

AGENDA FOR THE CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

[IGNORE_INDENT]

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC COMMENT

REGULAR AND PENDING EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

1. June 11, 2024, September 4, 2024, and April 15, 2025 Executive Session Minutes - Reviewed and ready for partial release as of September 17, 2025
2. December 9, 2024 Finance Committee Executive Session Minutes - Reviewed and withheld in entirety as of September 17, 2025
3. From City Clerk Brenna Murphy Leary and Admin. Assistant Jeffery Anderson-Burgos- meeting minutes from September 2, 2026

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4. Vacon- Greaney- ORDER: that city council go to the first ballot to elect a treasurer at the April 21, 2026 city council meeting in accordance with our current charter. Our city council appointed Collector has indicated interest in the Treasurer/Collector position. A majority of the city council has had the opportunity to interview our Collector. This appointment would legally establish the Treasurer position & for practical purposes combines the positions, while waiting for further charter changes that will be sent to the state legislature in a home rule petition. Transition changes can happen in coordination with other ordinance changes.

COMMUNICATIONS

5. From Mayor Joshua Garcia-letter appointing Ms. Susan Brouillette of 179 Morgan St. to serve on the new Historical Commission. Term will expire on December 1, 2026.
6. From Mayor Joshua Garcia-letter appointing Mr. Stephan Fay of 218 Pleasant St. to serve on the new Historical Commission. Term will expire on July 1, 2029.
7. From Mayor Joshua Garcia-letter appointing Ms. Amelia Mosley of 140 Lincoln St. to serve on the new Historical Commission Term will expire May 1, 2027.
8. From Mayor Joshua Garcia-letter appointing Ms. Kate Hopkinson of 87 Pearl St. to serve on the new Historical Commission. Term will expire July 1, 2029.
9. From Mayor Joshua Garcia-letter appointing Mr. Kevin Rice of 52 Fairfield Ave. to serve on the new Historical Commission. Term will expire April 16, 2027.
10. From Mayor Joshua Garcia-letter appointing Ms. Fleur Kuhta of 124 Chestnut St.to serve on the new Historical Commission. Term will expire October 1, 2027.

11. From Holyoke Conservation Commission- Meeting Minutes from May 14, 2026
12. From Board of Fire Commission-meeting minutes from August 19, 2026

PETITIONS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

13. The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that the amount of **FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY-TWO AND 55/100 DOLLARS (\$462.55)** be authorized from the **DPW** Department's **R & M-CITY HALL** (14222-52502) appropriation in fiscal year 2027 for goods/services received in fiscal year 2026 which were unencumbered at the 2026 fiscal year end.
Recommended that the order be adopted.
14. The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that the City of Holyoke accepts the **\$352,020.27 FY2026 WRAP** formula allocation from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and authorizes its use and accounting in accordance with applicable MassDOT requirements and DLS Bulletin BUL-2026-04, including use of the special revenue fund treatment for WRAP reimbursements applied to the City's FY2026 snow and ice deficit.
Recommended that the order be adopted.
15. The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the **"MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, \$10,000.00"**, stipend 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 stipend.
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.
Recommended that the order be adopted.
16. The Committee on Finance to whom was referred an order that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the **"MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (MEMA), \$8,550.00, 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.

Recommended that the order be adopted.

17. 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 **“FY2027 MASS GAMING COMMISSION COMMUNITY MITIGATION, \$75,000.00, 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.
Recommended that the order be adopted.
18. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred a Mackenzie Stadium License Agreement for Valley Blue Sox 2026
Awaiting disposition
19. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred a Mackenzie Field License Agreement for Elms College 2026
Awaiting disposition
20. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred a Special permit application for home occupation of John Barbagallo for a dog training and pet sitting business at 43 King Street (123-00-061) per 4.8.2.
Awaiting disposition
21. The Committee on Development and Governmental Relations to whom was referred a Special permit application for home occupation of Reynaldo Guzman for a barber shop at 113 Sargeant Street (010-02-012) per 4.8.2.
Awaiting disposition

MOTIONS, ORDERS AND RESOLUTIONS

22. Sullivan-To invite the Registrar and Board of Voters in to discuss education and engagement initiatives to help increase voter participation. Voter turnout has been abysmal and we need to become more pro-active in a non partisan effort to improve that participation
23. Thalheimer, Panitch -- Ordered, that the City Council (1) perform a comprehensive review of the Council Rules, in order to identify internal inconsistencies and redundancies, ambiguous provisions, archaic language, and areas where further information is necessary or desirable to construe said Rules; and (2) draft and adopt such amendments to the Rules as are found to be appropriate or necessary in light of said review. This order is intended to allow the Council's committees to examine and recommend, and the Council to vote upon, technical corrections packages on an

ongoing basis, rather than requiring the preparation of a single, comprehensive package of corrections or multiple single and specific orders for changes. In the event that the Law Department finds that more specificity is needed to conform to the Open Meetings Law, the makers of the order shall work with the Law Department to amend it to satisfy those additional requirements, and this Order shall be deemed to be so amended. Send to Charter and Rules.

24. Devine- ORDERED: That the Law Department render an opinion as to whether a ban on Data Centers by the City Council is preferable to a moratorium on Data Centers for a specific amount of time before banning Data Centers or will a ban without a moratorium open up the city to possible legal actions by a developer.
25. Devine-Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the **“MASSACHUSETTS TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATIVE, \$75,000.98, 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 stipend.
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.
26. Devine-Ordered, that in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Sec. 53A, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of the **“MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, \$3,260.00, IN-KIND MATCH”** grant, and authorizes the establishment of a Fund or other method appropriate for the accounting of the receipts and expenditures of all resources associated with the administration of said grant.
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.
27. DEVINE - Ordered, that there be and is hereby appropriated by transfer in the fiscal year 2027, **SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND 00/100 Dollars (\$750,000.00)** as follows:

FROM

8815-10400 CANNABIS STABILIZATION	\$750,000.00
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TOTAL	\$750,000.00
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TO:

19442-57087 EZEKIEL'S PLAN 2.0	\$750,000.00
	TOTAL \$750,000.00

28. Magrath-Smith - ordered, that the Joint City Council and School Committee consider whether it is appropriate to have a teacher PD day on all election days where schools are used as polling places rather than regularly scheduled school days.
29. Purcell, Anderson-Burgos- ORDER that the City Council Adopt, Approve the attached Clean Slate resolution and forward to the State Delegation of the Legislature and Senate for Adoption.

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

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