

# PUBLIC NOTICES

## CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Zone Change application from Business B to Residential A for 0.964 acres of property located at 0 Marion St. (Parcel ID 0027-00034) for the purpose of construction of single-family homes. Applicant – Partyka Partners Limited Partnership, formerly known as Partyka Family Real Estate Limited Partnership, Joan Partyka, 495 Springfield St., Chicopee, MA 01013.

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>

The October 25, 2023 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM – 5 PM or by email at [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov).

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>). You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov). 10/6, 10/13/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD23P1837EA  
Estate of:  
Michael P Brown  
Date of Death: 05/01/2022  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Rebecca Hernandez of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Rebecca Hernandez of Chicopee, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/26/2023.**

**This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the**

**return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

**A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.**

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: September 28, 2023

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
10/06/2023

## CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-51.1 for the purpose of constructing a membrane covered structure located at 24 Olko Ct. Applicant – Bobbilea Larrivee, 24 Olko Ct., Chicopee, MA 01020.

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>

The October 25, 2023 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM – 5 PM or by email at [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov).

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>). You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov). 10/06, 10/13/2023

## CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-30 (B) for the purpose of installation of a 20'x10' conex storage box for additional storage at the City's Public Safety Complex located at 110 Church St. Applicant – City of Chicopee, David Rice, 274 Front St., Chicopee, MA 01013.

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-30 (B) for the purpose of installation of a 40'x10' conex storage box for additional storage at the City's Department of

Public Works located at 115 Baskin Dr. Applicant – City of Chicopee, David Rice, 274 Front St., Chicopee, MA 01013.

Ordinance Amendment Chapter 275-66 Burnett Road, add new language to 275-66 B "or Transportation Impact Assessment or any other such report whose official name may be changed by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation." Full text available in the City Council Office. Applicant: Councilor Frank Laflamme (At Large) and Councilor William Courchesne (Ward 7), City Council Office, 274 Front St. Chicopee, MA 01013.

Ordinance Amendment Chapter 275-50 Signs, delete 275-50 B (f). Delete "Duration of Placement" Full text available in the City Council Office. Applicant: Councilor William Courchesne (Ward 7), City Council Office, 274 Front St. Chicopee, MA 01013.

Ordinance Amendment Chapter 275-51 Motor Vehicle Repair and Storage, delete language from Chapter 275-51 D. Delete "or inoperable or not currently registered or with a current state inspection sticker". Full text available in the City Council Office. Applicant: Councilor William Courchesne (Ward 7), City Council Office, 274 Front St. Chicopee, MA 01013.

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>

The October 25, 2023 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM – 5 PM or by email at [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov).

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>). You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov). 10/06, 10/13/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD23P2036EA**

**Estate of:  
Charles Leonard Crawley**

**Also known as:  
Charles L Crawley  
Date of Death: 07/19/2023  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Whitney L Hossfeld of East Dennis, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Whitney L Hossfeld of East Dennis, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/31/2023.**

**This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

**A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.**

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 02, 2023

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
10/06/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD22P1949EA**

**Estate of:  
Nancy L Fournier**

**Date of Death: 08/21/2021  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **S/A - Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Ronald Fournier of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Ronald Fournier of Chicopee, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/20/2023.**

**This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the**

**return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

**A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.**

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: September 26, 2023

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
10/06/2023

## SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

**Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A**  
Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on October 10/21/2023, at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2007 Toyota Corolla  
VIN: 1NXBR32E17Z795938  
Nestor Miranda Anaya  
1580 Burr Oak Dr 8  
Fayetteville, AK 72704

2006 Buick Lacrosse  
VIN: 2G4WC582861305937  
Marianna Flis  
885 Harcourt Rd  
Grosse Pointe, MI 48230

2007 Honda Civic  
VIN: 2HGFA15567H311277  
Marie Clark  
205 Southallen St 1B  
Albany, NY 12208

2007 Honda Pilot  
VIN: 2HKYF18687H534831  
Jannira Alvarez  
42 Florence St  
Springfield, MA 01105

2020 Volkswagen Jetta Gli  
VIN:3VW6T7BU5LM022620  
Brian Heaney  
22 Notre Dame St  
Hudson Falls, NY 12839

2005 Jeep Grand Cherokee  
VIN: 1J4GS48K25C570460  
Lucsimon Lindor  
133 West St  
Auburn, MA 01501

2008 Honda Fit Sport  
VIN:JHMGD37648S013136  
Eliezer Guerra Sanchez  
595 E 170th St  
Bronx, NY 10456

2004 Toyota Avalon  
VIN: 4T1BF28B04U360582  
Edgardo Martinez  
32 Parkway Pl  
Meriden, CT 06450

2007 Kia Rondo  
VIN: KNAFG525377088360  
Andres Felipe Castro  
Calanche  
1143 41st St W  
Birmingham, AL 35208

2006 Nissan Altima  
VIN: 1N4AL11DX6C256985  
Gerardo Alfredo Flores Cruz  
351 E Marshall St  
Norristown, PA 19401

2009 Nissan Altima  
VIN: 1N4AL24E59C197567  
Ricardo Gonsales  
40 Clinton St  
Manchester, CT 06040

2003 Toyota Sequoia  
VIN: 5TDBT44A23S184515  
Daisy Santiago  
26 Cutler St  
Worcester, MA 01604

2009 Chevrolet Silverado  
VIN: 1GCEK39J59Z267236  
Alayna Garcia  
202 State Route 365  
Remsen, NY 13438

09/29, 10/06, 10/13/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD22P2545EA**

**Estate of:  
Gail M Lonis**

**Date of Death: 09/19/2021  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **John J Ferriter of Holyoke, MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/06/2023.**

**This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 02, 2023

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
10/06/2023

## SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

**Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A**  
Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on October 20, 2023, at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2005 Harley-Davidson Flhti  
VIN: 1HD1FVW105Y657047  
Douglas Walker  
19 Chauncey Walker Way  
Belchertown, MA 01007

2018 Harley-Davidson Flhx  
VIN: 1HD1KBC12JB669857  
Douglas Walker  
19 Chauncey Walker Way  
Belchertown, MA 01007

2009 Nissan Altima  
VIN: 1N4AL21E99N413381  
Jose Arismael Hernandez  
12 Beacon St  
Burlington, MA 01803

10/06, 10/13, 10/20/2023

**See More Legals  
on Page 10**

## SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

### Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on October 10/27/2023, at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles

2011 Kia Optima  
VIN: KNAGR4A63B5154171  
Richards Carlson  
31 Mohawk Lane  
Exeter, NH 03833

2003 Ford F250 Super Duty  
VIN: 1FTNW21L43EB42738  
Evaldo Simoncelis  
187 Campbell Ave.  
Revere, MA 02151

2011 Honda Accord  
VIN: 1HGCP2F42BA111050  
Destiny Kamroski  
40 Price St.  
Springfield, MA 01104

2007 Chevrolet Malibu  
VIN: 1G1ZT57F37F289784  
Shamyia Washington  
119 Main St. Apt. 11  
South Hadley, MA 01075

2013 Ford Transit  
VIN: NM0LS7CN3DT158986  
North East Safety Inc.  
PO Box 11115  
Portland, ME 04104

2007 Chrysler Sebring  
Touring  
VIN: 1C3LC56K97N547151  
Juan Rivera  
67 Park St.  
Chicopee, MA 01020

2008 Volkswagen Touareg2  
V8  
VIN: WVGC77L98D054185  
Tommy Seidell  
66 Clarence St.  
West Springfield, MA 01089

2012 Nissan Altima  
VIN: 1N4AL2AP6CN405411  
Ruben Lopez  
303 Maple St. Apt. 146  
Springfield, MA 01105

2005 Chevrolet Colorado  
VIN: 1GCDT196958268706  
Clement Mortone  
15 Sogmore Rd.  
West Springfield, MA 01089

2005 Honda Cr-V EX  
VIN: SHSRD78825U327757  
Victor Serrano  
12 Daytona St. Apt. 1  
Springfield, MA 01108

2009 Kia Sorento EX  
VIN: KNDJC735995873922  
Heaven Burton-Jordan  
1716 Dwight St. Apt. 5  
Springfield, MA 01107

1999 Honda Accord  
VIN: 1HGCG1643XA028258  
Jason Gurwacki

PO Box 1455  
Southwick, MA 01077

2000 Ford F150  
VIN: 1FTRF18L1YNA24297  
Paul Brodsky  
37 Hewitt St.  
West Springfield, MA 01089

2013 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport  
VIN: 5XYZDLB3DG079215  
Mark Zhupikov  
524 Springfield St.  
Chicopee, MA 01013

2009 Nissan Altima  
VIN: 1N4AL21E29N494840  
Gizette Rodriguez  
351 Oakland Dr.  
Springfield, MA 01104

2008 Hyundai Elantra  
VIN: KMHDU46D68U291658  
Destiny Santana  
67 Fairmont St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040

2008 Subaru Outback  
VIN: 4S4BP61C887357537  
Brian Larfield  
48 Thompson St.  
Springfield, MA 01104

2000 Toyota Avalon  
VIN: 4T1BF28B8YU106916  
Wayne Bingle  
63 Carson Ave.  
North Adams, MA 01A247

2005 Honda Pilot  
VIN: 2HKYF18535H542291  
Joshua Ross  
120 Elmore Ave.  
Springfield, MA 01108

1996 Jeep Grand Cherokee  
VIN: 1J4GZ78S6TC306202  
Joyce Collins  
38 Bartlett St.  
Springfield, MA 01107

2006 Honda Accord  
VIN: 1HGCM56846A078653  
Veronica Lynn Wheeler  
5 Sergeant Ave.  
Chicopee, MA 01020

2008 Honda Accord  
VIN: 1HGCS12778A014640  
Chelsea Brunson  
1193 Elm Street  
West Springfield, MA 01089

2015 Nissan Rogue  
VIN: JN8AS5MV5FW258557  
Viktoryia Kozodoy  
155 Main St. Apt. 3  
Westfield, MA 01085

2003 Honda Accord  
VIN: 1HGCM55693A108614  
Victor Arzola  
72 Virginia St.  
Springfield, MA 01108

2003 Lincoln LS  
VIN: 1LNHM87A23Y688878  
Efrain Santana Rosario  
70 Broadway St. Apt. 222  
Chicopee, MA 01020

10/06, 10/13, 10/20/2023

Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court

50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD23P2033EA  
Estate of:  
Fred P James  
Also Known As:  
Fred Paul James  
Date of Death: 08/13/2023  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Mary Louise Getz of Fort Mill, SC** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Mary Louise Getz of Fort Mill, SC** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/31/2023.**

**This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

**A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.**

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 02, 2023  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
10/06/2023

## First Congregational Church to hold Annual Roast Pork Dinner Oct. 14

CHICOPEE -- The First Congregational Church at 306 Chicopee St., Chicopee, is having their Annual Roast Pork Dinner on Saturday Oct. 14 from 5-7 p.m.

Roast Pork with all the fixings, including dessert will be available for dine in or take out.

A donation of \$15 is suggested. Call 413-592-0396 for reservations.

### CHICOPEE INSURANCE from page 1

Health New England against payroll, MTRS, retiree pensions and direct bill.

On Jan. 5, 2023, the Department of Human Resources received spreadsheets of members on payroll with no enrolled plan, members enrolled in a plan with no apparent payment method and members requiring a closer look.

On March 9, former Chief Human Resources Officer Paul Winspeare hired an outside organization, the Employers Association of the Northeast, to perform an audit of eligibility, a decision that shocked Vieau. EANE was unable to perform the audit but helped in the 2023 reconciliation.

"I was wowed when I found out that HUB International, our insurance brokers, were told to not work on it anymore without (Winspeare) even telling me that or consulting me. That's just not okay," Vieau said.

Winspeare left his position in May and his Assistant Director Samantha Wilson resigned without notice in June, claiming that Vieau and city leaders blamed her and her co-workers for the mistake, according to MassLive.

"It's no secret we had turmoil and turnover in the second quarter of 2023. The HR Director left in May of 2023, and the Assistant Director left in June with no notice," Vieau said.

Rich Merchant was brought back as interim Human Resources Director for several weeks before current Chief Human Resources Officer Stephen Zajchowski was hired on July 1.

Vieau said Zajchowski took a "deeper dive" into audited material to see if there were any name changes and if payments were made by individuals and not captured on initial audits.

After finalizing internal audits, 14 retirees and 16 employees were identified and removed from the medical plans. The city met with insurance carriers, who agreed to provide some premium credits.

"I can say the final amount of premiums paid between 2017 and 2023 was approximately \$226,826. On that note I can say this is not uncommon. It happens in just about every municipality. It's been sensationalized for political gain, and we finally want to move forward and put this to bed," Vieau said.

### Vieau denies corruption or impropriety by City Hall

On June 1, López announced she would challenge Vieau for mayor this November. Less than a week later, she broke the story that former employees and dead people were receiving improper benefits.

This summer, López continued her calls for transparency, accusing Vieau and city employees of impropriety at worst or being ineffective at their jobs at best. Vieau responded to the criticism multiple times during his press conference.

"It's been creating a media circus; it's been wasting a lot of resources. Even state authorities have been contacted based on hearsay," Vieau said. "The city councilor who brought it to the limelight has never once reached out to me, the HR director, the city auditor, the treasurer and those intimately involved this process."

López has pushed for an outside audit to be completed, but Vieau is hesitant to "waste city resources" to hire a third party now. He noted that all the investigative authorities in the state are aware of the mistake that happened, and he said he isn't listening to López's request.

"If there is a cry for that so be it. I think we've done the right thing, and my job as mayor is to do what's in the best interest of the people who live here," Vieau said, noting that a third party completes an audit annually anyhow.

Regarding López's claims of corruption, Vieau said they were damaging inside of City Hall. He called López's accusations "disheartening" and said it "demoralized" city employees.

"To think for a second that words like corruption have been used is sickening to the employees who live here, and it's not fair to them; these egregious accusations without any backing just don't make any sense," Vieau said. "You're entitled to your own opinion, but you're not entitled to your own facts. This has been sensationalized to the point where I don't even know why we're doing a press conference today, but we have to because we've been accused of things that frankly I (don't agree with)."

### López responds

Following the press conference, López responded, delivering a press release to the media. She chastised Vieau and his administration for its "lack of transparency and accountability."

"Today's report yet again shows the way that Mayor Vieau wants to operate: in darkness, without any accountability or oversight," López said. "Make no mistake: the administration did not release this report willingly. They only made comments on it after I notified the press and the public about this matter and have continued to minimize the matter."

López reaffirmed that she believes the taxpayers of Chicopee deserve a full external audit to learn what happened, and she said the report released Tuesday is not that. She was also upset she wasn't invited to the press conference.

"Unsurprisingly, the city councilors did not receive notice nor an invitation to today's press conference. I did not even receive a copy of the report from the administration and had to receive it through the media, highlighting again Mayor Vieau's inexplicable desire to avoid transparency," López said.

### Where the city goes from here

In addition to hiring new staff, such as Zajchowski and Benefits Specialist Karen Gay, Vieau said checks and balances have been put in place to ensure a similar mistake "never happens again."

"We've actually decided that it is in the best interest of the city to add another benefits coordinator. That position right now has 80 applicants who are interested in it, and we look to make a hire very soon," Vieau said.

Roughly 4,000 people in the city receive benefits through the City of Chicopee, and they will be assisted by the additional benefits coordinator.

"The other thing that we're also implementing is a new platform that will help with benefits... that will help ensure people are making the right choices when it comes to choosing benefits," Vieau said.

He noted that the human error and oversight was caused partially by a lack of personnel in a time of uncertainty, the COVID-19 pandemic.

In retrospect, Vieau is "proud of how we responded to what we found," which isn't the only thing he's proud about.

"Most importantly, based on a benchmark study, we're right now in the top five percent for lowest premium across the Commonwealth for the most enrolled plan. That's something we're really proud of," Vieau said.

## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto: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](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**