

MAYOR, from page 1

is trying to approach public safety comprehensively. He is aware it is not just policing and is working to ensure the different facets of it are all covered.

He has another initiative focused on housing in Holyoke. He is working to get new housing units that are affordable.

“New housing units are opening up that we are very much looking forward to, a combination of affordable to workforce housing to market rate housing,” Garcia said.

The city and Garcia are also working on decreasing the combined sewer overflow issue to try to clean up the Connecticut River.

The city is on a long term agreement as they work toward improving this issue and Garcia is hoping to see more steps taken in the next year.

On top of all of this, Garcia has also been working to attract what he calls “industries of the future,” such as clean tech industries.

He feels that the very assets of Holyoke that helped it to be the first planned industrial city in the United States will also help it to attract these companies.

“We produce clean energy,” Garcia said. “We’re about 80% carbon free in our municipality and being able to operate these industries and keep energy rates low and maintain their missions that are focused around green energy, just seems like a good fit here in the city.”

Furthermore, Garcia also has been focused on improving internal control. Related to this is the upcoming election to change the treasurer position from elected to appointed.

Garcia and the city council agree that this could help to strengthen the local government as it will ensure that whoever is treasurer truly

understands the city’s financial system. “It’s very complex and we need to make sure that the people who go into those roles are highly skilled, qualified and capable,” Garcia said.

Should this election go well, the city also wants to create the position of a Chief Financial Officer to help manage the city’s resources.

Together Garcia believes that these positions will prevent the city’s finances from falling behind during major changeovers in city government, such as the mayoral election.

“I think this will protect our city, strengthen our accountability position and... make sure that whatever the outcome is of our elections that our internal government continues to flow efficiently and effectively,” Garcia said.

Between all of these upcoming initiatives, Garcia is also keeping a close eye on the city economy so he can work to keep costs and taxes as low as possible.

He believes that the different work the city is planning on will help to ensure that these rates can stay the same or even go lower as the city moves forward.

More than anything, he thinks the focus on internal government will help to improve the city as a whole.

“Public safety, education, economics development, all those quality of life initiatives, board of health, building department, all those things they’re working on, they need the support of their internal government,” Garcia said.

With this in mind, Garcia goes into 2025 with a strong focus on improving local government and gratitude for all those in the community who have helped him this past year to improve the city.

Scholarship and Fellowship Funds Available

AGAWAM— The Horace Smith Fund, located in Westfield, Massachusetts has scholarship and fellowship money available for graduates of Hampden County public and private high schools. Graduating high school seniors and students already in college may apply for Scholarships of up to \$12,000. Those in their final year of college and previous college graduates pursuing advanced degrees may apply for Fellowships of \$15,000. Applicants must maintain at least a B average in college and be enrolled as full-time students.

Awards are made based on both academic achievement and merit. Of great importance is a personal written account of why the student feels deserving of financial assistance and their goals in pursuing higher education.

Last year, \$297,000 was awarded to 24 individuals. Scholarships were given to 16 graduating seniors from 13 Hampden County high schools. Five scholarships were also awarded

to current college students to assist them in completing their undergraduate degrees. Three fellowships were given to college graduates pursuing advanced degrees, who had graduated from Hampden County high schools.

The Horace Smith Fund was established in 1899 by the successful and generous philanthropist named Horace Smith, co-founder of Smith & Wesson, established in Springfield. The scholarships and fellowships are named for Walter S. Barr, a West Springfield businessman, whose widow left the bulk of the family estate to The Horace Smith Fund in 1950.

Completed applications must be received either electronically or by mail to The Horace Smith Fund at 16 Union Avenue, Suite 2K, Westfield, MA 01085 no later than March 15. Applications are available at local high school guidance offices, college financial aid offices, online at www.HoraceSmithFund.org or by phoning (413) 739-4222.

UCCH, from page 3

tion of the United Church of Christ. All individuals welcome, regardless of where they are on their journey. If you’d like to learn more about

UCCH, please visit our website at www.uccholyoke.org, find us on Facebook or Instagram, or call our office at 413-532-1483 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Public Notices

City of Holyoke PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.**, in the City Hall Annex, Room 403, Holyoke MA to hear the petition of Mark Hoey, who is requesting an appeal from the zoning officer notice of determination letter dated 09/03/2024 and violation letter dated 11/06/2024, from Section 4.6.3/4.6.1, at a property known as 25 Cleveland St (095-00-034).

A complete copy of the application may be seen in the Office of Planning & Economic Development, 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, Rm 401, 8:30-4:30, M-F.

Applicant: Mark Hoey

Board of Appeals: Josh Knox
12/27/2024, 01/03, 01/10/2025

City of Holyoke Notice of Public Hearing

The Ordinance Committee of the Holyoke City Council and the Planning Board will hold separate public hearings

to hear zoning change applications from BL to DR for Tiago Martins and Jeffrey Dias at 712-718 Dwight St (006-06-009 & 006-06-010) as well as 736 Dwight St (006-09-002 & 006-09-001) to develop properties with duplex/triplex apartments. **Ordinance Committee hearing** will take place on **Wednesday, January 22 at 6:30 pm** at Holyoke City Hall 536 Dwight St and can be accessed remotely via www.zoom.us Meeting ID 883 9245 1976 Meeting Passcode 005736 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same Meeting ID and Passcode.

Planning Board hearing will take place on **Tuesday, February 11 at 5:30 pm** via www.zoom.us Meeting ID: 836 3939 8493 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same meeting ID. For a copy of the applications or to provide comments to the Ordinance Committee, please contact City Council Admin Asst Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at Anderson-BurgosJ@holyoke.org or by phone 413-322-5525. To provide comments to the Planning Board, please

contact Brianna Tejada at tejadab@holyoke.org

Ordinance Chair
Israel Rivera

Planning Chair
Mimi Panitch

01/03, 01/10/2025

City of Holyoke PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Stormwater Authority will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.** to hear, pursuant to Section 38.0 of the Holyoke Ordinance, an application for a Stormwater Permit requested by the City of Holyoke for stormwater infrastructure retrofits at Holyoke High School, known as parcel 059-00-015.

The hearing will be held in person at the Holyoke Chamber of Commerce, 177 High Street, Holyoke, MA 01040 and remotely via video conference. Meeting location and zoom link will be posted on the City’s meeting website in advance of the meeting at: <https://www.holyoke.org/departments/public-meetings/>

A copy of the application and site plan may be obtained electronically by sending an email to the Holyoke City Engineer at houlv@holyoke.org or by appointment requested through this same email address

STORMWATER AUTHORITY:
Mary Monahan, Chairman
01/10/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division Docket No. HD24P2662EA Estate of:

Joseph A. Ribeiro Date of Death: 11/23/2024 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Susan R Taylor of Holyoke, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Susan R Taylor of Holyoke, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without**

surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 01/10/2025

City of Holyoke PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Stormwater

Authority will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.** to hear, pursuant to Section 38.0 of the Holyoke Ordinance, an application for a Stormwater Permit requested by the City of Holyoke for stormwater infrastructure retrofits at Lt. Clayre P. Sullivan School, known as parcel 147-00-010.

The hearing will be held in person at the Holyoke Chamber of Commerce, 177 High Street, Holyoke, MA 01040 and remotely via video conference. Meeting location and zoom link will be posted on the City’s meeting website in advance of the meeting at: <https://www.holyoke.org/departments/public-meetings/>

A copy of the application and site plan may be obtained electronically by sending an email to the Holyoke City Engineer at houlv@holyoke.org or by appointment requested through this same email address.

STORMWATER AUTHORITY:
Mary Monahan, Chairman
01/10/2025

The Holyoke Sun
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.



PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts’ public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com