect upon its approval.

Clerk

Presented to the Mayor for Approval:

City Clerk

Date

Approved:

Mayor

Date

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FIVE

_____ AMENDMENT TO SECTION 2 OF THE REVISED CODE
OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS 1997

AN ORDINANCE

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Holyoke as follows:

SECTION 1. That Section 2 of the Revised Code of Ordinances of the City of Holyoke, Massachusetts, 1997, as amended, shall be and is hereby further amended:

BY ADDING THE FOLLOWING NEW SECTION:

Sec 2-349 Certificate of Compliance

All bidders must provide a certificate satisfactory to the Director stating under oath that they are in compliance with all building, health and fire codes for the city and state.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

____MDB/____
Michael D. Bissonnette
Assistant City Solicitor



MAYOR JOSHUA A. GARCIA
CITY OF HOLYOKE

May 13, 2025

The Honorable City Council
City of Holyoke
Holyoke, MA 01040

Dear Council Members:

Subject to your approval, I hereby appoint the following individuals to serve as members of the Recycling Advisory Committee for the City of Holyoke:

Greg Virgilio
Property Manager &
Company owner

David "DJ" O'Connor
Downtowns Business Owner

Linda Pratt
Condo Owner and Board
Member of OneHolyoke CDC

Nayroby Rosa-Soriano
Resident Services,
OneHolyoke CDC

Frank Dailey
Business Owner

Matt Mainville, Exec Dir
Holyoke Housing Authority

Astrid de Soete
Resident of Holyoke

Cindy Koch
Resident of Holyoke

James P. O'Connell
Business Owner

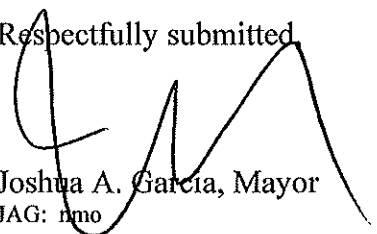
Joseph Black
Demonstrated interest in
Recycling

Ricardo del Valle
DPW – Ex Officio

They will serve a three-year term; said term will expire on August 1, 2026.

If you have any questions with regards to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (413) 561-1600

Respectfully submitted,


Joshua A. Garcia, Mayor
JAG: nmo

CC: Mary Monahan, Interim DPW Director



Main Office: 20 Commercial Street
Holyoke, MA 01040
Tel: (413) 536-0442
Fax (413) 538-6244

May 1, 2025

Holyoke City Council
City Hall – Council Chambers
Holyoke, MA 01040

RE: FY2026 Water Rates and Maintenance Charge

Dear Council Members:

Please be informed that the Commission voted to increase the current water rate of \$0.6209/100 gallons by \$0.07/100 gallons effective July 1, 2025 as necessary to offset the bonding costs associated with the Comprehensive Capital Improvements Projects and the projected increase in budgetary operational/administrative expenses for FY2026. The new water rate for FY2026 will be \$0.6909/100 gallons with a minimum user charge of \$69.09 up to 10,000 gallons.

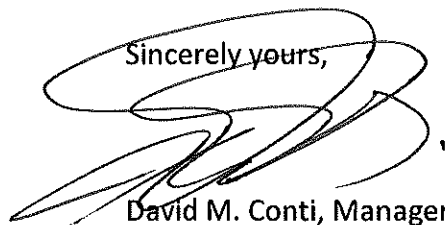
The need to increase water rates was discussed with the Finance Committee for both the \$13.39 and \$6.54 million bond authorizations approved by the Holyoke City Council back in 2018, 2019 and 2024. Actual/Projected Cash Flow in support of these recommendations were presented to the Commission at meetings held on 2/25/25, 3/11/25 and 3/25/25 by Kevin Boisselle of Boisselle, Morton & Wolkowicz, LLP.

Based on the new water rate, the cost of water for the average household will increase in FY2026 from \$139.70/quarter to \$155.45/quarter or \$63.00/year. These figures are based on an average household consuming 22,500 gallons of water per quarter or 250 gallons per day. In comparison to neighboring communities in the Commonwealth, Holyoke's water rates will still remain among the lowest in Western Massachusetts in comparison to other large municipalities such as Chicopee, Springfield and Westfield.

Lastly, the Commission voted to maintain the current rate structure under the Quarterly Maintenance Fee Schedule for Residential Accounts at \$8.00/quarter for sizes 5/8", 3/4" and 1" as well as the rate structure for the Non-residential, Commercial, Industrial & Public Accounts as listed on the FY2026 Proposed Quarterly Maintenance Charge Chart.

The Commission and I are available to discuss these charges in more detail at the Council's request.

Sincerely yours,



David M. Conti, Manager



Printed on Recycled Paper

Board of Fire Commission Meeting Minutes		Date: April 16, 2025 Time: 5:00 p.m. Location: Fire Department Headquarters	
Meeting called by:	Chairman Mettey	Note taker: D. Glenn	
Type of meeting:	Regular Monthly	Timekeeper: D. Glenn	
Facilitator:	Chief Kadlewicz		Approved
Attendees:	George Mettey, Nelson Lopez, Jeffrey Trask		
Absent::			
Staff in Attendance:	Chief John Kadlewicz and Dale Glenn		
Also: No one else attended this meeting			
A. Opening of Meeting		Chairman Mettey	Time: 5:01 p.m.
Discussion: #1 on the agenda Commissioner Mettey opened the meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners with a verbal roll call of those present along with the pledge of allegiance and a prayer. #2 agenda item – Minutes: The Board of Fire Commissioners reviewed the minutes from March 19, 2024 #3 on the agenda – Fire Chief's Report: • Injured on Duty/Light Duty/Administrative Duty/Administrative Leave • Overtime Expenditures #4 Old Business • Fire Chief Kadlewicz spoke to the Board of Fire Commissioners about taking over the Fire Stations from DPW and looking to make maintenance repairs to them. • Interviews for (7) open Firefighter positions to be held at the Board of Fire Commissioners next meeting held on May 21, 2025 • 2024 Holyoke Fire Department Annual Report- the Board of Fire Commissioners reviewed the final report #5 New Business • Obtain a Deputy Fire Chief Promotional List for (1) open position for the June meeting and start the new Deputy Fire Chief on July 1, 2025 • Repair Division and create a supervisory position and have DPW fill for a mechanic but have both of them to work here at Holyoke Fire Department. 1 works here continuously if the other needs to assist the DPW with their needs. This will provide this Department with 2 mechanics and will allow for more repairs completed in a timely manner. • Fire Chief updated the Board of Fire Commissioners regarding the City and how it would buy 2 maybe 3 ambulances with Holyoke Fire Department being the secondary to Cataldo for now. Allowing Holyoke Fire Department to get more solid with ambulance services to the City. #6 Executive Session – not needed #7 Close Meeting			

RECEIVED

MAY 28 2025

**Holyoke City Clerk's
Holyoke, MA**

	Motions
	Motions: Commissioner Mettey entertained a motion to accept the minutes from March 19th, 2025, Commissioner Lopez made the motion and was 2nd by Commissioner Trask; motion carried Commissioner Mettey entertained a motion to accept the Fire Chief's report, Commissioner Lopez made the motion and was 2nd by Commissioner Trask; motion carried. Commissioner Mettey entertained a motion to accept and submit to the Mayor and City Council the Holyoke Fire Department Annual Report, Commissioner Lopez made the motion and was 2nd by Commissioner Trask; motion carried. Commissioner Mettey entertained a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Lopez made the motion and was 2nd by Commissioner Trask; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:27pm

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Injured on Duty

1 Fire Captain

1 Fire Lieutenant

Light Duty

FMLA

Overtime Budget	\$407,638.00
Transfers In	\$250,000.00
Revised Budget	\$657,638.00
Currently Expended	\$496,288.29
Available Balance	\$161,349.71

Average Expended Per Pay Period \$23,632.77

Last Pay Period \$8,421.72



Mayor Joshua A. Garcia

Holyoke Redevelopment Authority

City of Holyoke

Aaron M. Vega, Executive Director

May 29, 2025

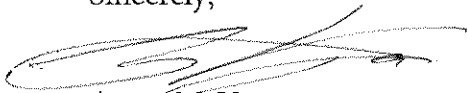
Holyoke City Council
City of Holyoke
Holyoke, MA 01040

Dear Councilors:

Attached please find copies of Meeting Minutes for the Holyoke Redevelopment Authority (HRA) for 2/19/2025, 3/19/2025, 3/27/2025 and 4/2/2025 for your review.

As always, please contact me if there are any questions.

Sincerely,



Aaron M. Vega

Holyoke Redevelopment Authority (HRA)
Meeting Minutes - Wednesday February 19, 2025, at 5:00 pm
City Hall Annex Conference Room 403, 20 Korean Veterans Plaza
or via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83575183031>
Meeting ID: 835 7518 3031
Or by call-in at + 929 205 6099 with same Meeting ID

Members Present:

Patrick Beaudry, Chair
Thomas Creed, Treasurer
Daphne Board, Assistant Treasurer

Staff Present:

Aaron Vega, Executive Director
John Dyjach, Assistant Director
Jennifer Keitt, Senior Project Manager
Kimberly Casiano, Head Economic Development Clerk

Others Present: Kevin Moforte (Mass Development TDI fellow)

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Patrick Beaudry called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and announced that the meeting is being recorded and is being held virtually. The Chair stated that the meeting is being held remotely according to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, extending the remote meeting provisions of Governor Healey's March 29, 2023, executive order. The meeting notice contained a link to "GoToMeeting" providing the public with remote access." Matters listed on this agenda are those anticipated by the chair, which may be discussed in the meeting, not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion. A roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Daphne Board	X	
Thomas Creed	X	
Carl Eger		X
Patrick Beaudry	X	

Move out of order to #4.

4. Mass Development TDI Update

Kevin Moforte, Mass Development TDI fellow, provided an update on their work in the downtown area. He highlighted three main initiatives: improving safety and security, enhancing the appearance of downtown, and promoting economic development. The first initiative involved the installation of 18 trash cans and a weekly trash pickup service, which has received positive feedback from the community. The second initiative focused on the formation of a business improvement district (BID) to provide supplemental services to the area. The third initiative involved capital investments to alleviate future financial burdens on the BID. Kevin also mentioned that they have secured a consultant to help with the BID formation.

Kevin discusses the progress and challenges of forming a Business Improvement District (BID). He explains that while there is a clear legislative process to follow, it involves multiple stakeholders and can be complicated to implement. The team is working towards submitting a petition by fall, which is an aggressive but achievable timeline. Kevin notes that they have received good buy-in from local property owners and are excited about the prospects. The

conversation also touches on concerns about the continuity of initiatives after Kevin's contract ends in August, with uncertainty surrounding future state funding and support for such programs.

TDI equity, a grant program, has invested \$374,000 in five businesses in the downtown area. Kevin also highlighted the need for more businesses to open in the area to create a critical mass and attract more people. TDI equity initiative has a statewide budget of \$1 million, which has been supplemented in past years to reach \$2.5 million. The initiative will continue to be available for businesses in TDI districts even after August 31st, but the management and funding structure may change. Kevin expressed his hope for the continuation of TDI but acknowledged that his contract ends on August 31st. He also discussed safety and security concerns, including an active drug trade and a floating homeless population, which he believes can be addressed through community policing and investments in the downtown area.

Daphne Board requests notation of comments for the record that she believes it is egregious that the City of Holyoke did not offer to pay the fee for the trash pickup and that the downtown business community will be covering the fee going forward. Downtown looks great and the initiative is great but there's disappointment that the city isn't doing more. She also states that the larger issue for downtown remains the upper floors of buildings being vacant. When there are more residents and more people downtown, it won't feel so empty, which will help alleviate some of the current struggles.

Thomas Creed expresses similar feelings regarding the trash fee not being paid by the City. He suggests that the city might want to pick up the expense now that the groundwork is laid.

Kevin Moforte is thanked for attending and providing an update.

2. HRA Board Business

a. HRA meeting minutes of January 22, 2025

A Motion was made by Daphne Board to approve the meeting minutes and seconded by Thomas Creed. Roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Patrick Beaudry	X	
Thomas Creed	X	
Daphne Board	X	

3. Property / Project Updates and Next Steps

a. South Holyoke Homes (Holyoke Housing Authority)

Phase II continues to move forward. The pads have been laid for the modular homes. Phase III is being discussed with a focus on viable financial pathways. Letter of support requested for Phase III. Staff will edit and personalize the letter of support to include the need for increasing density and making it a vibrant thriving neighborhood.

A Motion was made by Thomas Creed to create and finalize a letter of support for Phase III and seconded by Daphne Board. Roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Patrick Beaudry	X	
Thomas Creed	X	
Daphne Board	X	

b. 216 / 191 Appleton Street (Appleton Mills Apartments / WinnDevelopment)

On 2/10/2025, a tour was attended by the Mayor, local representatives and staff. A property manager has been hired. A model apartment has been built out as well as the walkway. Everything is progressing well for Phase I. There are ongoing discussions regarding the rail property alongside the property as Winn would like to purchase the rail parcel. Winn will apply again for the One Stop grant. The project has been officially bifurcated per Mass Historic. An application for demolition of Buildings 1 and 2 has been filed and approved by the National Park Service. Demolition costs are expected to be between \$500k and \$1.2M. Daphne Board raised a question about the need for 60 to 80% income rental housing, to which City promised to provide data and statistics.

c. 123 Pine Street (CAN properties, LLC)

Discussion regarding progress and challenges. Frustration expressed over the slow progress, particularly the lack of architectural drawings and permits. It's noted that the project's timeline was being pushed back and that there appears to be a lack of the necessary capacity to execute the project. Staff discussed the potential for a grant to fund the project but were skeptical about its likelihood. The conversation ended with a decision to move forward with the project, despite the challenges and delays. It was agreed that a legal process would take time and suggested that the property owners should come for an update in the next meeting. Daphne Board expressed frustration about the situation, particularly the impact on the neighborhood. Staff acknowledged the potential benefits of rehabbing the property and improving the corner lots but also noted the need for the property owners to fulfill their commitments. Further discussion will be held during Executive session.

d. 37 Appleton Street (American Environmental, Inc.)

The project was in front of the Planning Board on February 11th and will be returning to appear before the Planning Board March 11th. Project continues to be one building for vehicle repairs with no indication as to what the rest of the property will be used for. Further information should be provided when they appear on March 11th before the Planning Board.

e. High Street URP Area for Opportunities-update One Stop for Growth Grant 2024

Staff met with Mass Development yesterday to discuss the Scope of Work. The Board agrees that more funding should be spent on activation and less on planning and public engagement as there has been adequate planning and public engagement in the past. Staff to finalize edits and return to Mass Development for further review and discussion. Access to the Haberman property is still being discussed. Once a Personal Representative has been assigned to Albert Haberman's estate, an access agreement can be negotiated and finalized. Staff will initiate the process of reaching out to the owner of the Hapco property to discuss the ongoing High Street projects and request a response to discuss their building in particular.

5. Other Business

None

6. Executive Session

The Board entered into Executive Session after closing the Regular Session.

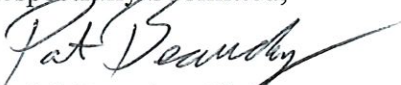
7. Adjournment

With no further business, a motion was made at 6:09 p.m. by Thomas Creed and seconded by Daphne Board to adjourn the Regular meeting. A roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Thomas Creed	X	

Daphne Board	X
Patrick Beaudry	X

Respectfully Submitted,


Patrick Beaudry, Chairperson

Holyoke Redevelopment Authority (HRA)
Meeting Minutes - Wednesday March 19, 2025, at 5:00 pm
City Hall Room 6
536 Dwight Street, Holyoke, MA

Members Present:

Patrick Beaudry, Chair
Thomas Creed, Treasurer
Daphne Board, Assistant Treasurer
Tiffany Espinosa, Member

Staff Present:

Aaron Vega, Executive Director
John Dyjach, Assistant Director
Jennifer Keitt, Senior Project Manager
Kimberly Casiano, Head Economic Development Clerk

Others Present: Carrie and Arthur Naatz

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Patrick Beaudry called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m. and announced that the meeting is being recorded and is being held in person. Matters listed on this agenda are those anticipated by the chair, which may be discussed in the meeting, not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion. A roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Daphne Board	X	
Thomas Creed	X	
Carl Eger		X
Patrick Beaudry	X	
Tiffany Espinosa	X	

Move out of order to #3a.

3. Property / Project Updates and Next Steps

a. 123 Pine Street (CAN Properties, LLC aka Holyoke Pines, LLC)

The owners of the Pine Street project appeared in person to provide an update. They are currently applying for ARPA funding and continue to face financial challenges. To address this, they are in ongoing discussions with MassDevelopment and are exploring potential new funding partners. The owners stressed they do not want to extend the project schedule at all, as any delays could result in the loss of staff due to lapses in the work timeline. All vendors for the project are already lined up and prepared to proceed. However, the project has experienced delays due to unforeseen issues with a separate project, including a collapsed sewer line in an alley and the need to bury electric lines—both of which diverted resources and caused further delays to Pine Street. As a result, the owners expressed concern that the project is nearing a financial breaking point where the numbers may no longer be viable.

2. HRA Board Business

a. HRA meeting minutes of February 19, 2025

The minutes are not yet prepared for review and approval; they should be available by the next meeting.

3. Property / Project Updates and Next Steps

b. 216 / 191 Appleton Street (Appleton Mills Apartments / WinnDevelopment)

Staff provided an update. No formal agreement is required at this time for the Underutilized Property Program (UPP). Reimbursements will be processed after work is completed and invoices are submitted—advance payments will not be issued. The awarded funds are designated specifically for stabilizing Building 4. Staff will confirm whether payments will be issued through the Holyoke Redevelopment Authority (HRA) or directly to Winn Development.

c. Site Readiness Scope for South High St. Reuse Analysis

The site readiness scope will be reviewed by staff on Monday, comparing the original scope sent with the version staff developed. Once a draft is prepared, it will be forwarded to the Board for consideration. The current intention is to allocate approximately one-third of the funds awarded toward planning efforts, with a greater emphasis placed on dedicating the remaining funds to implementation activities. Discussions with Mass Development will continue to ensure alignment on the funding priorities and to advocate for maximizing resources toward tangible outcomes.

4. Other Business

a. HRA and TDI follow up and potential support

The City will submit an application to extend the Transformative Development Initiative (TDI) timeframe. The Board discussed the possibility of allocating funds to enhance TDI efforts within the district. While the concept was positively received, the Board emphasized the need for clearly defined deliverables.

5. Executive Session

The Board will enter into Executive Session to discuss 123 Pine Street.

A motion was made at 6:08 p.m. by Daphne Board and seconded by Thomas Creed to move into Executive Session. A roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Daphne Board	X	
Thomas Creed	X	
Patrick Beaudry	X	
Tiffany Espinosa	X	

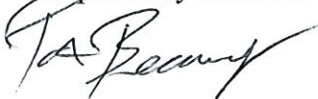
No votes were taken during Executive Session.

6. Adjournment

With no further regular business, a motion was made at 7:01 p.m. by Thomas Creed and seconded by Daphne Board to adjourn the Regular meeting. A roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Daphne Board	X	
Thomas Creed	X	
Patrick Beaudry	X	
Tiffany Espinosa	X	

Respectfully Submitted,




Patrick Beaudry, Chairperson

Holyoke Redevelopment Authority (HRA)
Meeting Minutes - Thursday March 27, 2025 at 5:00 pm
via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87462115938>
Meeting ID: 874 6211 5938
Or by call-in at + 929 205 6099 with same Meeting ID

Members Present:

Patrick Beaudry, Chair
Carl Eger, Vice Chair
Thomas Creed, Treasurer
Daphne Board, Assistant Treasurer

Staff Present:

Aaron Vega, Executive Director
John Dyjach, Assistant Director
Jennifer Keitt, Senior Project Manager

Others in attendance: Jane Mantolesky, Assistant City Solicitor

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Patrick Beaudry called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. and announced that the meeting is being recorded and is being held virtually. The Chair stated that the meeting is being held remotely according to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, extending the remote meeting provisions of Governor Healey's March 29, 2023, executive order. The meeting notice contained a link to "GoToMeeting" providing the public with remote access." Matters listed on this agenda are those anticipated by the chair, which may be discussed in the meeting, not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion. A roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Daphne Board	X	
Thomas Creed	X	
Carl Eger	X	
Patrick Beaudry	X	
Tiffany Espinosa		X

2. Executive Session

A Motion was made by Thomas Creed to enter into Executive Session and seconded by Carl Eger. Roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Patrick Beaudry	X	
Thomas Creed	X	
Daphne Board	X	
Carl Eger	X	

Return from Executive Session. No votes taken.

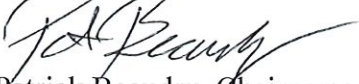
3. Adjournment

With no further business, a motion was made at 5:08 p.m. by Daphne Board and seconded by Thomas Creed to adjourn the Regular meeting. A roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Patrick Beaudry	X	
Daphne Board	X	

Thomas Creed	X
Carl Eger	X

Respectfully Submitted,


Patrick Beaudry, Chairperson

Holyoke Redevelopment Authority (HRA)
Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at 5:00 pm
via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81145522178>
Meeting ID: 811 4552 2178
Or by call-in at + 929 205 6099 with same Meeting ID

Members Present:

Patrick Beaudry, Chair
Carl Eger, Vice Chair
Thomas Creed, Treasurer
Daphne Board, Assistant Treasurer

Staff Present:

Aaron Vega, Executive Director
Jennifer Keitt, Senior Project Manager

Others in attendance: Jane Mantolesky, Assistant City Solicitor

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Patrick Beaudry called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and announced that the meeting is being recorded and is being held virtually. The Chair stated that the meeting is being held remotely according to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2025, extending the remote meeting provisions of Governor Healey's March 28, 2025, executive order. The meeting notice contained a link to "GoToMeeting" providing the public with remote access." Matters listed on this agenda are those anticipated by the chair, which may be discussed in the meeting, not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion. A roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Carl Eger	X	
Thomas Creed	X	
Daphne Board	X	
Tiffany Espinosa		X
Patrick Beaudry	X	

2. Executive Session

A Motion was made by Carl Eger to enter into Executive Session and seconded by Patrick Beaudry. Roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Carl Eger	X	
Thomas Creed	X	
Daphne Board	X	
Patrick Beaudry	X	

Return from Executive Session.

During Executive Session, a vote was taken to authorize the sending of correspondence to the owners of 123 Pine Street.

3. Adjournment

With no further business, a motion was made at 5:08 p.m. by Carl Eger and seconded by Daphne Board to adjourn the Regular meeting. A roll call followed:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Carl Eger	X	
Thomas Creed	X	
Daphne Board	X	
Patrick Beaudry	X	

Respectfully Submitted,


Patrick Beaudry, Chairperson

City of Holyoke

Request for Appropriation Transfer Within a Classification

Dept. Name Fire

Date 05 / 21 / 2025

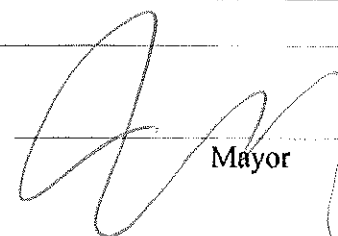
I hereby respectfully request that the following amounts be transferred *within one* of the following indicated (X) appropriation classifications within my department and as further detailed below:

Personal Services X Expenses _____ Capital Outlay _____

Account No.		Account Name	\$ Amount	
Organization	Object		From	To
12201	51103	Fire Captain	(3,663.90)	
12201	51104	Fire Lieutenant	(3,142.74)	
12201	51180	Injured On Duty	()	6,806.64 (56)
			()	
			()	
			()	
			()	
			()	
			()	
			()	
			()	
			()	

Reason for request: PP#24 To Cover Payroll for Injured on Duty


Head of Department


Mayor

City of Holyoke

Request for Appropriation Transfer Between Classifications

Dept. Name Solicitor

Date 5/29/25

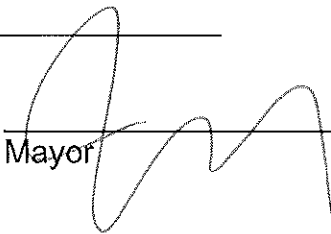
Use as a basis for preparing a financial order to be placed in front of City Council. I hereby respectfully request that the following amounts be transferred ***between two or more*** of the following indicated (X) appropriation classifications and as further detailed below:

Personal Services X Expenses _____ Capital Outlay _____

Account No.		Account Name	\$ Amount	
Organization	Object		From	To
11511	51202	PT Associate Solicitor	183,656.00	
11511	51201	PT Assistant Solicitor		83,656.00
-----	-----		()	
-----	-----		()	
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Reason for request:
This transfer will resolve the current deficit
in the Assistant Solicitor line.


 Head of Department


 Mayor



April 14, 2025

Dear Joshua Garcia,

We are pleased to inform you that City of Holyoke for Holyoke Puerto Rican Cultural District has been approved for a Cultural District Investment Grant of \$15,000 (FY25-DI-CDI-107472) from the Mass Cultural Council.

Thanks to vigorous advocacy from the cultural sector, the Legislature once again showed strong, bipartisan support for the Mass Cultural Council, and its programs and services in the FY25 state budget. This allows us to continue to support Massachusetts' dynamic artists and creative individuals, communities, cultural organizations, schools, and creative youth development across the Commonwealth.

Below you will find a contract package that contains award instructions and reporting requirements. Please review these documents carefully and **sign the document electronically within 14 days of the date on this letter**. This will help us process your grant as quickly as possible. For questions about the contract, please contact Tom Luongo at 617-858-2708 or thomas.luongo@mass.gov.

For questions about the program please contact Carolyn Cole, Special Projects Manager for Advancement at 617-858-2727 or carolyn.cole@mass.gov.

Culture is ultimately about you. You play an integral role in creating and supporting a cultural life in Massachusetts that is vital, accessible, and thriving. Thank you for all that you do to elevate our rich cultural life in Massachusetts.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Marc Carroll'.

Marc Carroll
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael J. Bobbitt'.

Michael J. Bobbitt
Executive Director

Contract Package Instructions

Instructions for Completing this Standard Contract Document

In this e signature document, you will complete the following:

1. **Standard Contract:** Review this document and sign and date it. In order to read the content that is hyperlinked in this document, save this document as a pdf to review it, then return here to sign.
2. **Attachment A:** Review this document and initial it to acknowledge that you have read and understand.
3. **Attachment B:** Review this document and initial it to acknowledge that you have read and understand.
4. **Attachment D:** Review this document and initial it to acknowledge that you have read and understand.

If you have any questions about this document, please contact Tom Luongo at 617-858-2708 or thomas.luongo@mass.gov.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS ~ STANDARD CONTRACT FORM



This form is jointly issued and published by the Office of the Comptroller (CTR), the Executive Office for Administration and Finance (ANF), and the Operational Services Division (OSD) as the default contract for all Commonwealth Departments when another form is not prescribed by regulation or policy. The Commonwealth deems void any changes made on or by attachment (in the form of addendum, engagement letters, contract forms or invoice terms) to the terms in this published form or to the Standard Contract Form Instructions and Contractor Certifications, the Commonwealth Terms and Conditions for Human and Social Services or the Commonwealth IT Terms and Conditions which are incorporated by reference herein. Additional non-conflicting terms may be added by Attachment. Contractors are required to access published forms at CTR Forms: <https://www.macomptroller.org/forms>. Forms are also posted at OSD Forms: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/osd-forms>.

CONTRACTOR LEGAL NAME: City of Holyoke for Holyoke Puerto Rican Cultural District (and d/b/a): Legal Address: (W-9, W-4): City Hall 536 Dwight Street Holyoke MA 01040-5086 Contract Manager: Joshua Garcia Phone: 413-561-1600 E-Mail: garciaj@holyokeye.org Fax: Contractor Vendor Code: VC6000192102 Vendor Code Address ID (e.g. "AD001"): AD001. (Note: The Address ID must be set up for EFT payments.)		COMMONWEALTH DEPARTMENT NAME: Massachusetts Cultural Council MMARS Department Code: ART Business Mailing Address: 10 Saint James Ave., 3 rd Fl., Boston, MA 02116 Billing Address (if different): Contract Manager: Tom Luongo Phone: 617-858-2708 E-Mail: thomas.luongo@mass.gov Fax: MMARS Doc ID(s): RFR/Procurement or Other ID Number: FY25-DI-CDI-107472	
<u>X</u> NEW CONTRACT PROCUREMENT OR EXCEPTION TYPE: (Check one option only) ☐ Statewide Contract (OSD or an OSD-designated Department) ☐ Collective Purchase (Attach OSD approval, scope, budget) ☒ Department Procurement (includes all Grants - 815 CMR 2.00) (Solicitation Notice or RFR, and Response or other procurement supporting documentation) ☐ Emergency Contract (Attach justification for emergency, scope, budget) ☐ Contract Employee (Attach Employment Status Form, scope, budget) ☐ Interim Contract with new Contractor (Attach justification for Interim Contract and updated scope/budget.) ☐ Other Procurement Exception (Attach authorizing language, legislation with specific exemption or earmark, and exception justification, scope and budget)		<u> </u> CONTRACT AMENDMENT Enter Current Contract End Date <i>Prior</i> to Amendment: _____, 20____. Enter Amendment Amount: \$_____. (or "no change") AMENDMENT TYPE: (Check one option only. Attach details of amendment changes.) ☐ Amendment to Date, Scope or Budget (Attach updated scope and budget) ☐ Interim Contract (Attach justification for Interim Contract and updated scope/budget) ☐ Contract Employee (Attach any updates to scope or budget) ☐ Other Procurement Exception (Attach authorizing language/justification and updated scope and budget)	
The Standard Contract Form Instructions and Contractor Certifications and the following Commonwealth Terms and Conditions document are incorporated by reference into this Contract and are legally binding: (Check ONE option): ☒ <u>Commonwealth Terms and Conditions</u> ☐ <u>Commonwealth Terms and Conditions For Human and Social Services</u> ☐ <u>Commonwealth IT Terms and Conditions</u>			
COMPENSATION: (Check ONE option): The Department certifies that payments for authorized performance accepted in accordance with the terms of this Contract will be supported in the state accounting system by sufficient appropriations or other non-appropriated funds, subject to Intercept for Commonwealth owed debts under 815 CMR 9.00.			
☐ Rate Contract. (No Maximum Obligation) Attach details of all rates, units, calculations, conditions or terms and any changes if rates or terms are being amended.)			
☒ Maximum Obligation Contract. Enter total maximum obligation for total duration of this contract (or <i>new</i> total if Contract is being amended). \$15,000			
PROMPT PAYMENT DISCOUNTS (PPD): Commonwealth payments are issued through EFT 45 days from Invoice receipt. Contractors requesting accelerated payments must identify a PPD as follows: Payment issued within 10 days <u> </u> % PPD; Payment issued within 15 days <u> </u> % PPD; Payment issued within 20 days <u> </u> % PPD; Payment issued within 30 days <u> </u> % PPD. If PPD percentages are left blank, identify reason: ☒ <u>agree to standard 45 day cycle</u> ☐ <u>statutory/legal or Ready Payments (M.G.L. c. 29, § 23A)</u> ; ☐ <u>only initial payment</u> (subsequent payments scheduled to support standard EFT 45 day payment cycle. See Prompt Pay Discounts Policy.)			

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CONTRACT PERFORMANCE or REASON FOR AMENDMENT: (Enter the Contract title, purpose, fiscal year(s) and a detailed description of the scope of performance or what is being amended for a Contract Amendment. Attach all supporting documentation and justifications.)

This is a grant of financial assistance to encourage the development and success of the Holyoke Puerto Rican Cultural District in accordance with Massachusetts' Cultural Districts legislative statute.

SUPPLIER DIVERSITY PROGRAM (SDP) PLAN Does the Supplier Diversity Program apply?

☐ If YES, the Contractor's annual SDP commitment for this Contract is
☒ If NO, and the department is an Executive Department, enter the appropriate exemption:

ANTICIPATED START DATE: (Complete ONE option only) The Department and Contractor certify for this Contract, or Contract Amendment, that Contract obligations:

- ☐ 1. may be incurred as of the Effective Date (latest signature date below) and no obligations have been incurred prior to the Effective Date.
- ☐ 2. may be incurred as , 20 , a date **LATER** than the Effective Date below and no obligations have been incurred prior to the Effective Date.
- ☒ 3. were incurred as of **July 01, 2024**, a date **PRIOR** to the Effective Date below, and the parties agree that payments for any obligations incurred prior to the Effective Date are authorized to be made either as settlement payments or as authorized reimbursement payments, and that the details and circumstances of all obligations under this Contract are attached and incorporated into this Contract. Acceptance of payments forever releases the Commonwealth from further claims related to these obligations.

CONTRACT END DATE : Contract performance shall terminate as of **June 30, 2025**, with no new obligations being incurred after this date unless the Contract is properly amended, provided that the terms of this Contract and performance expectations and obligations shall survive its termination for the purpose of resolving any claim or dispute, for completing any negotiated terms and warranties, to allow any close out or transition performance, reporting, invoicing or final payments, or during any lapse between amendments.

CERTIFICATIONS: Notwithstanding verbal or other representations by the parties, the "Effective Date" of this Contract or Amendment shall be the latest date that this Contract or Amendment has been executed by an authorized signatory of the Contractor, the Department, or a later Contract or Amendment Start Date specified above, subject to any required approvals. The Contractor certifies that they have accessed and reviewed all documents incorporated by reference as electronically published and the Contractor makes all certifications required under the Standard Contract Form Instructions and Contractor Certifications under the pains and penalties of perjury, and further agrees to provide any required documentation upon request to support compliance, and agrees that all terms governing performance of this Contract and doing business in Massachusetts are attached or incorporated by reference herein according to the following hierarchy of document precedence, the applicable Commonwealth Terms and Conditions, this Standard Contract Form, the Standard Contract Form Instructions and Contractor Certifications, the Request for Response (RFR) or other solicitation, the Contractor's Response (excluding any language stricken by a Department as unacceptable, and additional negotiated terms, provided that additional negotiated terms will take precedence over the relevant terms in the RFR and the Contractor's Response only if made using the process outlined in 801 CMR 21.07, incorporated herein, provided that any amended RFR or Response terms result in best value, lower costs, or a more cost effective Contract.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE FOR THE CONTRACTOR:

☒ Signed by:

Joshua A. Garcia
 93B40FC7FCA349C...

Date:
 04/14/2025

Print Name:
 Joshua A. Garcia

Print Title:
 Mayor

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE FOR THE COMMONWEALTH:

☒ Signed by:

Catherine Cheng Anderson
 4367D43D2ACA4EA...

Date:
 04/16/2025

Print Name: Catherine Cheng-Anderson

Print Title: Senior Director of Business Operations and Chief Financial Officer

For Internal Use Mass Cultural Council Fiscal Department:

Fiscal Review Completed:

☒ DocuSigned by:

Kate McDougall
 60F9421CE5B348D...

ATTACHMENT A - SCOPE OF SERVICES AND ADDITIONAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

CONTRACTOR NAME: City of Holyoke for Holyoke Puerto Rican Cultural District

ADDRESS: City Hall 536 Dwight Street Holyoke MA 01040-5086

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CONTRACT SERVICES

This is a grant of financial assistance to encourage the development and success of the Holyoke Puerto Rican Cultural District in accordance with Massachusetts' Cultural Districts legislative statute.

APPLICATION #: FY25-DI-CDI-107472

TOTAL MAXIMUM OBLIGATION OF CONTRACT: \$15,000

CONTRACT START DATE: July 01, 2024

CONTRACT TERMINATION DATE: June 30, 2025

DATE ANNUAL OR FINAL REPORT IS DUE: July 17, 2025

PAYMENT: (a) Unless otherwise agreed upon by the Council and Contractor, the Contractor will be reimbursed for expenses approved by the Council included in the budget submitted to the Council. (b) The Contractor will be reimbursed one hundred percent (100%) of the grant amount upon receipt of a signed Agreement. The Council shall make reasonable efforts to process payments promptly. The Council shall not be liable for any interest or penalty charges for late reimbursement.

ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS BEYOND THOSE STATED IN PROGRAM GUIDELINES (if blank there are none): This grant to City of Holyoke is restricted for use by Holyoke Puerto Rican Cultural District.

I have read and understood Attachment A:

Initial

JG

ATTACHMENT B: Additional Terms & Conditions

1. **SCOPE OF CONTRACT.** The Contractor agrees to perform the services set forth in the application for funding filed by the Contractor with the Council (the "Application") in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract (the "Contract"). The Application is incorporated into the Contract by reference; the terms of the Application are binding on the Contractor unless amended by a subsequent written agreement signed by both the Council and the Contractor. The Contractor represents that it is qualified to perform and has obtained all necessary licenses and permits required to perform the services under this Contract.

Additionally, the Contractor agrees to perform the services in accord with the requirements set forth by the Council in the FY25 Cultural District Investment Grant guidelines (the "Guidelines"), as posted on www.massculturalcouncil.org. The Guidelines are incorporated into the Contract by reference; the terms of the Guidelines are binding on the Contractor unless amended by a subsequent written agreement signed by both the Council and the Contractor.

2. **NON-DISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.** The contractor agrees to abide by state and federal regulations which bar discrimination on the basis of race, gender, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, gender identity, or sexual orientation, and which require accessibility for persons with disabilities. The MCC expects the contractor to be in compliance with:
 - The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)
 - Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)
 - Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
 - Other applicable state and local laws

(a) If a complaint or claim alleging violation by the Contractor of any statute, order, rule, or regulation with which the Contractor is obligated to comply is presented to the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination ("MCAD"), the Contractor agrees to cooperate with MCAD in the investigation and disposition of such complaint or claim and to assume all legal fees incurred by the Contractor in connection with the defense of such claim. (b) In the event of the Contractor's non-compliance with the provisions of this Section 2, the Council shall impose such sanctions as it deems appropriate, including but not limited to: (i) withholding of payments due the Contractor under the Contract until the Contractor complies; and (ii) termination or suspension of the Contract.
3. **PENALTIES, HOLDS, REDUCTIONS, RESTRICTIONS, REVERSIONS AND CANCELLATIONS.** The Council has the right to withhold, reduce, cancel, revert, discontinue funding, or apply restrictions to the use of grant funds if the Contractor:
 - Fails to perform the services set forth in the Application and/or fails to perform the services in accord with the requirements set forth by the Council in the Guidelines.
 - Does not comply with all grant requirements and/or reporting requirements as stated in the Guidelines.
 - Intentionally misrepresents its finances, organization/programming, or other eligibility requirements in the Application and/or any reports submitted to the Council.

I have read and understood Attachment B:

Initial

JG

ATTACHMENT D

CREDIT and PUBLICITY AGREEMENT

between the

MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL and GRANTEES

This credit and publicity agreement is hereby incorporated into the body of the grant contract between the Mass Cultural Council ("the Council") and the grant recipient ("the Contractor") named below as explicit terms and conditions of the contract. By initialing below the Contractor agrees to abide by these terms and conditions.

1. ADVOCACY & ACKNOWLEDGING LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

90% of Mass Cultural Council's budget comes from an appropriation by the State Legislature. It is important to thank those elected officials responsible for funding Mass Cultural Council. We strongly encourage the Contractor to send personalized letters to the leadership of the State House and their state representative and senator, thanking them for Mass Cultural Council's appropriation and your grant award. For more information on how to find and contact your legislators, visit <https://massculturalcouncil.org/about/contracts/credit-and-publicity-kit/>.

While we strongly encourage all grantees to conduct this kind of advocacy for public funding for the cultural sector, **recipients of CIP Portfolio and CIP Gateway grants must meet specific advocacy requirements in order to remain eligible for funding**. Review the Portfolio Guidelines or Gateway Guidelines for details.

2. CREDIT

Mass Cultural Council Credit Logo: Credit must be given by the Contractor to the Council regarding all activities to which Council funds contribute by using the credit logo in:

- a. Printed promotional materials such as postcards, flyers, season/subscription brochures, and newsletters: Any promotional material, regardless of length, prepared by the Contractor, that credits an annual funding source, must also credit the Council.
- b. Digital materials such as web sites, blogs, videos, and social media: Do not include the logo on surveys.
- c. Programs/Playbills: Credit must be given on all programs printed by a grant recipient in a type size not smaller than 7 point font.
- d. Event signage: For any event presented with funding from the Council, signage must include the Council listed with other major public, private, and corporate sponsors, in proportional order of the size of the contribution.
- e. Exhibition Signage: For any exhibition presented with funding from the Council, the wall text must include the Council listed with other major public, private, and corporate sponsors, in proportional order of the size of contribution.
- f. Educational Materials: Credit must be given to the Council in all educational materials distributed in association with any Council-funded activity, such as brochures, pamphlets, flyers, etc.

The logo must be produced as a unit without alteration. Download logo at <https://massculturalcouncil.org/about/contracts/credit-logos/> Verbal Credit: When written credit is not applicable, such as there being no printed program, verbal credit shall be given prior to

performances.

3. DONOR RECOGNITION

Any wall plaques or advertisements that acknowledge the Contractor's annual or ongoing support from corporations and/or foundations must also acknowledge the Council.

4. COLLABORATORS

Organizations that are collaborators with the primary grant recipient must comply with these requirements. The Contractor is responsible for informing said collaborators of this policy and ensuring they fulfill these obligations.

5. CO-SPONSORSHIP

Those programs that are "co-sponsored" will have additional, specific publicity requirements, dependent on the program at the time of negotiation. Under no circumstances may a Contractor state or imply that its programs and/or activities are "sponsored," "co-sponsored" or "presented" by the Council without expressed, written consent from the Council.

6. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

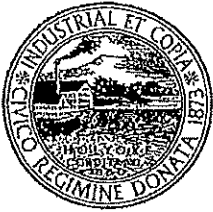
Mass Cultural Council reserves the right to negotiate additional requirements regarding credit and publicity on a case-by-case basis.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS POLICY, CONTACT YOUR PROGRAM STAFF CONTACT OR MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL'S PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT.

I have read and understood Attachment D:

Initial

JG



Mayor Joshua A. Garcia

Office of Planning & Economic Development

Aaron M. Vega, Director

Amended Resolution of City of Holyoke

A resolution by the City of Holyoke to create a state-authorized cultural district for at least ten (10) years to be named the Puerto Rican Cultural District.

WHEREAS, the City of Holyoke wishes to pursue a state-authorized cultural district through the enabling legislation (M.G.L. Part I, Title II, Chapter 10, Section 58A.)

WHEREAS, the City of Holyoke has a mixed-use geographical area that has a concentration of cultural facilities and assets.

WHEREAS, the City of Holyoke has held a public hearing proclaiming its interest in establishing a state-designated cultural district.

WHEREAS, the City of Holyoke has created a broad and diverse partnership of stakeholders committed to cultural, community and economic development to provide oversight of the district.

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Cultural Council will be petitioned in accordance with its guidelines and criteria to designate said cultural district.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council that the City of Holyoke:

Article 1. Endorses the submission of this application and agrees to foster the development of a cultural district.

Article 2. Endorses the state-sponsored cultural district goals: attracting artists and cultural enterprises, encouraging business and job development, establishing tourist destinations, preserving and reusing historic buildings, enhancing property values and fostering local cultural development.

Article 3 Will appoint a City official to represent the City within the district partnership of said cultural district, through appointment by the mayor, with the approval of the city council.

Article 4. Encourages all whom own property or businesses within said cultural district to involve themselves and participate in the full development of the cultural district.

Article 5. Directs City agencies to identify programs and services that could support and enhance the development of the cultural district and ensure that those programs and services are accessible to the cultural district.

ADOPTED ON THIS DAY OF may OF 7 (year) 2024 A True Copy

City Council President signature Tessa Murphy

Attest:

Brenna Murphy McElree
City Clerk

Date signed 5-8-2024

CITY HALL ANNEX – 20 KOREAN VETERANS PLAZA – SUITE 406 – HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS 01040-5000

PHONE: (413) 322-5655 E-MAIL: oped@holyoke.org

Birthplace of Volleyball

City of Holyoke

Request for Appropriation Transfer Between Classifications

Dept. Name DPW

Date 05/28/25

As a basis for preparing a financial order to be placed before the City Council, I hereby respectfully request that the following amounts be transferred *between two or more* of the following indicated (X) appropriation classifications and as further detailed below:

Personal Services X Expenses X Capital Outlay _____

Account No.		\$ Amount
Organization\Object	Account Name	From To

14251-51104 PAY - HMEO

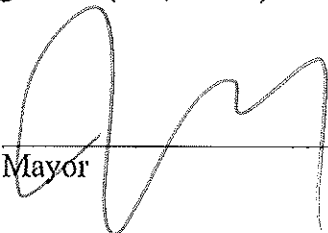
\$48,596.14

16502-52300 Parks – Water and Sewer

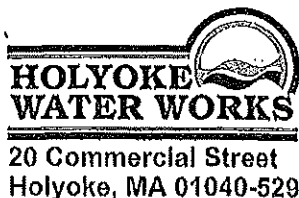
\$48,596.14

Reason for request: This is the FY25 season water bill for Center Street mini-pool (\$4,899.69), Maple Street Pouliot pool (\$9,219.74), St. Kolbe Drive Spray Park (\$16,646.95), Vega Park (\$17,829.76)


Head of Department


Mayor

Form TR-2 (6/94)



WATER BILL

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Make Checks Payable To:
Holyoke Water Works
Please write your Account Number
on front of check.

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Saturdays and Sundays
Closed

Contact Information:

Billing Information: (413) 538-0442
Service Department: (413) 536-0262
24 Hr. Emergency Service: (413) 536-0262

Messages:

Please include both water and sewer
checks and stubs in the enclosed self-
addressed envelope so your payments can
be processed accordingly.

63 NO. CANAL ST. HOLYOKE, MA 01040

Property Owner		Service Address		Account Number		Bill Date	
D.P.W.		0 CENTER ST. (MINI POOL)		WR004818		12/19/2024	
Service Description	Read Dates		Meter Readings		Usage	Charge	
	Previous	Present	Previous	Present			
Water Use Charge SEASONAL	5/9/2024 ✓	9/26/2024	9,490,097 ✓	10,279,224	789,127	\$4,899.69	



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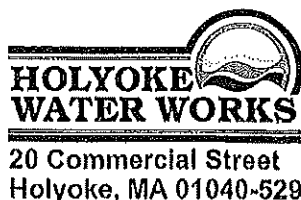
Web Enrollment Token

Service Charges	Detail	Summary
	Past Due Date:	2/2/2025
	Interest Charge:	\$0.00
	Past Due:	\$0.00
	Current Charge:	\$4,899.69
	Balance Due:	\$4,899.69
	Messages	
	If you receive a water bill based on an estimated reading, please contact us immediately so an actual reading can be obtained to avoid an overcharge for usage.	

PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR WATER BILL
PAYMENTS RECEIVED AFTER FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS FROM BILL DATE ARE SUBJECT TO AN ANNUAL INTEREST CHARGE OF 14%

Please detach and return bottom portion in the self-addressed envelope payable to: HOLYOKE WATER WORKS.



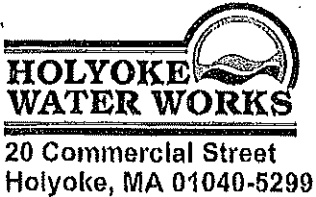
OK AT
1/29/25

WATER BILL

Service Address	Account #	Bill Date
0 CENTER ST. (MINI POOL)	WR004818	12/19/2024
	Amount Due	Due Date
	\$4,899.69	2/2/2025

63 NO. CANAL ST. HOLYOKE, MA 01040

Make checks payable to:
Holyoke Water Works
P.O. Box 4184
Woburn, MA 01888-4184



WATER BILL

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Make Checks Payable To:
Holyoke Water Works
Please write your Account Number
on front of check.

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Saturdays and Sundays
Closed

Contact Information:

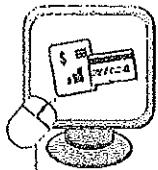
Billing Information: (413) 536-0442
Service Department: (413) 536-0262
24 Hr. Emergency Service: (413) 536-0262

Messages:

Please include both water and sewer
checks and stubs in the enclosed self-
addressed envelope so your payments can
be processed accordingly.

63 NO. CANAL ST

Property Owner		Service Address		Account Number		Bill Date	
D.P.W.		563 MAPLE ST.		WR009518		12/19/2024	
Service Description	Read Dates		Meter Readings		Usage	Charge	
	Previous	Present	Previous	Present			
Water Use Charge SEASONAL	5/8/2024	10/25/2024	10,444,200 ✓	11,929,100	1,484,900	\$9,219.74	



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Web Enrollment Token

Service Charges

Detail

Summary

Past Due Date: 2/2/2025
Interest Charge: \$0.00
Past Due: \$0.00
Current Charge: \$0.00
Balance Due: **\$9,219.74**
\$9,219.74

Messages

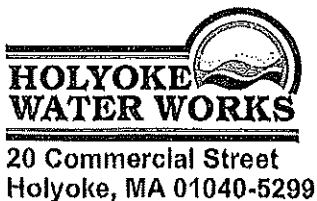
If you receive a water bill based on an estimated
reading, please contact us immediately so an actual
reading can be obtained to avoid an overcharge for
usage.

10502-52300

PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR WATER BILL.
PAYMENTS RECEIVED AFTER FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS FROM BILL DATE ARE SUBJECT TO AN ANNUAL INTEREST CHARGE OF 14%.

Please detach and return bottom portion in the self-addressed envelope payable to: HOLYOKE WATER WORKS.



WATER BILL

Service Address	Account #	Bill Date
663 MAPLE ST.	WR009518	12/19/2024
	Amount Due	Due Date
	\$9,219.74	2/2/2025

Handwritten signature/initials

63 NO. CANAL ST

Make checks payable to:
Holyoke Water Works
P.O. Box 4184
Woburn, MA 01888-4184



20 Commercial Street
Holyoke, MA 01040-5299

63 NO. CANAL ST.

WATER BILL

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Make Checks Payable To:
Holyoke Water Works
Please write your Account Number
on front of check.

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Saturdays and Sundays
Closed

Contact Information:

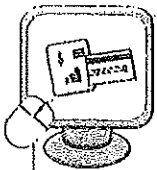
Billing Information: (413) 536-0442
Service Department: (413) 536-0262
24 Hr. Emergency Service: (413) 536-0262

Messages:

Please include both water and sewer
checks and stubs in the enclosed self-
addressed envelope so your payments can
be processed accordingly.

Property Owner	Service Address	Account Number	Bill Date
D.P. W.	ST. KOLBE DR. SPRAY PARK	WR010587	12/19/2024

Service Description	Read Dates		Meter Readings		Usage	Charge
	Previous	Present	Previous	Present		
Water Use Charge SEASONAL	5/7/2024	9/26/2024	38,404,800	41,085,900	2,681,100	\$16,646.95



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Web Enrollment Token

Service Charges	Detail	Summary
	Past Due Date:	2/2/2025
	Interest Charge:	\$0.00
	Past Due:	\$0.00
	Current Charge:	\$16,646.95
	Balance Due:	\$16,646.95
	Messages	
	If you receive a water bill based on an estimated reading, please contact us immediately so an actual reading can be obtained to avoid an overcharge for usage.	

PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR WATER BILL
PAYMENTS RECEIVED AFTER FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS FROM BILL DATE ARE SUBJECT TO AN ANNUAL INTEREST CHARGE OF 14%

Please detach and return bottom portion in the self-addressed envelope payable to: HOLYOKE WATER WORKS.



20 Commercial Street
Holyoke, MA 01040-5299

OK
DT

WATER BILL

Service Address	
ST. KOLBE DR. SPRAY PARK	
Account #	Bill Date
WR010587	12/19/2024
Amount Due	Due Date
\$16,646.95	2/2/2025

63 NO. CANAL ST.

Make checks payable to:
Holyoke Water Works
P.O. Box 4184
Woburn, MA 01888-4184



20 Commercial Street
Holyoke, MA 01040-5299

63 NO. CANAL ST.

WATER BILL

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Make Checks Payable To:
Holyoke Water Works
Please write your Account Number
on front of check.

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Saturdays and Sundays
Closed

Contact Information:

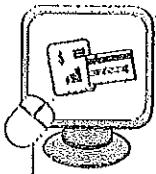
Billing Information: (413) 536-0442
Service Department: (413) 536-0262
24 Hr. Emergency Service: (413) 536-0262

Messages:

Please include both water and sewer
checks and stubs in the enclosed self-
addressed envelope so your payments can
be processed accordingly.

Property Owner		Service Address		Account Number		Bill Date	
D.P.W.		VEGA PARK		WR010672		12/19/2024	
Service Description	Read Dates		Meter Readings		Usage	Charge	
	Previous	Present	Previous	Present			
Water Use Charge SEASONAL	5/10/2024	9/26/2024	222,640	251,356	2,871,600	\$17,829.76	

(Add 2 20xx's to read)



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Your Bill Online!

HolyokeMAWater.billtrust.com

Web Enrollment Token

Service Charges	Detail	Summary
	Past Due Date:	2/2/2025
	Interest Charge:	\$0.00
	Past Due:	\$0.00
	Current Charge:	\$17,829.76
	Balance Due:	\$17,829.76
	Messages	
	If you receive a water bill based on an estimated reading, please contact us immediately so an actual reading can be obtained to avoid an overcharge for usage.	

16502-52300

PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR WATER BILL
PAYMENTS RECEIVED AFTER FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS FROM BILL DATE ARE SUBJECT TO AN ANNUAL INTEREST CHARGE OF 14%

Please detach and return bottom portion in the self-addressed envelope payable to: HOLYOKE WATER WORKS.



20 Commercial Street
Holyoke, MA 01040-5299

63 NO. CANAL ST.

OK
AT

WATER BILL

Service Address	Account #	Bill Date
VEGA PARK	WR010672	12/19/2024
	Amount Due	Due Date
	\$17,829.76	2/2/2025

Make checks payable to:
Holyoke Water Works
P.O. Box 4184
Woburn, MA 01888-4184



Mayor Joshua A. Garcia

Victoria A. Houle
Assistant City Engineer

City of Holyoke

Department of Public Works

May 27, 2025

Board of Public Works
Holyoke Department of Public Works
63 N Canal St
Holyoke, MA 01040

Holyoke City Council
536 Dwight St, Room 10
Holyoke, MA 01040

Subject: Draft FY26 Paving Program

Dear Board and Council Members:

This letter is to provide you with an update on the development of the draft FY26 Mill & Overlay Paving Program. Two proposed alternate plans have been developed based on the most recent road surface rating results performed by the City's consultant, BETA Group, feasibility of mill & overlay treatment, coordination with utilities, and other known planned roadway pavement rehabilitation and utility work. The Department of Public Works kindly requests feedback as soon as possible in order to finalize the FY26 paving plan and schedule proposed work.

Background

The City of Holyoke currently maintains approximately 130 miles of roadway with an estimated average Road Surface Rating (RSR) of 71.9. Road Surface Ratings, or RSRs, are based on a visual inspection of current pavement distresses with a low value of 0 (indicating severe distress) and a high value of 100 (indicating no visible defects). RSRs provide valuable information in the roadway repair planning process as they can help identify the ideal pavement repair method for each street.

Table 1 - Distribution of Roads and Average RSRs

	Miles of Roadway	Average RSR
Ward 1	16.6	69.5
Ward 2	14.1	73.8
Ward 3	16.8	72.7
Ward 4	9.3	67.4
Ward 5	33.2	72.7
Ward 6	14.5	73.7
Ward 7	25.5	71.5
Total	130	71.9

The current cost estimate to address all recommended repairs in the City is roughly \$48.9 million according to the most recent pavement evaluation data and current cost estimates for repair alternatives. This plan includes a variety of pavement repair methods categorized into four categories: Routine Maintenance (e.g. crack fill), Preventative Maintenance (e.g. cape seal, thin overlay), Minor Rehabilitation (e.g. 2" mill & overlay), and Major Rehabilitation (e.g. full-depth reclamation, roadway reconstruction).

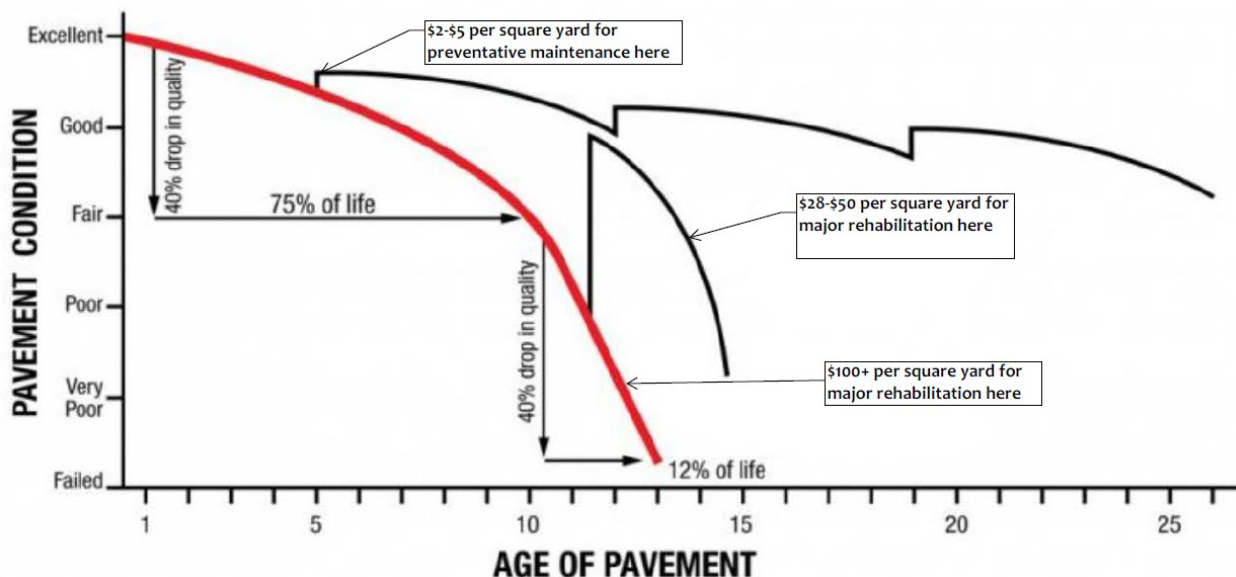
The following is a breakdown of the estimated costs by recommended repair category.

Table 2 - Estimated Roadway Improvement Costs

Repair Method	Miles	Est. Cost
Major Rehabilitation	9.1	\$17,083,733
Minor Rehabilitation	33.3	\$17,504,256
Preventative Maintenance	56	\$12,615,680
Routine Maintenance	17.9	\$1,680,213
No Maintenance Required	13.7	\$0
Totals	130	\$48,883,883

Performing routine and preventative maintenance when pavement distresses first begin to appear is instrumental to prolonging the durability of roadways. Routine maintenance, such as crack filling, is ideally done when RSRs fall within the 80-90 range somewhere around 5 years after road resurfacing. Preventative Maintenance such as cape seal or thin pavement overlays are ideal when RSRs fall within the 70-80 range. Performing routine and preventative maintenance also reduces overall pavement management costs in the long-term.

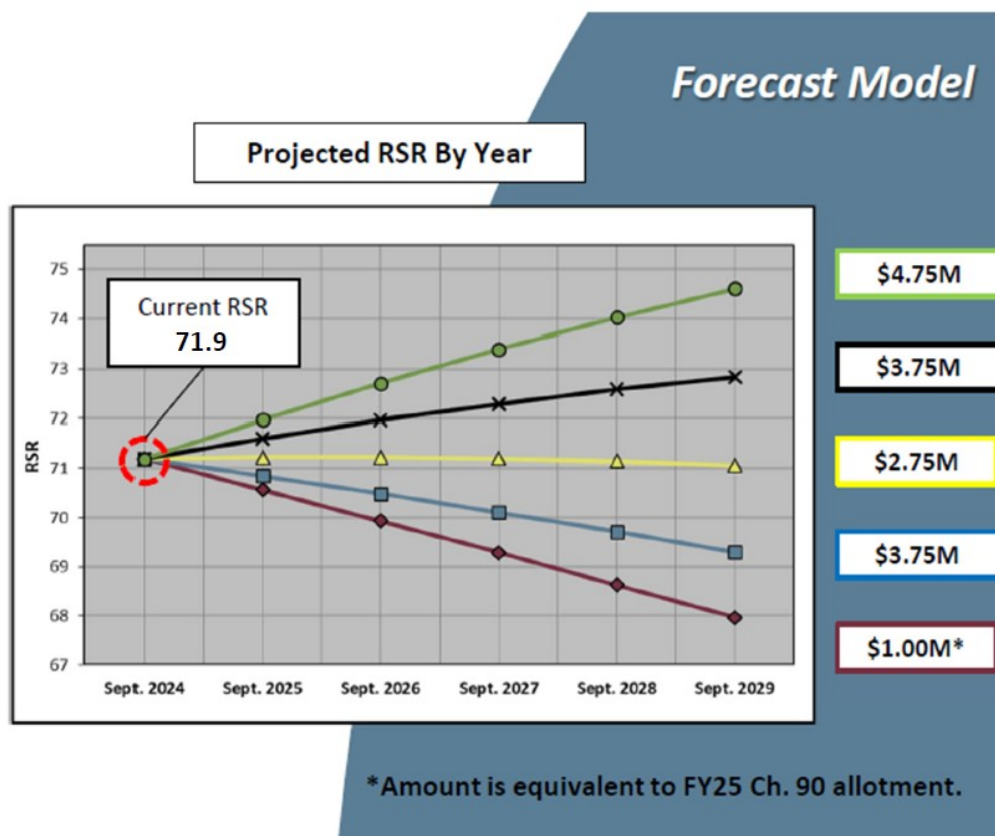
Typical Pavement Deterioration Curve



The City has primarily relied on the limited funding through the Commonwealth's Chapter 90 Program for pavement management and previous efforts to address deteriorated pavement conditions throughout the City has focused on lower cost cape seal and mill & overlay repairs on streets in need of more substantial repairs.

Unfortunately, this approach is more costly in both the short and long-term as delayed and inadequate repairs deteriorate more quickly than those more properly prolonged with routine and preventative maintenance treatments.

In 2024, the City's Pavement Management Consultant forecasted that the average RSR for the City will continue to drop each year unless a minimum of \$2.75 million is allocated towards City-wide pavement management. Further review of current construction costs versus costs assumed in the Consultant's modeling suggests that actual costs are up to 50% greater than those used in the forecast model and that approximately \$4 million each year for the next five (5) years would be required simply to maintain the same overall average RSR.



Funding

Chapter 90

Chapter 90 apportionments to Massachusetts municipalities is based on a formula consisting of three factors: Local Road Mileage, Population, and Employment. Over the last decade, the City of Holyoke has received approximately \$1 million annually in Chapter 90 funding. Chapter 90 funds may be used for projects and expenditures that create or extend the life of local capital facilities including both funding of construction activities, equipment purchases, and consultant services.

In most recent years, the City of Holyoke has relied heavily on Chapter 90 funding in support of minor traffic signal repairs and design related services for projects identified for construction grant funded programs such as the State Transportation Improvement Program. Utilizing Chapter 90 funding for these types of projects further strains the ability for the City to properly address pavement conditions throughout the City and will continue to strain services until alternate funding sources can be identified.

The Fair Share Amendment of 2023

The Fair Share Amendment is a new program which provides additional monies to all 351 municipalities within the Commonwealth to be used under the Chapter 90 Funding Program. In FY24 Holyoke received \$473,823 and in FY25 Holyoke received \$225,058.13. Notice of the FY25 apportionment was received in March 2025 and the City will likely not receive the value of the FY26 apportionment until March 2026. This money, when received, will serve to supplement the City's Chapter 90 annual budget of \$1,000,000.

Rural Roads

Additional funding through the Rural Roads Program has also been received in recent years and allocated to the City's Chapter 90 Funding. In FY24 Holyoke received \$49,384 and in FY25 Holyoke received \$49,384. The City received the FY25 Apportionment Notification in January 2025 so we will likely not have a value for FY26 monies until January 2026.

Other State and Federal Funding

City-staff is consistently looking at alternate funding for roadway work through programs such as MassDOT's State Transportation Improvement Program, Municipal Pavement Program, and Complete Streets; these programs tend to focus on collector and arterial roadways and few options exist for alternate funding for the paving of local streets. A list of streets for which the City has secured funding through alternate programs are noted in the below section.

Other Planned Roadway Projects with Funding

The following is a list of known planned projects funded through state and/or federal programs which will include roadway repairs within the next three (3) years.

- Center City Connector Phase 3 (STIP Project) – Ward 1
 - Cabot St – Race St to 3rd level canal
 - Race St – Cabot to Appleton
- Intersection Improvements at Beech Street, Resnic Boulevard, and West Franklin Street (STIP Project) – Wards 2, 3, and 6
- Race St – Sargeant St to Cabot St (Cannabis Impact Mitigation Funds) – Ward 1
- River Terrace Sewer Separation, Phase A – Ward 7
 - Bemis Rd (Northampton St to Hillview Rd)
 - Meadowview Rd
 - Hillview Rd
 - Hampton Knolls
 - Vadnais St
 - George St
 - Liberty St
 - Jefferson St (EN White to Madison Ave)
 - Woodbine Ln
 - Northampton St (George St to River Terrace)

Unscheduled Future State Transportation Improvement Programs Projects (STIP)

The City also has the following planned roadway projects for future funding through the STIP Program although construction funding has not yet been fully committed by MassDOT nor has a potential construction year been identified:

- Corridor Improvements on High Street and Maple Street – Wards 1 and 2
- Main Street Reconstruction – South Canal St to Mosher Street – Wards 1 and 2

Recent Claims for Damage Caused by Road Defects

Cold and snowy winters set the stage for increased potential of pothole formation. Potholes and heaving of pavement are caused by water seeping through existing cracks of the road which collects within the cracks as well as beneath the pavement. Saturation of water beneath the pavement softens the road base and freezing temperatures causes the water to expand and heave the pavement upwards. Vehicles traveling the weakened road add extra stress to the pavement and when temperatures warm, the water underground dissipates shifting base materials with it, leaving a hole under the road. Eventually the continuous vehicle traffic loads and weight of the vehicles cause the warped pavement to sink into the hole. Highly traveled roads as well as though with higher percentages of heavy truck traffic, such as the those noted above, are therefore more susceptible to pothole formations versus less traveled local roads.

Over the last two years, the City of Holyoke has received over 70 claims for damage to vehicles as a result of potholes and road defects. While the City is not obligated to pay every claim received, the City has paid over \$7,000 in FY25 to date and expects to pay an additional \$3,000 for pending claims by the end of the fiscal year. These costs are exclusive of time spent by staff in the Solicitor's Office and DPW to investigate each claim submitted.

Additionally, the City spends approximately \$50,000 each year under the DPW operating budget for annual repair and maintenance of roads, including patching of potholes. This cost is for materials only and does not include costs for labor or equipment.



The graphic above shows the locations of the recent claims noted with font size emphasizing roads on which a high number of claims have been received. The most claims received have been on Homestead Avenue south of Westfield Road. A high number of claims have also been received on other highly traveled roads including Northampton St, Whitney Ave, Main St, and Resnic Blvd.

While the City is pursuing other funding for roadway repairs on Main St as well as for the Beech and Resnic Blvd intersection, funding for Main St Rehabilitation has not been allocated and the Beech and Resnic Blvd Project is not slated until 2027 and will not include pavement repair along the entire length of Resnic Blvd. Pavement conditions will continue to deteriorate and the number of claims for damages by defects on these roadways can be expected to increase until repairs are made.

Estimated costs for roadway repairs to streets on which high claims have been recently received are as follows:

Table 5 – Costs for Repairs to Roadway Sections with Highest Number of Recent Claims

Street	From	To	Roadway classification	Average Weighted RSR	Recommended Repair Alternative	Cost
HOMESTEAD AVE	WESTFIELD RD	WHITNEY AVE	Minor Arterial	69.3	4" M&O	\$858,000
RESNIC BLVD	PINE ST	I391	Principal Arterial	57.5	4" M&O	\$213,500
NORTHAMPTON ST	WHITING FARMS	LAUREL ST	Minor Arterial	58.4	4" M&O	\$293,000
NORTHAMPTON ST	DWIGHT ST	BEECH ST	Minor Arterial	65	4" M&O	\$1,191,500
NORTHAMPTON ST	INGLESIDE	WHITING FARMS	Minor Arterial	57	4" M&O	\$474,000
WHITNEY	BRIDGE	WSPFLD TOWNLINE	Minor Arterial	42.8	4" M&O	\$708,000

Development of a Proposed FY26 Paving Program

The development of the proposed FY26 Paving Program is ultimately reliant on funding available. If monies to support pavement repair alternatives is solely reliant on the use of state funding through Chapter 90, Fair Share, and Rural Roads, the City should conservatively plan on a FY26 allocation of \$1.1 million although the actual amount may be greater or possibly even less than that amount. The following proposed breakdown of Chapter 90, Fair Share, and Rural Roads monies is proposed at this time.

Total Estimated State Funding	\$1,100,000
Pavement Management (Mill & Overlay)	\$675,000
Pavement Management (Crack Filling & Other Preventative Maintenance)	\$100,000
Sidewalk Repairs - non-CDBG eligible areas	\$75,000
Traffic Counts in Support of Council Orders	\$75,000
Minor Traffic Signal Repairs	\$75,000
Other Consultant Services	\$100,000

Proposed FY26 Mill & Overlay Program – Option 1

The first proposed option for FY26 Mill & Overlay Program would target high traffic roads on which the City has received the highest number of claims. This option would select from the roadways above to spend no more than \$675,000 on total work and use any balance for crack filling of candidate streets based on RSR.

Proposed FY26 Mill & Overlay Program – Option 2

The second proposed FY26 Mill & Overlay Program would be to prioritize work to address roads based on pavement condition (RSR), average ward pavement conditions, and cost. The Department of Public Works has proposed a plan for this option which includes the use of approximately \$868,000 towards the mill & overlay program such that the \$132,000 balance may be used for crack sealing or other routine and/or low-cost preventative maintenance.

A copy of this proposed option, including the full list of streets considered for inclusion and utility comments has been included with this memo.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Council feedback on the proposed FY26 Mill & Overlay Program is requested as many residents request the repaving of their roads throughout the year and the annual state funding available through Chapter 90, Fair Share, and Rural Roads only allows for approximately 1.4 miles of City-owned roads to be addressed each year.

Thank you for your review and feedback.



Victoria Houle
Assistant City Engineer

c: Matt Sokop, City Engineer
Mary Monahan, Interim Director of Public Works
Mayor Joshua Garcia

Attachment – List of Streets Considered for FY26 Mill & Overlay Program

Streets Considered for FY26 Mill & Overlay Program

Street	From	To	Ward	Roadway classification	Average Weighted RSR	SY	Recommended Repair Alternative	Cost	Utility Comments
AVON PLACE	COMMERCIAL ST	DEAD END	2	Local	26	805	4" M&O	\$40,250	
LEMAY DR	LINE RD	DEAD END	5	Local	29	970	4" M&O	\$48,500	
WORCESTER PLACE	HIGH ST	COMMERCIAL	1	Local	33	1345	4" M&O	\$67,250	
LOWER WESTFIELD RD	HOMESTEAD AVE	WHITNEY AVE	5	Major Collector	34	1805	4" M&O	\$90,250	
HAMILTON ST	SOUTH CANAL ST	SOUTH SUMMER ST	2	Local	38	1410	4" M&O	\$70,500	
CRESCENT ST	CLEMENTE ST	SOUTH EAST ST	1	Local	39	2485	4" M&O	\$124,250	
GATES	CHAPIN	S ELM	3	Local	39	2625	2" M&O	\$73,500	
THORPE AVE	HAMPDEN ST	BEACON AVE	4	Local	40	1030	2" M&O	\$28,840	
DAVIS	S ELM	KASTER	3	Local	42	3820	2" M&O	\$106,960	
WHITNEY	BRIDGE	WSPFLD TOWNLINE	2	Minor Arterial	42.8	14160	4" M&O	\$708,000	
WHITTIER CIR	LONGFELLOW AVE	DEAD END	7	Local	43	1280	4" M&O	\$64,000	¹ Four (4) service replacements required by HG&E Gas.
CONCORD AVE	HILLSIDE AVE	DEAD END	6	Local	44	1960	2" M&O	\$54,880	
SOUTHAMPTON RD	CROSS RD	MOUNTAIN RD	7	Major Collector	44	7100	4" M&O	\$355,000	
GREEN WILLOW DR	VILLAGE RD	KNOLLWOOD CIR	5	Local	45	1640	4" M&O	\$82,000	
COTTAGE AVE	BEACON AVE	DEAD END	4	Local	47	500	2" M&O	\$14,000	¹ Two (2) service replacements required by HG&E Gas.
LINCOLN	NORTHAMPTON	HAMPDEN	7,4	Minor Arterial	48	14320	4" M&O	\$716,000	
WHITE BIRCH RD	LINE RD	WESTERN VIEW DR	7	Local	48	1195	4" M&O	\$59,750	
FARNUM DR	WHITING FARMS RD	TOKENEKE	5	Local	51.5	4180	2" M&O	\$117,040	¹ Four (4) service replacements required by HG&E Gas.
BEMIS RD	EASTHAMPTON RD	RIVER TERRACE CSO PROJECT LIMIT	7	Major Collector	52.5	10870	4" M&O	\$543,500	¹ HG&E Gas - No work required from Easthampton Rd to Hillview. 22 Service Replacements Required from Hillview to Northampton St.
BEMIS RD	SPEED HUMPS (3)		7					\$75,000	
WESTFIELD RD	NORTHAMPTON ST	WOODLAND ST	3	Minor Arterial	54.4	7425	4" M&O	\$371,250	
CHERRY HILL	CHERRY ST	NORWOOD TERR	6	Local	55	3465	2" M&O	\$97,020	
ESSEX ST	CHESTNUT ST	PLEASANT ST	1,4	Local	55	7550	2" M&O	\$211,400	¹ One (1) service replacement required by HG&E Gas. ² HG&E Electric needs to dig between Chestnut & Maple St, will plan for later this year if City wants to pave FY26
JAMES STREET	MAIN ST	DEAD END	2	Local	55	2934	2" M&O	\$82,152	
VERMONT RD	UPLAND RD	WESTFIELD RD	5	Local	55.5	8455	2" M&O	\$236,740	¹ Twenty eight (28) service replacements required by HG&E Gas.
CLEVELAND ST	YALE ST	LENOX RD	7	Local	56.5	4834	2" M&O	\$135,352	
CABOT ST	MAPLE ST	RACE ST	1	Minor Arterial	55.6	7260	4" M&O	\$363,000	
HITCHCOCK ST	WESTFIELD ST	NORTHAMPTON ST	3	Minor Arterial	57	6204	4" M&O	\$310,200	
NORTHAMPTON ST	INGLESIDE	WHITING FARMS	3,5	Minor Arterial	57	9480	4" M&O	\$474,000	
RESNIC BLVD	PINE ST	I391	3,2	Principal Arterial	57.5	4270	4" M&O	\$213,500	
NORTHAMPTON ST	WHITING FARMS	LAUREL ST	3	Minor Arterial	58.4	5860	4" M&O	\$293,000	¹ One (1) service replacement required by HG&E Gas.
LOCUST ST	APPLETON ST	SERGEANT ST	4	Local	58.5	7280	2" M&O	\$203,840	¹ Two (2) service replacements required by HG&E Gas.
APPLETON STREET	PINE ST	BRIDGE W (1st Level Canal)	1	Principal Arterial	58.8	7960	4" M&O	\$398,000	¹ HG&E Electric needs to extend conduit bank from new bridge planned by MassDOT to Nick Cosmos Way at the time of construction. ² HG&E Gas no work required from Pine to Heritage St - Work required from Nick Cosmos to Bridge in next two years.
DARTMOUTH ST	JEFFERSON ST	PLEASANT ST	7	Local	59	3692	2" M&O	\$103,376	
LYMAN ST	NORTH CANAL ST	BRIDGE	1	Local	59	8040	2" M&O	\$225,120	¹ HG&E Gas Main Replacement scheduled for 2027.
COLUMBUS AVE	NORTHAMPTON ST	HILLSIDE AVE	6	Local	60	2810	2" M&O	\$78,680	
KANE RD	HOMESTEAD AVE	VERMONT ST	5	Local	60	4570	2" M&O	\$127,960	¹ Three (3) service replacements required by HG&E Gas.
SERGEANT ST	LOCUST ST	CHAPMAN AVE	6	Minor Arterial	60	7710	4" M&O	\$385,500	
ST JEROME AVE	DWIGHT ST	ST JAMES ST	6	Local	61	2036	4" M&O	\$101,800	
BEECH ST	HAMPSHIRE ST	HAMPDEN ST	4,1	Principal Arterial	62.5	12640	4" M&O	\$632,000	¹ Two (2) service replacements required by HG&E Gas. ² HG&E Electric may have work at the intersection of Hampshire & Beech Sts. - impact depends on whether paving includes the intersection or not
WESTFIELD RD	FRANKS DR	MCGRADY ST	5	Minor Arterial	64	4610	4" M&O	\$230,500	
MARLBORO RD	LENOX RD	OXFORD RD	7	Local	65	765	2" M&O	\$21,420	
NORTHAMPTON ST	DWIGHT ST	BEECH ST	6	Minor Arterial	65	23830	4" M&O	\$1,191,500	¹ Two (2) service replacements required by HG&E Gas.
HOMESTEAD AVE	WESTFIELD RD	WHITNEY AVE	5	Minor Arterial	69.3	17160	4" M&O	\$858,000	¹ Fourteen (14) service replacements required by HG&E Gas.
INGLESIDE ST	MAIN ST	ST VINCENT	2	Minor Arterial	71	27760	4" M&O	\$1,388,000	¹ HG&E Gas Main Replacement scheduled for 2025.

Streets highlighted in blue are proposed for the FY26 Mill & Overlay Program - Option 2

\$868,140

A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR HG&E'S GAS INFRASTRUCTURE & RESILIENCY PROJECT AND ENCOURAGING THE MASSACHUSETTS ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD (EFSB) TO RENDER A FAVORABLE DECISION

WHEREAS , HG&E is a leader in providing cost competitive, clean energy solutions, this project will assist in the transition to a low-carbon energy future and allow HG&E to meet the State of Massachusetts NetZero targets by 2050; and

WHEREAS, this project is a non-pipeline solution that will increase natural gas system reliability by installing a fifth liquified natural gas (LNG) storage tank within the existing footprint of the LNG facility in West Holyoke, as well as establish enhanced facility safety mechanisms; and

WHEREAS, between 1971 and 1974, the West Holyoke LNG Facility was designed and approved for five LNG storage tanks, but only four tanks were installed at the time due to cost constraints; and

WHEREAS, there is sufficient space for the fifth storage tank within the facility fence line (image attached) and the project will have minimal impact on the surrounding neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for additional capacity in order to meet customers long-term energy needs while allowing the necessary time for strategic electrification to occur without placing an undue cost burden on ratepayers and property owners; and

WHEREAS, since 2019, the natural gas distribution system has been operating at capacity during peak periods. Under peak demand, HG&E's system consumes 20,000 dth of gas per day. The existing LNG facility can store approximately 16,000 dth of natural gas. The additional storage would increase capacity to approximately 21,000 Dth, sufficient to meet existing customer demand without curtailing firm gas customers in the event of a pipeline interruption; and

WHEREAS, the LNG facility was originally designed to maintain a minimum of at least one full day of on-site storage to meet peak day requirements. The proposed project will restore the on-site storage capacity to meet this intent; and

WHEREAS, LNG storage facilities are common in the region and allow HG&E to manage costs while planning for strategic electrification which will occur over the next 20+ years; and

WHEREAS, the community consists of ~20% of homes that heat with oil and propane, HG&E is committed to working with these customers and help transition them away from the dirtiest fossil fuels and moving to all electric technologies. This project will allow HG&E to continue to reliably serve its existing customer base while locations that consume dirtier fossil fuels can be prioritized for converting to cleaner sources; and

WHEREAS, HG&E reviewed multiple options to address reliability and identified this option as the most practical with limited impact to the community. Other solutions would result in more widespread construction, some in EJ neighborhoods, while this solution is situated on an existing property that was designed for a fifth tank and within the existing fence line; and

WHEREAS, the project site is located over a mile away from an Environmental Justice population, as designated by the State of Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, in January 2022, the Holyoke City Council asked HG&E to take all necessary steps to end the gas moratorium, and the City Council unanimously received and adopted a resolution supporting the Project on October 18, 2022; and

WHEREAS, in June 2022, in a survey 65% of HG&E customers would support a plan to increase natural gas capacity; and

WHEREAS, in combination with aggressive energy efficiency programs, this project will allow customers to apply for natural gas service. HG&E will evaluate each application in order to ensure there is not a feasible, cost-comparable alternate solution that better positions HG&E to meet the State's clean energy goals.

WHEREAS, HG&E is committed to monitoring ongoing programs across the industry for geothermal pilots, renewable natural gas and hydrogen injection systems to determine the economic and environmental cost-benefits for our system; and

WHEREAS, natural gas is a critical component of a carbon-free future. As the cleanest, most reliable, and least expensive fossil fuel, natural gas will help facilitate an economic transition to a low-carbon future. At present, there is not sufficient carbon-free electric production in the region to transition away from natural gas completely; and

WHEREAS, from a variety of perspectives including safety, reliability, environmental, and economic, this project will allow HG&E the necessary time to research and develop NetZero strategies; and

WHEREAS, the project design and implementation plan is subject to review and approval by the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB) through a public process that was initiated in December 2022; and

WHEREAS, throughout this process there has only been support during the public comment period and no parties intervened; however, there has been no action on this petition in over a year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Holyoke Massachusetts supports Holyoke Gas & Electric's plan to install one additional LNG tank and encourages the EFSB to render a favorable decision as soon as possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Administrative Assistant to the City Council shall share a copy of this resolution to be sent to Holyoke Gas & Electric Manager, James Lavelle; Holyoke, Massachusetts Mayor, Joshua Garcia.

